**HOW DO YOU KNOW YOU ARE SEXIST? PART 4**

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During the camp-meeting, we traced the steps how to get to heaven. We saw that it is essential to understand the subject of the nature of man in order to understand correctly what it means to have a new heart when EGW talks about a new heart. What is a new heart? A new mind, new purposes, and new motives. These are functions of the higher nature. We need a new heart in order to get to heaven. We’ve traced the steps how to get a new heart. We see the importance of the nature of man study. We looked at how habits and characters worked. All the steps that has been developed to reach heaven is nothing if we don’t have the concept of the source, the standard, and the person, and the person constantly comparing and contrasting (C/C) themselves to the standard and believing in the source.



If you are an expert in knowing how to change but you do not know into what you need to change, the understanding of the steps to heaven doesn’t do you any good. On the other hand, if you know the moral standards very well but you don’t put it into your life, it doesn’t do you any good either. These two concepts, the mechanism for going to heaven and accepting the source as well as changing oneself to reflect the standard, they complement each other. They need to go hand in hand. We need to emphasize how important it is to understand the nature of man as well as the study of the moral standard. Of the three – the person, the standard, and the source, which is the most fundamental one? The one that we should labor with, with other people if we want to reach others? Methodology.



It was mentioned at the camp-meeting that the point of the argument is with the standard. But, the problem is that our foundation, the methodology and the lines, is not the same as the other people. Because we have a different foundation, we will come to a different moral standard. We’re trying to fight with the people on their moral standard, and this is inefficient. It would be more effective if we would labor at the point of the source, and make people aware of their sandy foundation. We make people aware that their foundation is built upon sand, and call them unto the solid foundation. When you’re able to bring the people higher unto the solid foundation, then bringing them to the higher, present truth moral standard would be much easier. This was mentioned at the camp-meeting but it bears repeating.

We are all part of an information war, an information war which is the last conflict between Satan and God. Everyone who is participating or watching this video has chosen to be part of that information war. Therefore, we should be trained in how to fight in this war, and we should be careful with our resources and how to use our weapons. We’re speaking in the parable of the warrior which the Bible gives us. So, in the mechanism for going to heaven, you need to bring the subject of the nature of man into your life. How to make a long and lasting change into your life. Not based on the lower nature but based on the higher nature.

Understanding what it means to have a moral standard and how it is created, you first need to agree on the source of inspiration for your moral standard. When you have the source then you need to get to know the moral standard, and what makes it difficult is that the moral standard is a work in progress. It’s constantly a call to come up higher. Then the last step is to C/C the moral standard to your life. Let’s examine the moral standard more closely.

How do we get to know the moral standard? The premise for this discussion is that we’re all standing on the same foundation. In order to talk about the standard, the expectation is that everyone is believing in the correct methodology. The methodology and the line upon line and the parable teachings and the rules that come with it. This was the first message given to this movement. This message was to understand how we should approach inspiration. We have been trained for thirty years to trust that methodology. We should have no problems accepting the standard because it’s based upon the source, the methodology. As we already studied, people reject the standard because they are uncertain about the methodology. They are not true believers in the methodology. This is why they doubt all the rest.

Like the dog that returns to its vomit, people return to their Laodicean condition. This study is presented with the premise that all are standing on the firm foundation of our methodology. The next step would be to get to know the moral standard. We need to get to know the moral standard. How do I get the knowledge regarding the moral standard? We believe in the line upon line, we believe that this is the present truth, we want to go to heaven, we want our lives to change, how do I know what I have to change into? We begin with the premise that we know how to read. We take two truths - In every dispensation, more is expected of us, and there is always a leader. How do we get to know the moral standard for this dispensation?

So, we have the moral standard, we know the mechanism of how we can change, and we know the mechanism how to know what is the right moral standard. We need the methodology, and when we trust the methodology, we can trust the moral standard. Then we can bring it to our habits. By now, we should know the mechanism. First, we come to know and trust the methodology used to develop the moral standard. Then we need to understand the moral standard for our dispensation. How does that work? For example, if you want to do a heart surgery, what would you have to do in order to know how to do a heart surgery? So, you want to become a doctor who performs heart surgery. Everyone knows that we cannot just open up our bodies and just do a heart surgery. We first need to gain some knowledge on how to do a heart surgery.

