

Is the Word of God subject to opinions, so as to adapt it to our desires?

First, let's look at the definition of opinion:

A view or judgment formed about something, not necessarily based on fact or knowledge.

What is the opposite of opinion?

A “FACT”, a statement that can be verified, and proven to be true or false through objective evidence.

What is the difference between an opinion and a belief?

An opinion is a statement that expresses a feeling or an attitude. Unlike an opinion, a belief is a conviction based on facts, a personal faith, morality, or values.

What does the “Word of God” mean?

Scripture speaks of the “Word of God as,” meaning “the things God has said.” But Scripture also uses the phrase “the Word of God” as a name, specifically, as a name for Jesus Christ.

The reason John's gospel begins:

John 1:1: “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”

What are the facts about the Word of God?

Hebrews 4:12 For the Word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Do I trust in man's opinions, or rather will I trust God, our Creator, Savior, and Lord?

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“When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, “Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?”

Matthew 16:13

Interestingly, Jesus’ question to His disciples tells us that even in His time, Jesus knew that people would use opinions to describe Him, as opposed to believing in Him as who He really is, the Son of God, the Savior.

Why then must we be on guard, so as to avoid deception through opinions, rather than rely solely on the Word of God?

Galatians 1:10: “For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.”

1John 2:22: “Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son.”

Jesus clearly said:

John 14:6: “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”

Then, as true believers:

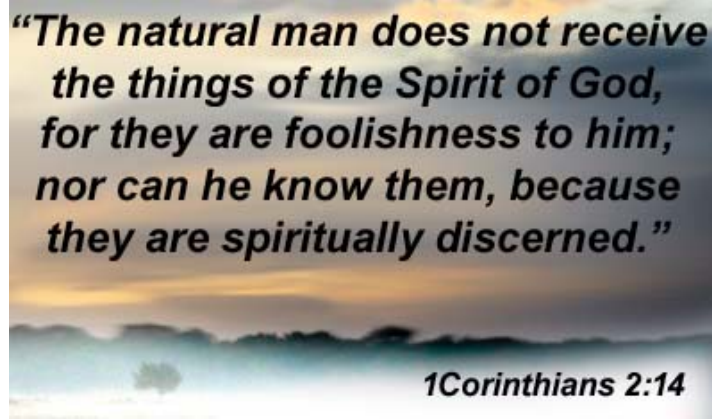
1Corinthians 2:12: “We have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.”

Therefore:

Galatians 2:20: “I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”

Do I understand the need to follow Christ by His Word, so I am not deceived by men’s opinions?

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Why do hypocrites and deceivers use opinions, rather than believing in and standing by God's Word, Christ Jesus?

1Corinthians 1:18: "For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God."

John 12:43: "For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God."

The reason why:

Proverbs 21:2: "Every way of a man *is* right in his own eyes, but the LORD weighs the hearts."

Proverbs 29:25: "The fear of man brings a snare, but whoever trusts in the LORD shall be safe."

Proverbs 18:21: "Death and life *are* in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit."

The apostle Paul added:

2Corinthians 11:3: "But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ."

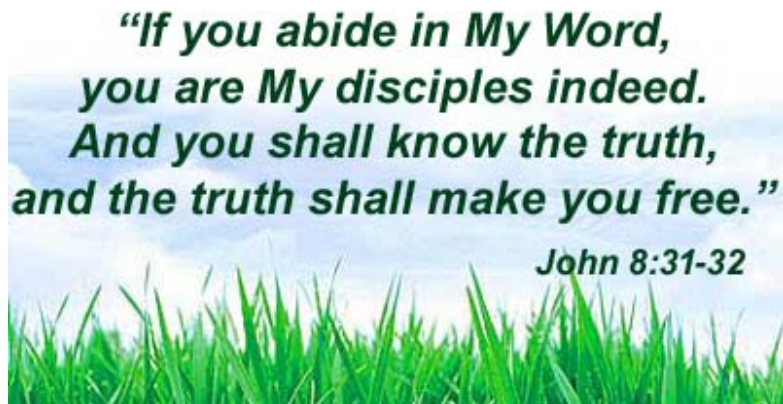
1Corinthians 2:6: "However, we speak wisdom among those who are mature, yet not the wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing."

As such Christ declared:

John 8:12: "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

Do I realize that I must be anchored in Christ, the Word of God, so I am not deceived through personal opinions?

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How powerful is the Word of God to guide us, and for what purpose?

Psalm 119:105: "Your Word *is* a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

2Timothy 3:16-17: "All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

Why?

Hebrews 4:12: "For the Word of God *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

Romans 15:4: "For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope."

Furthermore:

Isaiah 40:8: "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the Word of our God stands forever."

Matthew 24:35: "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away."

Therefore:

Colossians 3:16: "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another."

Do I understand why I must be steadfast in studying the Word of God, and very importantly "meditate on it day and night," as Joshua 1:8 teach us?

