

Ruin To Renovation - Sermon #20 - Body Armor

Study Questions for Groups & Individuals

OPENER:

Discuss different aspects of body language and what they communicate. For instance, speaking with someone who won't look you in the eye (in the negative). Or, speaking with someone who always smiles & nods (in the positive). Do you know people who do these things? What do they do in relationship with others?

OPENINGPRAYER:

Pray against spiritual attack on your study & its members. See if there's anything/anyone which needs soaking prayer, and focus your time on that thing or person in your group today.

DISCUSSION:

It was VERY important for the Christian writers of the New Testament to identify that Jesus came 'in the flesh' which we see in many passages, two of which are below...

John 1:14

¹⁴ The Word became flesh & made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one & only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace & truth.

1 John 4:2-3

² This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³ but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God.

In light of Plato's Cave Allegory, why are these statements so important?

Look up this link: <https://www.theopedia.com/gnosticism>

Read through it, and possibly provide a printed version of it to group members, then discuss what the problems with this view were/are. Also, identify how the Christian Church sometimes reflects some of these heresies in how we live & believe.

Then look at the following passages, and discuss the importance of how we live 'in the body' & especially how Jesus is continually 'incarnated' in us even now.

- Romans 12:1-2
- 1 Corinthians 6:19-20
- Romans 6:6-14
- Romans 8:5-6 & 8:7-11

Discuss whether we are living in line with the Spirit or the Flesh?

How have we conditioned our bodies to not live in line with the Spirit?

End by praying that God would bring joyous conviction of our being able to honor & please him in all ways in our bodies!