



May 25, 2008

We Wot Not

As Moses was on Mount Sinai receiving the Law from God, the children of Israel drifted into idolatry. Note what is said of this event. **“And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down out of the mount, the people gathered themselves together unto Aaron, and said unto him, Up, make us gods, which shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him.”** (Ex 32.1). This was an excuse to engage in things that God condemns and is an example of the fickle nature of humans. The Hebrews had seen the things God had done in the land of Egypt. They had firsthand knowledge of how a great power that had oppressed them was brought low and destroyed. They saw the destruction of the Egyptian army in the Red Sea and had been cared for by God as he provided food and water for them in the wilderness as they made their way to the mountain. They had heard the voice of God and seen the Lord descend on the mount with thick clouds, lightning and thunder. They knew that Moses had gone up into the mountain to receive the Law from God and in spite of all these things still rebelled against the Lord. They spoke of Moses in an impersonal manner, referring to him as “this Moses” knowing full well that he had been sent to them from God and it was by Moses and Aaron that the power of God had been displayed. One has to wonder why they could be this callous. Moses was on the mountain for a period of forty days during which God revealed the Law, ordinances and regulations by which they were to live. Having seen all these things how could they turn away so soon? How much proof was needed to convince them of the power, majesty and authority of God? During the first century, the religious leadership displayed a similar attitude toward Christ in spite of the miracles that were performed and the teachings that Christ began. Notice what they had to say about these things. Speaking to the blind man Christ had healed they rebuked him stating, **“We know that God spake unto Moses: as for this fellow, we know not from whence he**

is.” (John 9.29). They had admitted at times that great works had been done by Christ (Matt 13.54-56, John 3.2). It was impossible to deny the power that Jesus demonstrated and yet in spite of that they plotted and eventually had him crucified. The time that we live in is one in which we have the will of God revealed in the form God intended for us to have (2 Pet 1.3) and yet in spite of that it is difficult to bring even those who claim to be followers of Christ to a point that they will accept the word that has been revealed as it is written. These examples speak of the hardness of the human heart and the tendency of mankind to reject the truth that God reveals. Some seek for “proof” and turn to history and science to verify the claims of the Bible. This is done in spite of the fact that the word of God has survived man’s attempts at manipulation, misinterpretation and misapplication of the scriptural record. What will it take for us to acknowledge that God has sent his Son into the world to die for the sins of all mankind. Some state that if they saw the miracles and things recorded in the scriptures they would believe and yet it is evident that there were many who did not believe even after seeing these displays of God’s might. We have the opportunity to make a decision concerning what has been written. We can reject God and continue in our own opinions and attitudes, or, we can open our minds to His will and learn what it means to be faithful. If we believe that God spoke the universe into existence, why then can we not believe that he is able to inspire writers to record His message and preserve it for the ages so that by reading and understanding we can be saved. The Israelites stated that they “wot not” or did not know. How could this be, given the things that had been done before them? How is it that God’s word survives in spite of the opposition that it receives. Could it be that it is true and that some remain ignorant willingly?

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