

Back Then

There is a point when we must look at the past and remember it properly. How many times have I watched an old movie and it is not as I remember it. Some things hold up to the test of time. Yet, many do not. The good old days might look that way but, they were as flawed as today. I see old movies when there all smoking and cringe. Some of the language feels wrong today but I did not even notice back then. However, the past has a warmth about it that most people appreciate. Why is that?

What I really want to talk about today is how we remember things. This current generation has been allowed to edit the past. To attempt to rub out problematic events. There has been rewriting of books and movies being cancelled. The Bible has not escaped. I figure they would have had some pushback on cancelling the Bible. Yet, to rewrite it is another matter. Innocently, a few years ago, some well meaning people gave us modern language versions of the Bible. It seemed innocent because Latin to English made sense. It does make sense to translate the Bible into current vernacular. But...

The assumption is that modern is better. That translating the Bible into current vernacular is better. There are three types of translated Bibles. First is word for word. Then there is meaning for meaning and interpretation. The word for word translation is just taking the Hebrew and Greek words and updating them into words that say the same thing today. The meaning translation gives a few changes to how we say the same thing they did back then. It is word for word with modern understanding. The interpretation translation has become popular. So called men of God have taken what is written and given it their interpretation. Some words have been removed and replaced to fit the social times.

What does God have to say? Luke 9:62 “Jesus replied, “*No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.*” It seems like a harsh word from Jesus. Yet, the Bible is all about looking forward. God does not talk about past sins and past events. The Lord is always pushing His agenda forward. He wants the same mindset for us. Yes, the past hurt us. Yet, it is in the past. It really cannot hurt you anymore. Yet, many let the past be their present. However, that does not translate well on erasing or changing the past. Some of the principles our for-fathers believed in are for our good. We should not be so quick to discard what came before us.

This is where our struggle begins. People have been victims or hurt by past events. Sometimes we do not remember things as they really were. Instead, we create a monster of our own choosing to remain a victim. Our history is a mess. They could easily say that their future became a mess. Tell me that things are good right now. Fights over social media, racism, and sexuality are looming large. Yet, those are the same fights they had throughout our history. When will we stop looking behind and move forward?

The Bible has grown Christianity for thousands of years without changing. Why does this generation believe they need to re-word the Bible? Re-word it to their liking. I am all for updating words to clearly say what the Bible words truly meant. Yet, I do not want the Bible to reflect our current morals or ideology. I know some movies and books from the past look and feel different now. They have not changed but we have. The Bible is not supposed to change. We are!

I feel different about many things as I get older. Yet, I do want consistency. I do want to know that my society could be a safe place. Shouldn't we be able to count on people? To know where we stand. The Bible has always given truth a place to stand. A place to fight sinful

humans. I used to adore Disney. Now I despise their morals. I and they have changed. I did not care for religious stuff 25 years ago. I have changed. Did the Bible or church change to suit me? I wish that some things from my past still held some good feelings but I feel different now about many things like Disney now.

Back then we loved the Bible for its truth. We held on that society was a good thing. People dreamed of reaching peace and utopia. Yet, some of our childhood staples have changed. This current generation is changing the Bible to suit its new morality. To fit its current beliefs and judgments. Yet, history cannot change no matter what we say. It happened. I do not want history to be re-written to reflect our view of it. What happened, happened. We can learn from our mistakes. However, how do we know what is real? What is a solid truth? The Bible used to be that. People could always find a bedrock of truth in Gods word that does not change.

To change the Bible to fit modern times is a bad idea. God said His word would never change. If we attempt to make personal changes to it, I suspect God will not sit by idly. This will not go well. I could change timeless feel-good movies of the past to better reflect modern times. Yet, it becomes a different movie. I could change the Bible but then it ceases to be Gods word. It becomes our word. Back then we had horse riding laws. Now we have car driving laws. Some change is needed. Yet, do not kill is still a good law. We need to remember that our view of the past is skewed by modern lenses. The God of ancient of days gave us His word for a reason. He said it needed to remain the same for a reason. Back then, people believed that. Maybe our view of things changed, and it's not a good thing?

