May 15, 2016

Eat, Drink, and be Merry?

Ecclesiastes 5:13-20; 9:7-12, Matthew 12:38-42

In Ecclesiastes 5:18-20; 9:7, 10 why is it hard for us to work, eat, and drink with a joyful heart today? Why would doing those things in Christ be acts of faith for Him (1 Thessalonians 4:9-12)?

Jesus was known for being at parties. How did He ever enjoy Himself knowing that the cross was ahead of Him (Matt 9:14-15; 11:19)? What can we learn from that?

In Matthew 12:38-42 why did the religious leader’s request for a sign draw such a sharp response from Jesus? Why does God insist that we go on faith, knowing what we know and seeing what we have seen, rather than having everything proved to OUR satisfaction?

The Pharisees were the Conservative Party (‘Live by our interpretation of the Book’ (constitution)) of Jesus time, and the Sadducees were the Liberal Party (‘Do whatever works and justify it later’). Why was Jesus so hard on both of them? Why did they both collude in the death of Jesus?

Why does being biblical cut through all the political parties (some things they have right, some things not)? What is our role in the process as believers? What fears in us are revealed by our political anger? Where is the joy of walking with Jesus who said, “Don’t be afraid.”