

8-24-25 Message

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SPEAKERS

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Oh, some college students were having a Bible study, and they decided they were going to do this over lunch. So first person sits down and puts the Bible down to the side and starts to open a container with these green leafy vegetables. I think we would call that a salad. I can choose it. I should probably eat a few more of those, but she's eating it and she's enjoying it. And one of the other students notices and says, Are you a vegetarian? She replies, I am now, but I didn't used to be. I started really studying out the diet of the Garden of Eden, and felt convinced that the original plan that God commanded was what I wanted to obey. And she goes on to say, in Genesis, 129, and 30, it says, And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree in the which is the fruit of the tree yielding seed to you, it shall be for meat, and to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life. I have given you every green herb for meat, and it was soap. So she put down a fork and she looked at the person asked the question. She says, what about you? And the second student starts unpacking their lunch box, and they say, I remember going through the Bible about dietary restrictions and whatnot, and I became convicted about making sure that all my meat was well done and didn't have any blood. And then they began to quote Genesis 93 which says, Every moving thing that liveth shall be meat for you, even as the green herb have I given you all things but flesh with the life thereof, which is the blood thereof? Shall ye not eat? So it's interesting, they're sitting down for a Bible study. A third person pops in, and this one was a little different. They had a Jewish background. They were saved, but they had a hard time getting out of their past tradition. One of the students offered them a pork chop, and they replied, I can't. Leviticus, 11, chapter four, or one through four, says the Lord spake unto Moses and to Aaron, saying unto them, speaking to the children of Israel, saying, These are the beasts which you shall eat among all the beasts that are on the earth. Whatsoever part of the hoof is cloven, there's cloven footed and cheweth the cut among the beast shall ye not eat? Nevertheless these shall ye not eat? Of them that chew the cud, or of them that divide the hoof as the camel, because it cheweth the cud, but divideth not the hoof. He is unclean unto you. When the fourth student arrived, heard the conversation, laid down the Bible. Now this student not only brought their own food, but makes their own food. It's because they're really particular, because even though he knows he has liberty, he knows he cannot eat meat that was offered to an idol, so he has to make his own meat to make sure that it was never offered to an idol. He constantly was asking

questions, where do these things come from? And the other students kind of looked at him quizzically, and he said, Acts 15:29 says that you abstain from meats offered to idols and from blood and from things strangled and from fornication from which you keep yourselves. You shall do well. Fare ye? Well? The final student walks up, heard all the various discussions about dietary restrictions and chimed in, relax first. Timothy 4:4 says, For every creature of God is good and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving. So every one of those students had a biblical reason to do what they were doing, and they were all doing something different, the question starts becoming who was right? Because people say, I have to do what the Bible says. I've got to have a reason, a biblical answer to everything that I do. All those students did have, and starts opening ourselves up to the fact of, does the Bible contradict itself, and what are the ramifications if it does? The definition of a contradiction is an assertion of the contrary to that which has been said or affirmed in consistency with itself. If the word of God is inconsistent with itself, then what does it say about God? Can God be trusted? What? How do we know what we're supposed to do today? All these were biblical examples, and you find this all throughout the Bible. So we're going to take a little journey. So I'm going to push you all over the place in the Bible today and give you several different comparisons. Joel 3:10 says, beat your plow shares into swords and your pruning hooks into spears. Let the weak say I am strong. Here. However, another one of the Minor Prophets says this in Micah 4:3 He shall judge among many people and rebuke strong nations afar off, and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, the exact opposite. What about food? Amen, you want me to get done quick today. I know it so. Luke, chapter 12:29, says, Seek not what you shall eat. I'll say it again, because I know nobody in here can relate to that. Seek not what you shall eat or what you shall drink, neither be of a doubtful mind. However, second, Thessalonians, 3:10 says, for even when we were with you this, we commanded you that if any would not work, neither should he eat. What are these differences here? Maybe these are minor. So let's talk about some more major matters that seem to be, I guess, at conflict with one another. How about the Sabbath, Exodus, chapter 20, verse eight and 10, says, eight through 10 says, Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy. Six days shall thou labor and do all thy work, but in the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God. In it Thou shalt not do any work, nor do any work thou nor thy son nor thy daughter, thy man servant, nor thy maid servant, nor thy cattle nor thy stranger that is within thy gates. Sounds pretty cut and dry, except for Paul says in Galatians four, nine and 10. But now, after you have known God, or rather are known of God, how turn you again to the weak and beggarly elements, where, until you desire again to be in bondage, you observe days and months and times and years, or in Colossians 2:16 where he says, Let no man therefore judge you in meat or in drink or in respect of the holy Day, of the new moon or of the Sabbath days, how about asking for things in prayer? Matthew 21:22 says, all things whatsoever you shall ask in prayer, believing you shall receive. But Romans 8:26, says, Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities. For we know not what we should pray for, as we ought, but the spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Which one is it? Either we don't know how to pray or whatever we pray for, as long as we believe we get it. What about health in general? Mark chapter 16, starting, verse 17 says, these signs shall follow them that believe in my name. They shall cast out devils. They shall speak with new tongues. They shall take up serpents. If they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them. They shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover so then, after the LORD hath spoken to them, he was received up into heaven and sat on the right hand of God. But in first, Timothy 5:23, Paul tells Timothy, drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities. I didn't just tell him to go find one of the 12. I'm gonna go find a find a healer, find Benny hen. Or, how about study, this idea of study Mark 13:11, but when they shall lead you and deliver you up, Take no thought beforehand what you shall speak. Neither do you premeditate, For whatsoever shall be given to you in that hour that speak, ye, for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Ghost. But second, Timothy 2:15 says, Study to show thyself approved unto God. A

