

Two or Three Eunuchs: Some Details Do Not Matter

“And he lifted up his face to the window, and said, Who is on my side? who?
And there looked out to him **two or three eunuchs.**”
II Kings 9:32

Most Details Do Matter

- A. We maintain and promote more strictly than most the examples of Nadab and Abihu (strange fire), Moses (smiting a rock), David (moving the ark), etc., etc.
 - 1. We can see by numerous examples that God held men accountable for details.
 - 2. We want our righteousness far above rule-altering Pharisees (Matt 5:19-20).
 - 3. FAQ: Why do we sweat small stuff? ... <http://www.letgodbetruer.com/faq/small-stuff.php>.
- B. We maintain a large collection of one-word arguments due to our love of details.
 - 1. The many examples show N.T. speakers/writers arguing from one O.T. word.
 - 2. Our one-word arguments ... <http://www.letgodbetruer.com/pdf/one-word-arguments-titus.pdf>.
 - 3. Slide presentation of it ... <http://www.letgodbetruer.com/pdf/one-word-arguments-powerpoint.pdf>.
- C. Our Lord taught us to live by every word of God (Luke 4:4 cp Proverbs 30:5).
 - 1. We use this clause often; we resent modern versions for deleting the clause.
 - 2. Agur and John warned about altering God’s words (Pr 30:5-6; Rev 22:18-19).
 - 3. We know every word of God is pure, but we only want the pure truth intended.
- D. We use Ahaziah’s age as a Bible contradiction that conveys advanced revelation.
 - 1. We believe the Spirit inspired 22 years in one place and 42 years in another.
 - 2. For details of Ahaziah ... <http://www.letgodbetruer.com/bible/scripture/ahaziah-contradiction.php>.
- E. We work hard to rightly divide the word of truth in its use of words like salvation.
 - 1. We avoid casually misapplying one phase of salvation for another like most.
 - 2. Five Phases ... <http://www.letgodbetruer.com/sermons/salvation/five-phases-of-salvation/sermon.php>.
- F. We hold to internal hermeneutics for properly interpreting the inspired scriptures.
 - 1. We have not quit on scripture at all, but we diligently study it by its own rules.
 - 2. We have study rules ... <http://www.letgodbetruer.com/bible/scripture/knowning-the-scriptures.php>.
- G. We tore out a dry-pastor baptistery, since it is not strictly scriptural (Ac 8:36-39).
- H. These examples could be greatly multiplied. Most call us “legalistic” for details.

Some Details Do Not Matter

- A. The title text, inspired by God, shows He does not care if two or three eunuchs.
 - 1. Did God know whether two eunuchs looked out the window or three eunuchs?
 - 2. Was God able to inspire the true number? He did not, to give us an example.
 - 3. Whether two or three eunuchs looked out the window does not alter the event.
- B. We do not want to miss divine emphasis on priority of things (Matthew 23:23).
 - 1. Not all commandments, all of which are important, are equally important.

2. We do not want to strain at a gnat and swallow a camel (Matthew 23:24).
 3. The Bible does teach many priorities ... <http://www.letgodbettrue.com/pdf/priorities2.pdf>.
- C. The Bible teaches us that the N.T. is better and more important than the O.T.
1. Moses' ceremonies are beggarly, carnal, elementary, rudimentary, worldly.
 2. Progressive revelation from Genesis through the epistles moves upward.
 3. Thus, Leviticus is not equal to Hebrews, or Ezekiel 40-48 with John 1-10.
- D. We learn from our Lord's parables that many of the details can be distractions.
1. The Good Samaritan is nothing more than to define neighbor (Lu 10:25-37).
 2. The Unjust Steward does not condone malfeasance but preparing for future.
 3. The Prodigal Son is most about the older brother's self-righteous resentment.
- E. We want God's lesson over any chronological or mathematical details included.
1. Jehu's judgment on Ahab and Jezebel is infinitely above two or three eunuchs.
 2. Reconciling all four gospel chronologies is less important than Jesus' lessons.
 3. The hours of the crucifixion are incredibly insignificant to our Lord's death.
- F. The Holy Spirit used absolute and relative comparisons to teach other priorities.
1. Does the Bible prohibit curling hair and gold jewelry on women (I Pet 3:3-4)?
 2. Does the Bible condemn or commend swearing (Matt 5:33-37; Heb 6:13,16)?
 3. For more of absolute or relative ... <http://www.letgodbettrue.com/pdf/absolute-or-relative.pdf>.
- G. Consider some simple Bible examples of general terms used over precise details.
1. Are there 12 tribes? They vary by Levi, Joseph, Ephraim, Manasseh, Dan, etc.
 2. Are there 12 apostles? What of Judas, Matthias, Paul, Barnabas, James, etc.?
- H. Consider some other aspects of how God's word precludes fixation on details.
1. When writing Corinth, Paul left some key men anonymous (II Cor 8:16-24).
 2. Paul told Timothy to reject foolish questions to no profit (II Tim 2:14,23).
 3. The details of some things in the Bible are unprofitable and vain (Titus 3:9).
- I. Bible prophecies have many details impossible to know with absolute certainty.
1. Ten horns of the Roman beast in Dan 7 and Rev 12-13 vary greatly over time.
 2. Three horns uprooted by the papal horn are irrelevant, if you know the papacy.
 3. The start and end of 2300 days are irrelevant, if you know it is within Greece.
 4. The start and end of 1260 years are irrelevant, if you know it is papal Rome.
 5. What is 666? Who can know for sure? If you know the beast, does it matter?

Why the Difficulty?

- A. Man's flesh prefers to be distracted by details than repent and submit to doctrine.
1. Wise men know their hearts are deceitfully wicked and will stray in the Bible.
 2. Life is short; time is limited; energy declines. Effort must be wisely focused.
 3. Man's pride will justify him fussing about details while rejecting the lesson.
 4. Honest and wise preachers can rank sermons from least to most important.
- B. God Jehovah, our glorious Father in heaven, is indeed the Author of Confusion.
1. He has confounded men from the beginning and continues to do so unabated.

2. He is not the author of confusion in the assemblies of churches (I Cor 14:33).
 3. He is elsewhere ... <http://www.letgodbetruer.com/sermons/god/is-god-the-author-of-confusion/sermon.php>.
- C. There are cultural and historical biases or differences that confound our thinking.
1. We do not intuitively think in terms of Jewish reckoning of calendars or time.
 2. We do not know the Jewish feasts, sacrifices, and holy days as we should.
 3. We are too far removed from actual historical events to know their details.
 4. We must view history through revisionist historians that have altered details.
 5. Chronologers like Ptolemy and Ussher have greatly confounded many dates.
- D. The Bible itself has many different forms of revelation that mightily confound us.
1. Prophets used similitudes and symbolic signs that are hard to directly apply.
 2. Proverbs are called dark sayings needing to be interpreted and applied wisely.
 3. Parables have general lessons so their details must be handled very discreetly.
 4. There are many apparent contradictions, some we accept or reconcile by faith.
 5. His word is exceeding broad (Ps 119:96), which can allow inspired ambiguity.
- E. Many ask about the two witnesses in Revelation; let me ask them a few questions.
1. How will the answer change your life – your character or conduct for Christ?
 2. How do you measure up against the mighty man's life in our slides and doc?
 3. Why do you want to know? Why does this intrigue you over ruling your spirit?

What Are Two Important Issues Here?

1. Men are more concerned about creating a harmony of the four gospels than they are to learn and practice the life and lessons of the Lord Jesus Christ.
2. Men will reject prophetic truth because they want irrelevant details about a prophecy rather than the obvious limitations that clearly identify fulfillment.