

Ep. 1279: How Do We Positively Provoke Others Without Offending Them?

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- 1. What was the "hot button" issue the Apostle Paul needed to talk about to the Jewish Christians? Why did Paul think they would not listen to him? How did he decide to approach this problem? What essential characteristic is needed to "provoke to love and good works"?
- 2. How did Paul use <u>prophecy</u> to first establish the common basis of credibility? All the Old Testament prophecies quoted were about whom? Why was it important to use this approach? Where did the common credibility come from in this case? (See Hebrews 1:1-6,13-14 and assorted Old Testament scriptures quoted in Hebrews 1:1-6)
- 3. Who were the <u>eyewitnesses</u> Paul used to build another level of credibility? What did Jesus' followers have that the Law could not give? How is Jesus a higher representative of God than were the angels? Explain Jesus' responsibilities. In this case, the eyewitnesses were given what task? (See Hebrews 2:5,8-9,14,17)
- 4. How did Paul use the concept of <u>brethren in Christ</u> to reinforce his connection? In what way did he compare Moses and Jesus? Why was it important to use Moses here? Explain the "house of servants" versus the "house of sons." What house would the Hebrews be a part of? What house would the Hebrew <u>Christians</u> be a part of? Why is that significant? (See Hebrews 3:1-6)
- 5. Paul admonishes his audience to <u>learn from the mistakes of others</u>; which others? What is the Christian advantage over the Jew? Why is the concept of Jesus being our high priest so important? What great privilege is given to the Christian that the Law could never give to the Jew? (See Hebrews 4:11-16)
- 6. What is the role of a high priest? How is Jesus' priesthood different from the original Levitical priesthood? How does Paul describe their lack of *growth into mature Christians*? What does Paul do with their beliefs that helps them grow into more mature Christians? How does Paul encourage them to *move forward in spirituality*? How had they always measured their value to God? Where was their true value? What is the danger he warns about? (See Hebrews 5:1-12, 6:1-10,18)
- 7. In what way does Paul reframe the priesthoods? How is the Melchizedek priesthood superior? Which does Jesus fulfill? Jesus is the mediator of the New Covenant how is it better than the Old? How did Jesus fulfill the Tabernacle? What would remembering their personal examples of faithfulness do for them? (See Hebrews 7:1-2,11,24-27, 8:5-6.13 9:12,24-26, 10:32-36)
- 8. How do we show love for each other? What personal application can we take from this lesson?