workman need not to be ashamed. Rightly dividing the word of truth. We're not instructed just to don't read, don't study, don't worry, the Holy Spirit's gonna give you the right thing to say at the given moment, and it makes us very lazy, and we don't get in the Word of God at all. What about baptism? Matthew 3:11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance. He that come after me is mightier than whose shoes I am not worthy to bear. He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire. Three baptisms, one verse. But Paul says in Ephesians, 4:5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism. Which one's right? They're both in the Bible. What about justification? Romans, 4:5 But to him that worketh not but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness. But James says in James 2:24, you see then how that by works a man is justified and not by faith, only in. Which one is? It is the Bible contradicting itself. These are scripture verses. How about forgiveness? Matthew 6:14, and 15. If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. If you forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. But we know even from a few weeks ago, we spent a whole week talking about this. Some of these verses, Ephesians, 4:32, is Pastor Jim's life. Verse says, Be kind one to another. Tender hearted, forgiving one another, even as God, for Christ's sake, hath, hath forgiven you. Colossians, 2:13, you being dead in your sins and uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses? What about Christ in general, and about his life? This is two places in the same chapter, but Romans 15:8 says Paul's talking. He says, Now I say that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God to confirm the promises made unto the fathers who were Jewish Romans, 15:16, though Paul says, I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable being sanctified by the Holy Ghost. What about a favored nation? Acts 13:25, the end. Kind of Peter here. He's been going for a while in Acts chapter two. And then continues some discussion acts three. And he's telling a Jewish audience, you are the children of the prophets and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying unto Abraham, and in thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed. But Paul says in Romans 3:22, through 24 even the righteousness of God, which is by faith of Jesus Christ, unto all and upon all them that believe. For there is no difference. For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God, Being justified freely by his grace, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, but he says there is no difference today and what about this idea of prophecy versus mystery? Acts 13:21 says Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things which God hath spoken by the mouth of all of his holy prophets since the world began. Paul says, Though in Romans, 16:25, Now to him that is of power to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery which was kept secret since the world began. One of these things was been known by the prophet since the world began. What Paul was saying was kept secret since the world began. You can go all through the Bible and come up with a lot more exhaustive list than I just did, and be really, really confused if you say it is all for me, this is what I must do. And let's be honest, people might want to pick on the term Rightly dividing, but everybody divides the Word of God. They either take the natural break in the Bible that says Old Testament and New Testament, or they might say law, or they might say grace, but here's what I can tell you, there's not a soul on this planet that does everything in this book, and it's not because they're in rebellion. It's not because they're disobeying, but it's because they understand God does not work that way today. Nobody in here, I hope, if somebody be turned in, is going to be doing animal sacrifices later. Today, some of you may want to stone your rebellious children. Don't do that. It's illegal, but yet, at one point in time, you'd bring them out and they would stone them. Nothing else is working. I mean, we all have our moments in our flesh. You know? It's because everyone that reads the Word of God understands a term, and that term is progressive revelation. The problem is, they somehow thought it quit progressing at some point in the Bible, but they have no problem agreeing with it up to a certain point that 40 authors over 1500 Years, wrote the word of God,