So, we have this person. There is an action that this person wants to do. In order for us to do something, we can do the heart surgery, the next step we need is to gain knowledge. When we receive the knowledge, we come to an understanding. In order for us to perform an action we have to have knowledge, then understanding, and then we can act upon it. If we want to do some action, heart surgery, building a house, driving a car, etc. the first step is to gain knowledge, understand what we’ve learned, and then put our understanding into action. This is how we change our lives.



In order to change our lives, the first step is to gain knowledge. Let’s come back to the model of source, standard, and the person who wants to live according to the moral standard that the lines teach us. What is the first thing we need to receive? Knowledge. Then understand the knowledge, then put into action what we’ve learned. If I learned how to drive a car, I need to learn the rules of the road, how to behave with other drivers. When you learn to how to properly behave on the street with other drivers, do you think that once you have your driver’s license, you can say, I can now forget everything I’ve learned, and when I get to the traffic light that is red, I just drive through it? Of course not.

The knowledge that you have received and you have understood, if you’re honest about this, will change your life. You cannot go back to your original state. If you are sincere about wanting to change, the natural result is that your life can never be as it was before. You need to understand the importance of gaining the correct knowledge. As a young person who cannot drive a vehicle, you can say, that gaining knowledge and understanding are not important. I’ll just get the car keys and drive. How far do you think you will get? Most young people will fail, especially when driving a stick shift. What is being emphasized here is that you might be motivated to do the action, you might be motivated to live according to the moral standard, but if you fail to receive knowledge and understanding, the motivation to live according to the standard will be shortly lived because you will fail.

The message runs with the same rules as everything else. If we want to get good at something, we need to be professionals. If we want to be professionals, then we need training. In our training, we receive knowledge and understanding. With much practice, we become professionals. This is the same principle when it comes to the moral standard. We need to become professionals, experts, in living according to the moral standard. You cannot become an expert, however, if you don’t have the knowledge and understanding with some level of training.

So, how do we receive the knowledge regarding the moral standard? We know already that with each passing dispensation, more of us is expected. The moral standard is a high calling, and it keeps growing. The other point is that there are leaders. Let’s get practical. We have the study of equality, specifically the line of Eden to Eden. Who is presenting the line of Eden to Eden and equality? Elder Tess. How does she do it? How does Elder Tess teach this movement? What medium is she using? Through presentations and media broadcast. How do we get the moral standard? By following the leader. Who brought us the updated version of the moral standard? It was Elder Tess. How does she do it? By presentations and media broadcast. These are the two ways that she is bringing the message to us.



If we want to get to know the moral standard, our first priority should be to watch the presentations and read the articles that she is sharing. This is the most important, the most essential thing that we can do. We need to follow the leader. Now, people will come who do not believe the methodology that we use and say, I’m not going to follow a person. Who do I follow? The Bible and EGW. O.K. Go to the Bible. Tell me, how does God work with the people? Go to Great Controversy (GC) p.343.1. “God’s dealing with men are ever the same.” There is no more truth clearly taught in the Bible that God uses people for His tool. Let’s look at the Bible. In the time of Jeremiah, was it safe not to follow and not to listen to Jeremiah? No, it was not safe. In the time of Elijah, everyone had to listen to Elijah. In the time period of Christ, everyone had to listen to Christ. God chooses a prophet, a prophet is simply a tool in God’s hand, and it is never safe to reject that prophet and not listen to him or her.

When we come to the Millerite movement, God chooses EGW, and it would not have been safe not to listen to her. Today, we might be O.K. with EGW because she is since long time dead, and therefore we can accept her. But, EGW, all her life, was she accepted by her people? No. From the beginning to the end, it was a struggle. They even sent her away to Australia. When God calls a prophet, it is almost certain that this prophet will get rejected. If you believe in the methodology, if you have the solid foundation, you need to accept the prophet. Rejecting that prophet won’t be good for you. Most likely, many will reject the prophet. “God’s dealing with men are ever the same.” If you believe in the Methodology, if you believe in the Bible and EGW, you know that you have to accept the leaders. If you want to get to know the moral standard, you need to do is to watch the presentations and read the media broadcast.

