## 103 Intro. The Forest for the Trees?

I do believe that you believe, that what you believe is true & yet I would ask, have you actually proven it for yourself, or do you just believe it, because you learned it & trust who taught it to you? Think about this deeply & honestly & then re-ask yourself, besides just hearing it from & discussing it with another, what actual, factual, validated positive proof could you give, for your statement of belief? Ask yourself honestly, if something extremely important, depended on you strictly giving absolute truth, not believed learned truth, but actual proven truth? e.g. would you bet your soul, on something that a group of good meaning friends taught as common truth, but that you didn't do as God commanded, testing His words for yourself. Think hard about what God meant when He said, that the enemy has deceived the whole world? The great dragon satan, who God cast into the earth with his angels, Deceives the whole world, Revelation 12:9, as he came to steal, kill & destroy all whom he could, by whatever deceptive terms possible, John 10:10.

Now we know, through scripture, that those who falsely believe that they are better than any other & who self-righteously judge others, through the eyes of fallen, mortal, fallible, sinful man (which admit it, or not, we all are & have all been guilty of; as Jesus claimed, "none are good") will be judged, with the same judgement that they may have unthoughtfully placed on another, Mathew 7:2. So, it's time to stop viewing the speck in our brother's eye, while there's a plank distorting our vision, Mathew 7:3 & start worrying about how God views us.

Have you ever been so involved in viewing the details of a situation, that you may have missed some important details of the overall picture & all who may be affected by the outcome? e.g. due you grieve for aborted babies, forgetting the pains of the mother, whom you know nothing more about than she needs the love & knowledge of Jesus in her life, as she is a sinner, as we are.

Most of us are guilty of this without realizing it. We believe that our belief, or philosophy, or understanding, of a situation, is the only "truth" that matters, but if you truly open the eyes of your mind to follow along, you could realize, that there are times, when you are sure that you are right, but that you could in fact be wrong, due to focusing on individual issues, problems, or trees, without seeing the total picture, or the whole forest, in which case you may need to learn to view life issues a bit differently.

Whether you agree, or disagree with our weekly thoughts, you surely can gain some worthwhile knowledge & understanding, as well as a new way to look at many controversial issues, if you faithfully follow along, you may also just find a new & more peaceful way of viewing life & all those who we should be calling family as in Mathew 12:48, when Christ, talking to the crowds before being crucified on a cross for us, answered & said, who are my brothers & stretching out His hand He said behold my brothers, for whosoever does the will of my Father is my Brother.