and they were given different instructions throughout time, you know. And it's easy to see when you're looking at the word of God, it's easy to see, like, everything that I was brought that brought up earlier about the diet had everything to do with what was happening in a specific period of time. Yes, they're all in the Bible, but that doesn't mean it's all for you today. I think that's a very important distinction to make. God said things, he said it to people, and he said it for a specific purpose. And there are differences. That doesn't make the Bible a contradiction. And I think that's really important. We're going to bring up our old friend here on the screen a version of it. Hey, I like that. There's some yays in there. Okay, this is so helpful in understanding what you eat today, not just what you eat today, but how we live today, and what our doctrine is for today. Because if you try to do it all, or you start getting in fights with people who will do something back in Leviticus versus what you can do today, it will be largely unprofitable. When we look over here to the left, there is a period of time that started things out, and God was working even from the garden and the dispensation of innocence, eventually conscience, then government. Finally we get to the whole promise and law period. These were all God progressively revealing a little bit more of himself and something different about the story and how he was going to deal with people specifically in a period of time. So this is why, when you read Genesis and the four Gospels in Acts seven, it feels like you're reading the same thing it should, with slight deviations of the early part in Acts, until we get to Abraham, until we have a promised people. This is why the problem today is that a lot of people think, because of the biggest chunk of their Bible is that section, that that's the important section, or because some words have a different color on them that that's for them today, joking with the teens. I think last year, when we were I think we were listening to David, David Crowder. Somebody was bringing up David Crowder, and he has that song, red letters. And I changed the words, I thank God for Paul's letters. But it's like, I thank God for the red letters, and I do thank God for the red letters, but the red letters are not for us today. That's something we added over time. They didn't use, they didn't use different ink when they were writing the authorized scriptures. And we've added that over time, and that's given us additional emphasis on some of those things there. And we have to be careful. What we need to realize is that something new happened when Paul got saved. If so then or if not, then, why did Paul need to get saved? I mean, that's probably a really good question. You got 12 going out doing the message that was sent to them by Matthew 28:19 and 20 in the end of Mark. So they're out doing what they were supposed to do. Why does God need to bring Paul into the picture? And then why does God need to start giving him new things? And he says, hey, now this was a mystery. See, there's a significance to Paul. We don't worship Paul. We just recognize him as our apostle. In the same way that a lot of the Jewish people in the first century would have recognized, probably Peter, when his writing started to come out, or even John, right, the leader of the church. No different people have always followed a teacher. We follow Paul as he follows Christ. So we're in this middle section here this but now, and this is that Romans through Philemon, and lot of those verses we were looking at here the contrasted side, were coming right out of the Age of Grace that we are in today. You see how there are differences now, some things are similar and some things are interdispensational truths. There's things about God that are the same all the way through, but specific doctrines specific how we are to live today, we will find only in that section we say nothing anywhere else in the Bible about the body of Christ. Paul is the only one who talks about it, only one in the Bible. And it wasn't just because Paul chose to use a different vernacular. It's because he was revealing a new man, something that was previously not revealed. We got the body of Christ. We've got this idea of the gospel of grace when we don't hear those terms before Paul specifically. Specifically talking about something now that he's had a full revelation of what it takes for one to get to heaven that is different than what was said prior to Paul, and that is faith alone in the Gospel alone without Paul, we have no idea that Israel is set aside. In fact, a lot of people are still very confused about that today. In fact, a lot of people think they are Israel today, it is amazing. I follow or not follow. I have a bunch of

