

[RE]CONSTRUCTING

The Final Word

Genesis 3:1-5 & II Timothy 3:14-4:4

Did God really say that?

“Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’”

Genesis 3:1

Deconstruction: “a post-modern process of rethinking your faith without regarding scripture as a standard.”

Alisa Childers & Tim Barnett

Are you critiquing the world by the standard of _____ or are you critiquing God’s Word by the standard of the _____?

“All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

II Timothy 3:16-17

Testing the trustworthiness of Scripture:

1. Is it _____ consistent?
2. Is it _____ consistent?
3. Is it consistent with the way _____?

Did God really mean that?

“For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear.

They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.”

II Timothy 4:3-4

Let God’s Word have the final word.

[re]Construction Toolbox

Right Now Media – rmchurch.org/next-steps

“Can I Trust the Bible” with Wesley Huff

The Deconstruction of Christianity, Childers & Barnett

Set Adrift, Marriott & McDowell

Stand to Reason – str.org

[re]Constructing: The Final Word

Genesis 3:1-5 & II Timothy 3:14-4:4

Questions based on the sermon from February 9, 2025

Getting to Know Me

1. See if anyone has Jenga and play it as a conversation starter (a fun way to think about the importance of a firm foundation).
2. The reconstruction of Notre Dame is a powerful illustration of restoring something to its original state and purpose using many of the original tools and approaches. How did this example resonate with you?

Digging Deeper

3. Read Genesis 3:1-5, and answer the following questions about the first occurrence of deconstruction in the garden:
 - In verse 1, the serpent challenges God's truth. How does he distort what God initially said (see Genesis 2:16-17)?
 - In verse 2, Eve adds to the distortion of God's command by adding to it. What does she say that's different?
 - In verses 4-5, the enemy furthers his lies by causing them to question God's character. How does he do that, and where do we see this happening today?
4. When asking questions about God, it's helpful to check our motive: *Are we genuinely seeking to know Him better, or are we trying to avoid what He's asking of us?* How can we discern the difference?
5. Read II Timothy 3:14-17, and answer consider the following:
 - We may not have known truth from infancy (v. 15), but what do verses 14-15 teach us about the value of staying with our commitment to the Scriptures?

- What do you think it means that "*scripture is God-breathed,*" and what value does it bring, according to v. 16?
 - What does it do in and through us, according to v. 17?
6. Read II Timothy 4:2-5, and consider the following:
 - In verse 2, what is the attitude and context of the preaching required of Timothy?
 - In verses 3-4, Timothy is warned about something we experience today. What is the warning, and how do we see this today?
 - In verse 5, what is the way to prepare for such times?

Making it Personal:

7. What are some myths or messages today for itching ears?
8. Pastor Phil pointed out that God's Word reforms the church, and the reformers (like Luther and Calvin) brought it to the surface. How can this scriptural truth guide us in times of questioning?
9. Sunday touched on the value of asking questions. While it's not the role of Growth Groups to answer all of our questions, what are some that you are asking?

Prayer:

Take a moment to consider your personal commitment to the Scriptures and to reading, knowing, and walking in its truth. Pray for each other to have growing hunger for the word and for discernment to recognize any distortions of truth that have seeped in to our thinking.

We exist to glorify God by guiding people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

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"All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."

II Timothy 3:16-17

Testing the trustworthiness of Scripture:

1. Is it **INTERNALLY** consistent?
2. Is it **EXTERNALLY** consistent?
3. Is it consistent with the way **LIFE WORKS**?

Did God really mean that?

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