

## **A Religion of Reason - Proverbs 2:2-6 09-20-15AM**

Most people view religion as “blind faith”. It is true. Many believe that Christianity is “blind faith”. This is false. Christianity represents cognitive application of reason. For example, when we read through Isaiah’s writings, we see a constant appeal to reason and understanding. “Come let us reason together” God implores in Isaiah 1:16-20. “Ask for a sign” God tells king Ahaz in Isaiah 7:10-14, telling us God wants us to ask Him questions, to question in general. We also see God’s anger with “blind faith” in Isaiah 42:14-17.

Jehovah has always been a God of Reason. He reveals this in numerous Psalms (Psalm 92:5-6, Proverbs 3:19). When we read Proverbs 2:2-6, we see Solomon implore his sons to seek wisdom so that they might know God. No wonder, considering God’s interaction with Solomon in 1 Kings 3:11-13. Thus Solomon, that wisest of men, implored men to come to a knowledge of God in Proverbs 1:2-7. Consider too that The Son of God is “Logic” personified (John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word (LOGOS), and the Word was with God, and the Word was God).

In contrast, God condemned idolatry as foolish. In Isaiah 44:13-20 God describes idolatry. We see that when a man refuses knowledge, he believes his own heart ( and his own lies). It is no so different today. Men believe things about God according to their own purposes, and are pleased to be deceived by the god of their own creation.

God wants us to see that Divine Understanding can only come one way. Faith is by hearing the Word (Romans 10:17). When we read, we are to understand (2 Corinthians 1:13, Ephesians 3:4). We are to intellectually discern that there is only one truth; we cannot all be right (II Peter 1:20)

We need to make some applications on this. First, Faith IS NOT BLIND, and blindness IS NOT FAITH. To the opposite, blindness is deception and death in every instance it is referenced (2 Corinthians 4:4, 1 John 2:11 , etc). Second, Faith is not an EMOTION (Jeremiah 17:9, Ephesians 4:18), but an understanding or comprehension. Finally, salvation comes because of KNOWLEDGE (2 Peter 2:20a).

Conclusions: Real Christianity is a spiritual ideology, a manner of thought and understanding. It is founded in understanding. It is offered with a willingness to debate, question or examine. It is grown with reasonable persuasion. Finally, It requires a mind to “seek and find”.