Now, we have a problem with the nature of man. People listen, and they read. After two years, what do they say? I don’t understand sexism. What does it mean to be sexist? I don’t see any sexism in my life. It’s the fault of my wife. Men are stronger. Men have physical needs. How can it be that after two years of study on sexism and equality through presentations and media broadcast, all that comes out of our mouth is still sexist. We seem to have no clue as to what the moral standard says. The problem is the nature of man. We know that we can listen to presentations, we can read the media broadcast, gain knowledge, but we don’t understand. We need to have understanding. If knowledge has not turned into understanding, then we sit here after two years of teachings on equality, and we still have no clue of the moral standard because of what we’ve heard and what we’ve read goes in one ear and out the other.

What is the problem with the nature of man? The problem is not that Elder Tess has not spoken enough. The problem lies with the people. If you today say that you have no knowledge about sexism, you need to look for the problem in you and not to the leader, except that you are in a different language, and you don’t have access to the presentations and the media broadcast. But here in the western world, there is almost no excuse because presentations are being translate. And there are programs to translate the articles. So, the problem lies within that person.

What happens when we get knowledge? Elder Tess’ presentations are filled with information. Watching them once is not enough. There is information overload. Our brain can take only so much new information. We go through these presentations but we understand maybe half, if that much. Do we take time to study these things? Or, are we listening to her presentations on the way to work with 1.5 speed? If so, we are not concentrating when we are listening to her. First problem-information overload. Second problem-are we concentrating when we listen to her? Third problem-our own bias. We have our own moral standards. We have our own ideas and thoughts of how the world is run. Instead of having the mindset that I, the student, I have to unlearn and sit at the feet of Elder Tess and learn everything, our pride comes in between. Then we say, that’s not too bad. This is a little bit different.

It’s a human natural law that when we C/C ourselves, and we find differences, the human being is trying to excuse oneself. And that can be in very subtle form; almost invisible small detail. When Elder Tess comes and holds the moral standard in your face and says look at this, change your life and you feel touched, your first natural reaction is that you make excuses for yourself. However, what does the Bible and EGW say? God needs to break our heart. When our heart is broken, it’s time to rebuild. But the problem is every time Elder Tess is trying to break your heart, she says look at the standard, and look at yourself, we excuse ourselves. In that moment, the chance of breaking our hearts is lost. We then need to wait for the next moment when she makes a new attempt.

The problem, however, time is running out. Two years has already past, and not everything can be repeated. If you believe in the methodology, you will accept the leader. And the problem is that many people do not like the leader. In interactions between human beings, if you have a good relationship with someone, you will most likely take in everything they say with a positive bias. If you have a good relationship with someone, everything they do, you will have rosy glasses on, and try to think positively about it. On the other hand, what happens if you have a dislike towards that person? Your glasses won’t be positive. They will be negative. So, you will listen the presentations with a negative mind set. If you have a negative mindset, will you accept anything? Probably not.

This is not to say that we need to love Elder Tess. But, we have to consider the problem that after two years of this message, we’re so behind in the understanding of this message. It is probably because we do not accept the methodology nor do we accept the leader. We don’t watch the presentations nor read the media broadcast. If we do watch the presentations and if we read the media broadcast, then the problem of the nature of man interfere with our thoughts and emotions. First, information overload. Watching one time is not enough. Then, are we concentrating when we listen to the presentations. Thirdly, our own personal bias can interfere with our learning the message. If our heart is attacked so that it can be broken, we make excuses for ourselves, or we have our own bias towards a world view, or we have a negative perception about the leader, and therefore we have prejudice against her presentations. All these things block us from truly understanding what we should be learning.

What is being taught is the moral standard. This message is a matter of life and death. When we receive the knowledge and we understand it, our lives can never be as they were before. This is what is happening in the presentations and the media broadcast. If you understand certain things about sexism, if you watch the presentations and the media broadcast with the correct mindset, your life will change. It’s inevitable.