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How does the wisdom of God compare with the so-called wisdom of the world?

James 3:17: "The wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy."

Isaiah 40:28: "Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable."

Furthermore:

Hebrews 4:13: "There is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things *are* naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we *must give* account."

2Timothy 1:7: "God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind."

The reason why:

Proverbs 14:8: "The wisdom of the prudent is to discern his way, but the folly of fools is deceiving."

Proverbs 11:2: "When pride comes, then comes shame; but with the humble *is* wisdom."

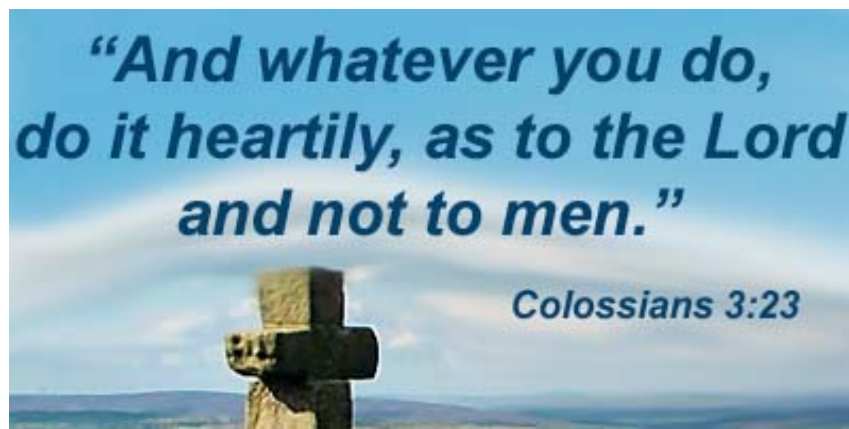
Therefore:

Proverbs 9:10: "The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One *is* understanding."

James 1:5: "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him."

Am I anchored in Christ and His Word, or do I follow the wisdom of the world?

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In this life, we must choose whether we abide in and follow Christ into the Kingdom of God, or follow the world into eternal damnation.

As such Jesus said:

Matthew 6:24: "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other."

How then must we follow Christ?

James 1:21: "Lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted Word, which is able to save your souls."

Romans 12:2: "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

Why?

James 2:26: "For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also."

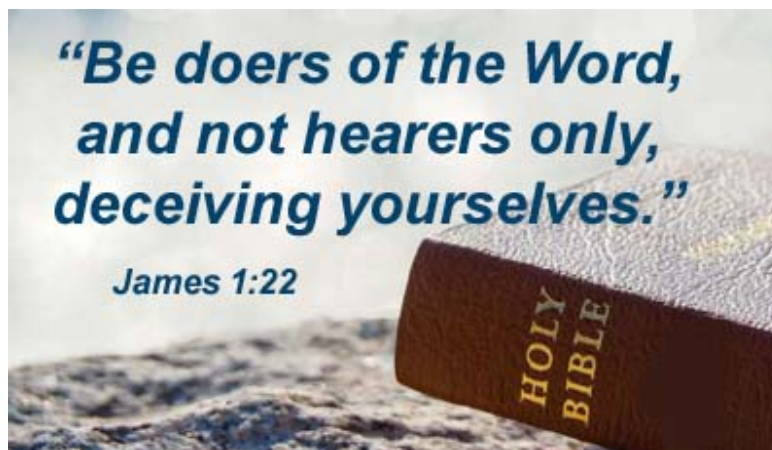
Therefore:

Galatians 1:10: "Am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ."

John 3:36: "He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."

Do I understand that, as Proverbs 16:25 says, "There is a way *that seems* right to a man, but its end *is* the way of death?"

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How can we avoid being deceived, or even deceiving ourselves in entertaining the world's standards?

Colossians 2:8: "Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ."

1Corinthians 6:9-10: "Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God."

Why?

1John 1:8: "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."

2Peter 2:1: "There were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, *and* bring on themselves swift destruction."

Therefore: Proverbs 3:7: "Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and depart from evil."

Proverbs 29:1: "He who is often rebuked, *and* hardens *his* neck, will suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy."

Am I committed to follow the Word of God, my one and only secure anchor of truth?

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***“See then that you walk
circumspectly, not as fools but
as wise, redeeming the time,
because the days are evil.”***

Ephesians 5:15-16



How can we best protect ourselves from being deceived by the opinions of this world, so we follow Christ from the heart?

Proverbs 3:5-6: “Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.”

1John 2:15-16: “Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father but is of the world.”

James 1:5: “If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.”

Why?

1Thessalonians 2:4: “Our purpose is to please God, not people. He alone examines the motives of our hearts.”

Romans 14:12: “Each of us shall give account of himself to God.”

Therefore:

Matthew 7:24: “Whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock.”

Luke 11:28: “Blessed *are* those who hear the Word of God and keep it!”

1John 2:17: The world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.”

Do I follow Christ from the heart, or do I allow the world’s opinions to deceive me?

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