

## Confusion

**Question: A game was played and the final score was 84 to 74, who won the game?**

**\*Confusion will come from 1 of 3 sources, yourself, the communicator, or the material**

**God is NOT a God of confusion** - 1 Cor 14:33 for God is not (a God) of confusion, but of peace. As in all the churches of the saints, ASV

**Confusion** - akatastasia (ak-at-as-tah-see'-ah); instability, i.e. disorder: (commotion, confusion).

**God makes clear to us that Christ is the standard** - John 14:6 Jesus answered, "I am **the way** and **the truth** and **the life**. No one comes to the Father except through me.

**\*Therefore; true confusion is** when something that happens is not in-line with sound doctrine. What that means is the Bible is never confusing I'm allowing myself to be confused!

### THOSE WHO ARE CAUSING CONFUSION

**Confusion is a product of people distorting the Bible** - 2 Peter 3:15-16 - 15 Bear in mind that our Lord's patience means salvation, just as our dear brother Paul also wrote you with the wisdom that God gave him. 16 He writes the same way in all his letters, speaking in them of these matters. His letters contain some things that are hard to understand, which ignorant and unstable people distort, as they do the other Scriptures, to their own destruction.

**Confusion is from people preaching false gospels** - Gal 1:6-7- 6 I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel- 7 which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ.

**The Church leadership has been warned to protect from those that cause confusion** - Acts 20:29-31 - 29 I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. 30 Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. 31 So be on your guard! Remember that for three years I never stopped warning each of you night and day with tears.

**When purpose is self, we cause confusion-** James 3:16 For where envy and self-seeking exist, CONFUSION and every evil thing are there. NKJV

**Those that cause confusion WILL PAY –**

Gal 5:7-10 - 7 You were running a good race. Who cut in on you and kept you from obeying the truth? 8 That kind of persuasion does not come from the one who calls you. 9 "A little yeast works through the whole batch of dough." 10 I am confident in the Lord that you will take no other view. The one who is throwing you into confusion WILL PAY the penalty, whoever he may be.

Gal 1:8-9 -8 But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, LET HIM BE ETERNALLY CONDEMNED! 9 As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, LET HIM BE ETERNALLY CONDEMNED!

**What is to be expected from those that preach the Word** - 2 Cor 4:1-5 - 4:1 Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart. 2 Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by SETTING FORTH THE TRUTH PLAINLY we commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. 3 And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. 4 The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. 5 For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.

### THOSE WHO ARE CONFUSED

**Man has distanced himself from God by not COMPLETELY following God** - Rom 1:20-23 -20 For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities — his eternal power and divine nature — have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse. 21 For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools 23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles.

**Hardening of our heart causes confusion** - Eph 4:17-19 -17 So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. 18 They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God BECAUSE of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. 19 Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more.

**Man's ignorance is due to man choosing to reject knowledge** - Hos 4:6 my people are destroyed from lack of knowledge. **"BECAUSE YOU HAVE REJECTED KNOWLEDGE**, I also reject you as my priests; **because you have IGNORED the law of your God**, I also will ignore your children.

**Not relying on the Spirit to understand God** - 1 Cor 2:13-14 - 13 This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words. 14 The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.

## HOW TO KEEP FROM BEING CONFUSED AND CAUSING CONFUSION

**God has warned confusion would come to those who harden their hearts** - Matt 13:14-15 - 14 In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah: "'You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving. 15 For this **PEOPLE'S HEART HAS BECOME CALLOUSED**; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.'

**To avoid being confused, we must first trust in God and not in self (must be done together)** - Prov 3:5-7 - 5 **TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART** and **LEAN NOT ON YOUR OWN UNDERSTANDING**; 6 in **ALL your ways acknowledge him**, and he will make your paths straight. 7 **DO NOT** be wise in your own eyes; **FEAR THE LORD** and shun evil.

**Clear your vision first before you help others** - Matt 7:3-5 -3 "Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? 4 How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? 5 You hypocrite, **FIRST take the plank out of your own eye**, and **then you will see clearly** to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

**A Bible teaching church** - Eph 4:11-14 - 11 **IT WAS HE** who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, 12 **to prepare God's people for works of service**, so that the body of Christ may be built up 13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. 14 **THEN** we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming.

### Only being taught from the Bible –

Eph 4:20-24 - 20 You, however, did not come to know Christ that way. 21 Surely you heard of him and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. 22 You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; 23 to be made new in the attitude of your minds; 24 and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

Ps 119:169 May my cry come before you, O Lord; **GIVE ME UNDERSTANDING ACCORDING TO YOUR WORD**.

**Stop leaning on human intellect** - 1 Cor 3:18-19 - 18 Do not deceive yourselves. If any one of you thinks he is wise BY THE STANDARDS OF THIS AGE, he should **become a "fool"** so that he may become wise. 19 For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in God's sight.

**Avoid information that's not of God** - 1 Tim 4:7-8 - 7 **HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH** godless myths and old wives' tales; rather, train yourself to be godly. 8 For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.

**Live wisely and carefully to stay in line with God** - Eph 5:15-18 - 15 **Be very careful, then, how you live** — not as unwise but as wise, 16 **making the most of every opportunity**, because the days are evil. 17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. 18 Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.

**Simply put; make God the ONLY purpose and path of your life** - Matt 7:13-14 - 13 **"ENTER THROUGH THE NARROW GATE**. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to **destruction**, and many enter through it. 14 But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to **life**, and only a few find it.

### Answer to the Question, and why it matters:

The answer to who won comes with a question, "it depends on what sport you are playing". If playing basketball, the score of 84 wins. If playing Golf, the score of 74 wins. Our confusion is because we are seeing the scoring of Golf through Basketball eyes. In the same way we try to see how God works through how we see it instead of what He says!