So, the first thing we need to do is to watch the presentations and read the media broadcasts. If we don’t understand the message, oftentimes, it’s because we have a problem with the messenger. Information overload, not concentrating, having our own bias against the methodology or the messenger, prevents us from learning and understanding the life giving message. Before you make excuses for yourself, every single one of us has all three problems. We don’t do enough to acquire the knowledge, oftentimes, we say we don’t have the time, and when we do study, we don’t concentrate, and most certainly, all of us have some sort of bias. When these presentations touch our hearts and expose our sexism, we make excuses for ourselves, or we down play it to make it look more harmless, or we have a dislike for the speaker.

We don’t have to like everyone, but what we should be aware of is the nature of man. What is the natural result if you don’t like someone? The glass you have on will be negative. And the problem is with these glasses. You cannot have them on when you listen to these presentations or read the media broadcast if you really desire understanding, and you truly want to change your lives. The fourth one, we don’t like to get our hearts broken. No one likes to be broken. No one likes to admit that they’ve been wrong for twenty, thirty, or forty years. No one like to admit that they are the persecutors. No one wants to admit that they are guilty. So, finally, let your heart be broken when the information comes. Do not try to make excuses or try to prevent your heart from being broken.

If you already follow the presentations and read the media broadcasts, and you do it right with the right attitude, then do research. Research by watching documentaries, by reading books, documents etc. that are pertinent to the subject. If you correctly follow the presentations and read the media broadcasts, these being the most essential, if you do these right, and you still have some time, then you can do some research. Research on the subjects that were presented by Elder Tess and what she put out on the media broadcast. There is much truth but God’s people needs present truth. It’s not time to fight about the daily, sanctuary service, Sabbath, etc. These are good truths, but what we need is the present truth.

The present truth is what God’s messengers are teaching us. This should be our focus. If the present truth is studied correctly, will give us the moral standard. When you do research, you research on the present subject, the present truth. What might be a problem with the research? When you research, you will have bias glasses on because you don’t know what is right and what is wrong. So, when you research, absorb like a sponge, historical facts and events, but be careful to say what is right and what is wrong. The person who studies, us, we need to be most critical about our understanding of things. Why would that be? Why should we mistrust ourselves so much?

Here is a parable. A person has a staff in one’s hand. What else do we have? Sheep. Can the sheep trust themselves? No. They have to trust the shepherd. That’s why we need to be critical about ourselves, our world view, relationships, knowledge, understanding, etc. We need to trust the shepherd. It doesn’t matter if you like that person or not. We need to trust in the methodology. This study was presented under the premise that we believed the methodology and the lines. You need to see that God has once again established a leader, a prophet, a shepherd. You need to follow that shepherd to understand the moral standard. When you do research, do not trust yourself. What or who else should you not trust in this parable? You cannot trust yourselves, and you cannot trust other sheep. The other sheep is just as stupid as you. No offence intended.

We need to trust the shepherd. This is the parable that the Bible gives us. When it comes to the moral standard, do not trust yourselves, and do not trust your fellow sheep. Trust only your shepherd.

 

The relationship is the third point of super importance. The relationship between the sheep and the shepherd. How does the sheep know what is right and what is wrong? By having a relationship with the shepherd. You ask the shepherd whether this grass is good or bad. Is this water good or bad? The good shepherd will tell you whether this is good water or bad water. This is good grass. This is bad grass.

In summary, we have learned at the camp-meeting the steps to how to have a new heart. We can continue to speak about heaven. The study on the need for a changed heart means nothing if we don’t understand the process between you, the moral standard, and the source. You need to have a moral standard in order to know what to change into. How does the moral standard come about? By making sure that you have the right source. The right source will give you the right moral standard. Then you need to C/C yourself. Everywhere, you can fall off the path. At every step, you can fall off the path.