friends on Facebook in different places that now keep the Sabbath and start keeping the Jewish holy days. And I'm like, What are you doing that's not for us today, as Paul was talking about in Galatians four, we learn about temporarily being set aside Israel. We specifically Romans nine through 11. It tells us what happened, and it tells us how long it's going to happen, until the fullness of the gentiles come in. What happens then something else that was only revealed to Paul, the rapture, which is under a lot of attack today, a pre trib, pre millennial rapture, is right on the front lines. It is being dismissed by all of Christianity today. If you've not seen it, wake up. This doctrine is being denounced, and I think part of it is it's attack on Paul, because he's the only one that has revealed it, because it was a mystery. How could it be a mystery if it was already shared, which then lets you see that there's no way Matthew 24 can be talking about the rapture, because then Paul couldn't be revealing a mystery, as he talks about in First Corinthians 15. So much we learn through the Apostle Paul that is not found elsewhere. We are really blessed to live in the time period that we are today, as well as our identity in Christ. Wow, that is amazing. We have the atonement today. I mean, even you read Acts chapter two and you see this whole Repent and be baptized, you know, for the remission of your sins. But then you read Acts chapter three, and it says that the forgiveness comes at the times of refreshing. It wasn't even instantaneous right then and there, but for us today, in the body of Christ, the moment we believe we have been forgiven of all of our sins, the stuff we haven't even done yet. And we learn that through the Apostle Paul. And there is those books after Paul, and they will serve a purpose as well, these Hebrew epistles after we're gone, we live in a specific period of time, that Romans through Philemon. That's why you see so many different things in that section of Scripture that you do not see in other places. And I think we have to be honest with ourselves and say that there is a reason, and the way you make sure that the Bible is not contradicting itself is you rightly divide it. And now Paul told that to Timothy before the full canon of Scripture was even completed. That meant that even in the first century, they had to divide themselves from the law and grace. Even then, even more so today, we have the full canon of Scripture and the importance of us being able to rightly divide it, which leads me to what I think is the most important piece of all this, we have to realize that, yes, the 12 were preaching, and they were preaching a gospel in their lives. But there's a couple things they didn't know. One really big thing, John, chapter 20, verse nine, as they're going out there preaching, John makes this claim at the very end of his book, For as yet they knew not the scripture that he must rise from the dead. Luke gives us a little bit more of this picture. In verse 32 of chapter 18, he says, For he shall be delivered unto the Gentiles, shall be mocked, spitefully, entreated, spitted on, they shall scourge Him, put him to death, and the third day he shall rise again. And we would say, That's the gospel. And it says, And they understood none of these things, and this saying was hid from them. Neither knew they the things which were spoken. So what on earth were they preaching in Luke nine, chapter two, it was not the gospel of grace. God Paul makes it very clear what the gospel of grace is for us today. In First Corinthians, 15, one through four, he says, Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also you have received and wherein you. Stand By which also you are saved, if you keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless you have believed in vain. Here it is, I delivered unto you first of all, that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried and that he rose again the third day, according to the Scriptures. That is it that is the gospel. That is why Paul fights so hard in Galatians that this is the one true gospel today that is to be observed. He goes so far as to say, If any man or an angel preach any other gospel than what I have preached, let him be accursed, because every other gospel will not lead you to heaven. It will lead you to the other H and that's hell. That's why this is so important, that we understand if I would have started this service today instead of using diet, what if I would have used different gospels all throughout the Bible? Well, that would have been pretty easy to do. It would have taken more than five students. But there, everywhere across America today, there are a lot of gospels being

