Sequence of Faith, Session 2

INTRODUCTION

- If you came into that situation with that presupposition, you're never going to get to him being the son of God.
- Everybody should be thinking what am I assuming going in and is it going to stop me from reaching the truth.

1 A Presupposition Can Rule Out Valid Conclusions

- If you have a presupposition, you need to be careful that you're not ruling out valid evidence and valid conclusions.
- It's a thing tacitly assumed at the beginning of a line of argument or course of action.
- Why in the world would you keep them tacit? That's kind of going to be essential to how you proceed and where you end up.

2 Presuppositions Are Necessary, but Fewer Are Better

- It's a necessary starting point. Its precursor facts or limits are usually based on common sense.
- Really, they're not laws. They're presuppositions. They're postulates. For example, the shortest distance between two points is a straight line.
- Fewer presuppositions are better but the problem is too many or the wrong ones will inhibit our investigation and also limit the conclusions we come to.

3 Bible Examples and Modern Presuppositions

2 Peter 3; John 7

- They continue the same as they have from the very beginning. Y'all see that's a presupposition that they're not going to change.
- There's a presupposition there only the conclusions of educated and powerful people are valid.
- Poor choices result in faulty conclusions. That's an obvious thing. And of course, the main thing is we're accountable for God for these.
- Religious truth is ultimately unknowable since God if there is one is totally spiritual and man is totally physical.
- I'm telling you, these are presuppositions. And I think they're more closed-minded than the alternative.

4 Hume's Argument Against Miracles

- A miracle is a violation of the laws of nature. And as firm and unalterable experience, that is human experience has established those laws.
- You see why he knows that can't be true because it's never happened. And because it's never happened, it can't be true.
- There's a suspension of the laws of nature. That's the point. That's what a miracle is for. For people to watch it and for it to point to something, prove something.
- What he's assumed is that there aren't any miracles. That's his presupposition.

5 Believe the Works, That You May Know and Believe

John 10:30–38; Isaiah 53; Deuteronomy 6

- For a good work, we do not stone you, but for blasphemy, because you being a man, make yourself God.
- If I don't do the works of my father, don't believe me. But if I do, though you do not believe me, believe in the works.
- I'm asking you to start with some things that you touch, taste, hear, have credible evidence.
- But if that's true, then what? You have to accept the things that are hard, that may be counterintuitive, that may not be socially acceptable.
- If Jesus is approved by God, then I conclude that his words are probably authoritative.

6 The Sequence in Which You Draw Conclusions

- The sequence in which you draw conclusions is kind of important because you may try to start at the bottom and get all tangled up.
- Anything below the line you accept because of the source, the credibility of the source.
- But I have the trust faith based on belief faith which is built on evidence.
- You go in order. Start at the right place. Write presuppositions. Work your way down. Get to the line. Obey it.

THE CHALLENGE

Ask them, "Where are you on here?" Let's work our way down through here. Look at the evidence where we need it.

MY NOTES