You can know the moral standard but don’t know how your heart is changed. Conversely, you can know the process of having a new heart but don’t have or know the moral standard. You can try to live by the moral standard but not trusting the source. You can know the moral standard, but you don’t C/C yourself to it. You can try to listen to the presentation and read the media broadcast but have no understanding, and therefore you fail to have proper action. Hopefully, you can appreciate how complex this study is. Beginning with the study of the nature of man in 2017, this presentation is a culmination of four years of study. Many people left the movement over the study of the nature of man. When the update of the standard was given, more people left. People who remain to accept the new moral standard, they have a problem with C/C themselves to it.

In every dispensation, there is a shaking. The standard will always be continually refined. When we understand the methodology, when we accept the methodology, as the divine inspiration for the moral standard, our next duty is to get to know the moral standard. We do that when we follow the leader that God has chosen. In every age, God has His prophet, and in every age, God’s people is required to follow His prophet. Our first duty is to get to know the moral standard by following the leader. Presentations and media broadcast. Then, we have the problem with nature of man, how we work. Too much information, we need to repeat and repeat, and repeat. Watching Elder Tess one time is not enough, especially while driving and listening to her at 1.5 speed.

 Information overload is our first problem. Second problem is the quality of our studying. Are we concentrating or are we stressed? Do we not take the time? We won’t take time to study. We are satisfied with the superficial understanding. The third problem is our own bias. Personal bias towards our world view, our lives. If you tell someone that they are a sexist, there will probably be a push-back, beginning with some excuse. Perhaps you have some bias against the messenger. It doesn’t matter which one you have. What matters is that you are aware of it, and act accordingly. Choose to act against it. The fourth problem is that you don’t want to get your heart broken. The problem is how do you want to receive a new heart from God if you don’t allow Him to break your old heart? God cannot give you a new heart unless the old one is broken. So, we need to let our old heart be broken.

We need to understand that we are sheep and not the shepherd. We are students who need to have knowledge. We need to sit at the feet of the shepherd and learn. If we don’t have that attitude that we are the ones who need to learn and take in what she says. It is not us who needs to tell her something. We need to be careful with that. There are four reasons that prevents us from understanding what she is saying and teaching us. If we deal with these four problems, maybe we would learn more from her presentations and the media broadcast. In the spare time that we might have, do research based upon the history of the topic of the presentation. It’s present truth that we need. So research the topics of the present truth.

Be careful when we research because the sheep should not trust itself. When you research, get the history, but first learn the interpretation of the history from the presentations and the media broadcast. Lastly, we need to watch the development of our relationship to the shepherd, whether it’s going toward a positive direction or not. The relationship between the shepherd and the sheep should be positive. Don’t trust other sheep. Trust the shepherd. Going one step further, in the beginning when Israel came out of Egypt, who did the majority of the work, taking care of the sheep? Moses. Was Moses, however, able to take on the work all by himself? No. What was God’s plan with Israel? Over time, the burden became too heavy for Moses. What was the solution for that?

What happened when the burden became too heavy for Moses? Jethro, his father in law, helped him to develop an organization. You have small shepherds organized underneath the big shepherd who would help in taking care of the sheep so the work can be done more efficiently. The same happened to Adventism, the early Christian church, as well as this movement. The work of organization is still small in this movement, however there are shepherds implemented who take the same function, up and down the ladder. So, you had Moses and the leaders under Moses. Today, you have the leadership and then leaders underneath the leadership. It goes up and down. When you are a sheep, when it comes to knowing what is right or wrong, don’t trust yourself, and don’t trust the other sheep next to you. Trust your shepherd, the leader.

This presentation is not about having a big list of what is right and what is wrong. The reason for this is because people are in situations and circumstances which are different to the circumstances and context of other members. Every situation must be individually viewed. If we create a list of negatives and positives, people would just take the message black and white. This could result in the loss of part of our methodology, to consider the context of the members. This is why at the level of the movement, we keep to the presentations and the media broadcast as taught by Elder Tess, and connect it with the moral standard. Equality, sexism, homophobia, nationalism. When it comes to a personal sheep, and you want to know more specifically pertaining to your own individual life, you need to be aware of your relationship with the shepherd.

Prayer – Amen