preached, and most of which will not lead anyone to heaven in this dispensation of grace. And that is why we not only have to understand that the Bible does not contradict itself, but we just need to rightly divide it. But we sure as heck need to know how we get to heaven today in this dispensation of grace. It's not about your works. It's not about keeping the law. It's not about circumcision. It's not about baptism. It is by In fact, the only work involved was the work that God Himself did in coming down the form of Jesus Christ and shedding His precious blood on the cross for your sins. Amen, and he was buried and rose again three days later, and the Lord said It is finished. We didn't need another thing done after that. Today, we receive it, we believe it, and we are saved, even right in your seat when you hear it. We have to be able to understand that not all of this in this book is for us today. We don't discount it, we don't throw the rest of it out, but we understand why it was written. Who was written for what purpose was it written? The most important thing we can know today is where we are going to spend eternity, and then from there, how God wants us to live in this life. We are learning, as we read through Paul's books, right, that we are ambassadors, and not only he didn't just save us for us, but it was to see all men saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. If you won't tell them, I will fill up these empty seats next week. I promise you they'll hear the gospel. But it is why you and I were left here. So God not only says through the Apostle Paul what we need to live today, he tells us why it's not to have as many nice cars and mansions and things like that as we can, and to waste the next 50 years saying we're good. It's making sure that everybody else hears that same message and has the opportunity to place their faith alone in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ in 2008 pastor forsook decades of ministry and potential ridicule to stand on this truth, and we will continue to stand on that truth, because that is what that is. It's the truth you Yes. So do me a favor if you thought this was beneficial today, when you go home, share it. It is electronically. It is out in the airwaves right now. Share it because somebody needs to hear it. Every person in here at some point saw it, and it all made sense, and you'll talk about how it was the most glorious day of your life, outside of salvation. So why would you not want to share that with somebody else? Because there's a lot of confused people today. Trust me, there are people thinking they have to sell everything they own in order to follow Jesus. Today, there are people who think the reason that their loved ones didn't get healed is get healed is because they didn't have enough faith, and there are people who are leaving the church in droves today because they didn't get what they wanted out of church, instead of understanding what God wants them today and what they have in Christ. But how will they know if we don't tell them, how did we know? If somebody didn't tell us, it'll be awesome getting to Heaven one day, and to see how many people pastor Jim met with that message through the airwaves, through CDs, through DVDs, but being faithful is. Preaching that message over and over and over again, and I am thankful for that. So today was an encouragement to you that you can trust the word of God. You just have to rightly divide it. You don't have to be confused. God is not the author of confusion. You don't have to be a theologian. You don't have to have a degree in Greek. You can understand, you can trust the King James version that he has preserved for us today, rightly divided. And know what God wants from you today. And that should be exciting for you. So I want to encourage you guys with an old fashioned, rightly divided message today. And hopefully you enjoyed that. I'm gonna have everybody stand right now, if you will. If today was maybe the first time you'd heard that and you thought it was the craziest thing you've ever heard, I encourage you to go back and watch it again and read those scriptures for yourself. I just showed you that the Bible does not contradict itself. There is a way for you to understand where it all fits and in what bucket. So it wasn't that I was crazy today, but today, if maybe you heard the gospel either through a couple of different times we mentioned it, and today was the day that you said, Yep, I believe. Then Praise God. You didn't have to do anything special other than just believe, receive that and believe it today, right? And if you did that today, I would love to talk to you, because I'd love to give you some, I guess, encouragement of things to do now that you're saved, some

resources, some ways to be able to grow in your faith and be what God wants you to be in this life as well. And so if that's the case, please come forward and share that with us. I'm going to close us in a word of prayer. Well, I'm going to pray, then we're going to have Stan sing a song, and then I'll dismiss you. But if I could have everybody bow their heads right now, and if you want to step out and join the church today, we're more than welcome with we are more than happy to meet you at the front and have you do that as well. Alright, let's pray, Dear heavenly Father. I thank you so much for your truth, Lord and that Lord that we can know it where there were so many times when I was younger that I would throw myself at the altar and just because I didn't know, and I would have all this guilt thinking I wasn't forgiven. And those those times of wondering if I was truly saved because of something that I did versus what I believed, and all because somebody could show me from scripture that I'm not saved if I did that thing. And I really got messed up with that for a long time, and there was a very up and down relationship with you, but Lord that's stabled. That stabled out once I realized Lord in this idea of Rightly dividing and what was for me today and who I am in Christ, and Lord is my hope, Lord, that somebody will hear this message today, that maybe has never heard it before. First and foremost, that they would be wonderfully saved. But then secondly, Lord, they would study for themselves to see that this is true and that it would change everything for them, as it did when Pastor Jim was so faithful preaching it and I heard it. Lord, I thank you for him and his legacy. Lord is my desire that as long as you leave us here and lead me in the spot, that we continue that So Lord, I just pray, Lord that you'd be glorified in everything that we say and do. I pray there'd be much fruit that would come from a message like this, that we would share it with as many people as we can, and Lord that we would see people saved and see people growing in their faith, but we'd love to see people come to grace and grow in grace, Lord, we just pray that you just be with the people right now, encourage them, lift them up in Jesus name amen.