

## ANCIENT LANDMARKS

### Proverbs 22:28

28

Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set.

Introduction:

a. "Do not remove the ancient landmark which your fathers have set.":

1. Ancient landmark: "the ancient border" or "boundary" {n}; by which lands, estates, and inheritances, were marked, bounded, and distinguished;" (Gill, Online Bible).

### Deuteronomy 19:14

14

Thou shalt not remove thy neighbor's landmark, which they of old time have set in thine inheritance, which thou shalt inherit in the land that the LORD thy God giveth thee to possess it.

### Deuteronomy 27:17

17

Cursed be he that removeth his neighbor's landmark. And all the people shall say, Amen.

### Proverbs 23:10

10

Remove not the old landmark; and enter not into the fields of the fatherless:

2. Ancient landmarks served to preserve integrity, honesty, equity and truthfulness within Israel. (cf. Property Deeds today)
  - b. Christ has built His kingdom (inheritance), and marked out its boundaries for His heirs

### Matthew 16:18

18

And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

### Hebrews 8:8-12

8

For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: Jer 31:31

9

Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. Jer 31:32

10

For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: [Jer 31:33](#) [Heb 10:16](#)

11

And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest. [Jer 31:34](#)

12

For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more. [Jer 31:34](#) [Heb 10:17](#)

c. The landmarks of truth, righteousness and divine authority establish the boundaries in which we must live and work

[Romans 1:16,17](#)

16

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

17

For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, [The just shall live by faith.](#) [Hab 2:4](#) [Gal 3:11](#)

[Ephesians 4:24](#)

24

And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

[Colossians 3:17](#)

17

And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

d. These ancient landmarks for the church must not be removed if we are to continue to inhabit God's kingdom and receive His inheritance.

#### i. DISTINCTIVE BIBLE PREACHING

[Nehemiah 8:8](#)

8

So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading.

1. [I Timothy 4:2-5](#): PREACH The Word.

2

Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;

3

Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.

4

For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving:

5

For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.

\* Clearly, thoughtfully, directly, unceasingly, balanced, without compromise.

## 2. [Acts 20:20-27](#): All That Is Spiritually Profitable.

20

And how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publickly, and from house to house,

21

Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

22

And now, behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there:

23

Save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me.

24

But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

25

And now, behold, I know that ye all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, shall see my face no more.

26

Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men.

27

For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.

## 3. [I Corinthians 14:7-9](#) - Clarity Of Speech.

7

And even things without life giving sound, whether pipe or harp, except they give a distinction in the sounds, how shall it be known what is piped or harped?

8

For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to the battle?

9

So likewise ye, except ye utter by the tongue words easy to be understood, how shall it be known what is spoken? for ye shall speak into the air.

d. The ancient landmark of distinctive preaching is being removed!:

1. Positive thinking philosophy: Some want to eliminate doctrine / references to error from the pulpit; etc.

a. Some get tired of the old, old story!

b. We cannot sneak up on the sinner and convert him without him knowing it! Must be taught his sin, to repent and obey God's ways.

c. Unless we confront sin and error, the lost will never be saved

[Ephesians 4:15](#)

15

But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

## II. AUTHORITATIVE PRACTICE

[Colossians 3:17](#)

17

And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

a. [Acts 15](#): Establishing and Applying Bible Authority:

1. [Acts 15: 7-11](#) - Necessary implication (Gentiles saved like Jews).

7

And when there had been much disputing, Peter rose up, and said unto them, Men and brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that the Gentiles by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel, and believe.

8

And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as he did unto us;

9

And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.

10

Now therefore why tempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?

11

But we believe that through the grace of the LORD Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they.

2. [Acts 15:12](#) - Apostolic examples.

12

Then all the multitude kept silence, and gave audience to Barnabas and Paul, declaring what miracles and wonders God had wrought among the Gentiles by them.

3. [Acts 15:15](#) - Direct statement/precept.

15

And to this agree the words of the prophets; as it is written,

4. [II John 4-6](#): Walk In God's Commandments:

6

We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.

a. Love

[I John 5:3](#)

3

For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

b. Morality

[Galatians 5:19-21](#)

19

Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

20

Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,

21

Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

c. Doctrine

[II John 9](#)

9

Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.

b. The ancient landmark of N. T. authority is being removed!:

1. "We don't need authority for all we do." -[Colossians 3:17](#) - Human wisdom.

17

And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

2. The New Hermeneutic has trashed the scriptural approach to understanding and applying the authority of truth in our lives.
3. Subjective approaches to scripture more prevalent.
4. The O. T. is being applied as a basis of authority to follow by some.
5. We must do more than say we respect authority - Our teachings and lives must show that respect!

[Colossians 3:16,17](#)

16

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

17

And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

### III. MILITANT PROMOTION OF TRUTH and RIGHTEOUSNESS

[Matthew 23:23](#)

23

Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

a. [II Corinthians 4:13](#): The Spirit Of Faith In Our Lives

13

We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, [I believed, and therefore have I spoken](#); we also believe, and therefore speak; Psa 116:10

[I John 5:4](#)

4

For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

b. Aggressive in serving Christ and saving souls

[Acts 8:4](#)

4

Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word.

c. Assertive in evangelism

Acts 17:6

6

And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying,  
These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also;

d. Combative against Satan

Ephesians 6:11-13

11

Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

12

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

13

Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

e. Abhor evil and cleave to good

Romans 12:9

9

Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.

f. Acts 5:28, 29: Obey God First!

28

Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us.

29

Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.

g. The ancient landmark of Christian militancy is being removed!:

1. Bible knowledge has drastically declined in the past 50 years.
2. Moral sin and doctrinal error is minimized / rationalized.
3. More and more are becoming concerned with "fitting in" in the community rather than "standing out!"

Isaiah 30:8-10

8

Now go, write it before them in a table, and note it in a book, that it may be for the time to come for ever and ever:

9

That this is a rebellious people, lying children, children that will not hear the law of the LORD:

10

Which say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophecy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits:

Conclusion:

a. [Deuteronomy 27:17](#) - An Israelite who removed his neighbor's landmark was cursed.

17

Cursed be he that removeth his neighbor's landmark. And all the people shall say, Amen.

b. We shall not escape if we remove God's landmarks!