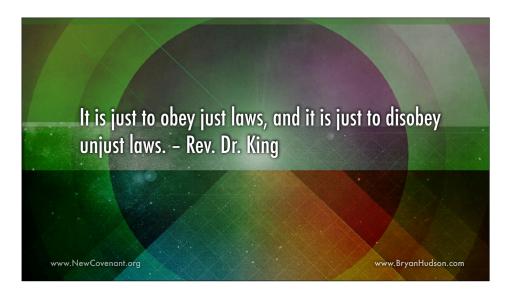


"A house divided against itself cannot stand." I believe this government cannot endure, permanently half slave and half free.

I do not expect the Union to be dissolved - I do not expect the house to fall - but I do expect it will cease to be divided. It will become all one thing, or all the other.
Abraham Lincoln, Illinois Republican State Convention, Springfield, Illinois June 16, 1858



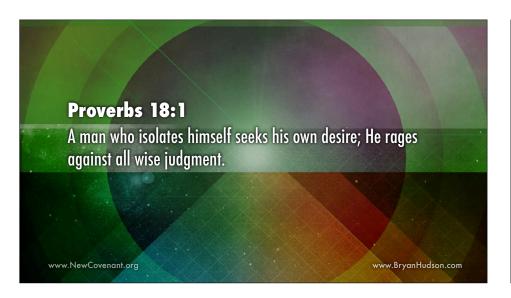
"A giraffe doesn't waste time quarrelling with rabbits over what the top of a tree looks like."

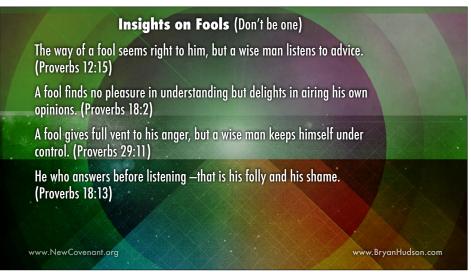
- Matshona Dhliwayo

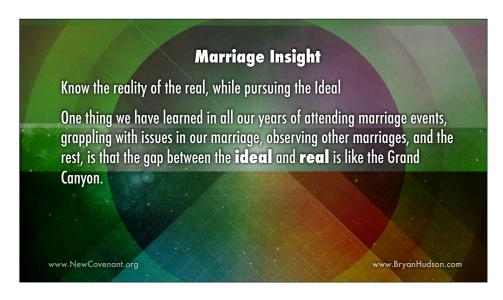
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"I love the pure, peaceable, and impartial Christianity of Christ: I therefore hate the corrupt, slaveholding, women-whipping, cradle-plundering, partial and hypocritical Christianity of this land. Indeed, I can see no reason, but the most deceitful one, for calling the religion of this land Christianity. I look upon it as the climax of all misnomers, the boldest of all frauds, and the grossest of all libels..."

(Frederick Douglass, 1845)

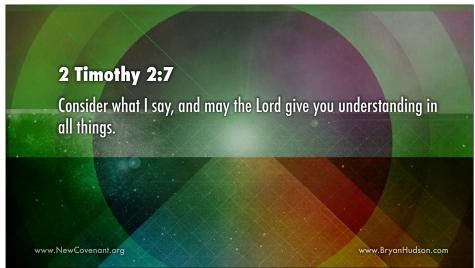


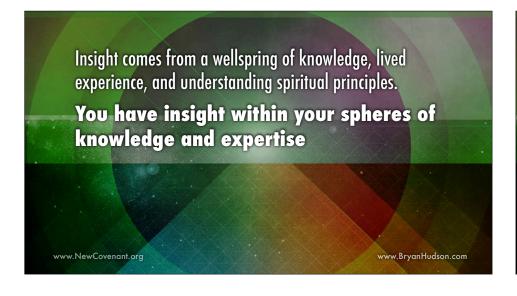


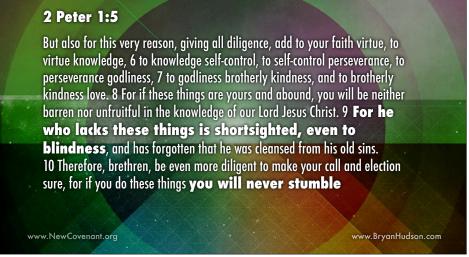












The Danger of Blindness

John 9:24, A second time they summoned the man who had been blind. "Give glory to God by telling the truth," they said. "We know this man is a sinner." 25 He replied, "Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!" 26 Then they asked him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" 27 He answered, "I have told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples too?" 28 Then they hurled insults at him and said, "You are this fellow's disciple! We are disciples of Moses! 29 We know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this fellow, we don't even know where he comes from."

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The Danger of Blindness

- Religious authoritarianism ("because I said so")
- Go from bad to worse (continue to dig when in a hole)
- Blind to God while talking about God (religious arrogance)
- Unwilling to acknowledge the obvious, empirical works of Jesus
- Disrespecting people who won't "fall in line"
- Tone deaf (won't "listen" to others)
- Hanging on to dead people and old things

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