

THE GOD OF

BOTH

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LUKE 10:38-42 (KJV)

³⁸ Now it came to pass, as they went, that he entered into a certain village: and a certain woman named Martha received him into her house. ³⁹ And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word. ⁴⁰ But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? Bid her therefore that she help me. ⁴¹ And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things: ⁴² But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.

WHEN BETTER MEETS BEST, BUT BOTH ARE NEEDED.

Last week we spoke about the power of Tribalism.

It is definitely alive and well.

Most issues can be solved by simply looking at scripture, most things are black and white. There are, however things that need maturity and nuance.

One of the classic examples of us serving the God of both is found in the gospel of John. John, when he is moved upon by the Holy Spirit to describe the person of Jesus, describes him as the following:

JOHN 1:14 (KJV)

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

THE GOD OF BOTH: TRUTH AND GRACE.

The tension between being full of truth and grace is difficult for people who live according to the flesh.

People who are born of the Spirit understand the responsibility of LONG-SUFFERING.

Just a quick lesson:

In matters of truth and grace (that's all of it) make sure you are willing to take the long road.

A practical example - If someone asks you about a "hot-button" issue, don't ignore it, tell the person, "I would love to answer you but I am going to need 30 minutes."

Maturity requires patience and long-suffering.

Mary sat at Jesus' feet, listening to His teaching, while Martha busied herself with serving. Martha was frustrated, feeling that her work was necessary, while Mary prioritized learning from Jesus. Both were doing good things—Martha was practicing hospitality, and Mary was seeking spiritual growth. Jesus gently reminded Martha that Mary's choice was "better" at that moment, but He did not say Martha was wrong.

This wasn't a story that teaches one or the other.

It was a story that reminded us, that he is the God that desires both.

But understanding His priority is better than worshiping in our preference.

1. With Him is better than alongside Him.

Both are valuable, but prioritize spending time with Him than being next to Him

2. It's possible to welcome Him into your space, but not your place.

He doesn't want your stuff first, he wants you first.

3. Serving can be a distraction from silencing yourself before HIM.

Sometime the greatest idolatry in the church is worshiping your place rather than the person of Jesus.

4. Doing can be a sign of a lack of trust - sitting can be a sign of disobedience.

Whoever represents you in this story determines your response.

His priority determines our position.