

“Your dogma lives loudly within you.”

Senator Diane Feinstein
Regarding Judge Amy Coney Barrett, 2017

“Dogma” = something held as an established opinion, view or tenet that affects how one thinks and acts; something firmly believed concerning faith, morals, behavior, etc. that may or may not be true

BASIC TRUTHS ABOUT DOGMA

1. We all have a dogma that _____ within us
 - a. We may not want to _____
 - b. We may not want to _____ our dogma
- > BUT IT'S THERE! <**
2. Our dogma...
 - a. Guides our _____ – 1 Corinthians 10:31
 - b. Shapes our _____ – Philippians 2:5
 - c. Forms our _____ – Romans 12:1-2
 - d. Frames our _____ – Joshua 24:15
 - e. Defines our _____ – 2 Timothy 4:3-5
 3. We all have to _____ how to live with competing dogmas
 - a. With the _____ around us – 1 John 2:15
 - b. With the _____ we do – Colossians 3:23

[Jesus] “You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.”
Matthew 5:14-16, NLT

THE POINT: The dogma of our faith **SHOULD LIVE LOUDLY** within us. If it doesn't, we're doing it wrong.

OUR DOGMA...

God is the one and only creator and ruler of the universe. He eternally exists in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. These three are coequal, each possessing the attributes of deity.

Jesus Christ lived a sinless life on earth and voluntarily paid for our sin by dying as our substitute. He rose from the dead demonstrating his power over sin and death. He ascended to heaven's glory and will return to earth to consummate history.

The Holy Spirit is present in the world to make us aware of our need for Jesus Christ. He draws us to Christ for salvation. He lives in every Christian and equips believers for personal growth and service.

Human Beings are created by and in the image of God to have fellowship with God. We have defied God by choosing to go our own way. This disobedience, called sin, separates us from God. We need God's saving grace to end our alienation from Him.

The Bible is God's Word to all of us. Human authors under the inspiration and supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit wrote it. The Bible is the source of truth for Christian beliefs and living and the final authority on all matters to which it speaks.

Salvation is a gift from God that must be accepted individually by repentance and faith during our lifetime. This happens by trusting in Jesus Christ. When we do so trust, we receive forgiveness. No human effort or good works can achieve salvation.

Eternity – We were created to exist forever. We will either live in union with God through salvation or eternally separated from God. Eternal life with God begins the moment we receive Jesus into our life by faith.

The Church is God's instrument for redemptive change. It exists to celebrate God's presence in corporate worship, communicate God's Word through evangelism and outreach, invite and incorporate the unchurched into our fellowship, grow people into Christlikeness, and demonstrate God's love through service.

THE QUESTION

What dogma lives loudly within you?