

Our brains are easily deceived about God and scriptures and can lead us to eternal ruination – if we receive the love of the truth, the Holy Spirit, God will keep us safe

2 Thess 2:10-11 **...Those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. So God will allow them to believe lies...**

12 **All of them will be justly judged for believing falsehood (from the devil), refusing the Truth, and enjoying their sins. TLB (Here are 3 examples:)**

Jacob and Esau - the foolishness of judging God as to fairness without knowing the truth:

Some question God's righteousness, by referring to His pre-election of Jacob over Esau:
Rom 9:12-13 **It was said unto her (Rebecca, their mother) The elder (Esau) shall serve the younger. As it is written, Jacob have I loved but Esau have I hated.**

Remember that Esau sold his birthright, representing his eternal inheritance, to Jacob for a morsel of food (Gen 25:29-34) and could never recover this blessing (Heb 12:16-17). Now while the above text appears to refer to the two individuals, Jacob and Esau, and infers God hated Esau even before he was born, it is in fact referring to the two nations that descended from them. Historically Esau, the individual, never served Jacob, but his descendants the Edomites, who were a constant enemy of Jacob's descendants, and God's people, Israel, they did eventually for a time serve Israel at the time of king David:

Gen 25:23 **The LORD said to her (Rebecca): Two nations are in your womb, Two peoples shall be separated from your body; One people shall be stronger than the other, And the older shall serve the younger."**

Gen 36:9 **The genealogy of Esau, the father of the Edomites...(Edom means red)**

I Chron 18:13 **...And all the Edomites became (the King of Israel) David's servants.**

So why did God hate the Edomites? They were Israel's enemies and represent our flesh

From F B Meyer's Book: **Saved and Kept Chapter 11 THE CONQUEROR FROM EDOM**

ISAIAH 63:1 **Who is this who comes from Edom, from the city of Bozrah, with His clothing stained red? Who is this in royal robes, marching in the greatness of His strength? "It is I, the LORD, speaking in righteousness! It is I, the LORD, who is mighty to save!"**

2 **Why are your clothes so red, as if you have been treading out grapes?**

3 **"I have trodden the winepress alone; no one was there to help me. In my anger I have trampled my enemies as if they were grapes. In my fury I have trampled my foes. It is their blood that has stained my clothes."**

MEYER: ISRAEL (GOD'S PEOPLE) and Edom were always enemies, remarkable since their ancestors were brothers. But the antagonism of the cradle was perpetuated throughout the history of these nations which owed their existence to Jacob and Esau respectively.

When Israel in the wilderness pleaded for permission to pass through the land of Edom, Edom refused and came out against Israel with many people and with a strong hand. All through the troubled reigns of the kings, the Edomites always caused trouble, siding with Israel's enemies. When Nebuchadnezzar made the final assault against the Holy City, it was the children of Edom who cried, "Raze it, raze it, even to the foundation thereof."

Esau/Edom may fairly be taken to represent the prideful desires of our flesh or human nature that will hardly tolerate restraint, but which lusts against the spirit, fighting for its wild and unrestrained indulgence. For one morsel of meat Esau sold his birthright; and we all know moments when, for one brief spell of gratification, we are disposed to barter away our noblest beliefs and squander our most sacred trust. Who has not stood between the basin of steaming pottage—which appeals so daintily to the hungry sense—and the power to pray, to know God, and to bless mankind, which are the sacred callings of the saint? Many a time has our choice wavered in the balance; and what was true years ago may be true still. Edom still vexes us...our human nature still rages within us; the old Adam is more than a match for the young newly born again still as yet weak spirit.

One day the prophet Isaiah looking from Jerusalem toward the Edomite territories saw in the distance the figure of a mighty conqueror coming from Edom. His garments were red. He asked who it was, and got the reply: **The mighty Savior!**

He asked about the red stains, as of the treader of grapes in the wine-press, and heard::

It is the life-blood of Israel's enemies, the juice of the vintage of Edom (our flesh).

From that moment Israel had no further need for alarm. She could always *still* see the figure of that almighty Victor by whom Edom had been subdued. Her cities were in ruins, her soldiers had bitten the dust, and there was therefore now the most absolute security.

The lesson for us is obvious and hardly needs enforcement. Jesus died in the likeness of sinful flesh; in dying it was rent. The rending veil of the temple and the rending flesh on the cross teach the same lesson — that Jesus mastered human nature by the Spirit, overcame it as He uttered His dying cry of victory, and in His resurrection came up from the Edom of our enemy radiant with victory, stained with the blood-juice of the battle.

[You and I need to be saved from our enemy Esau, our Edom, our God opposing human nature or flesh. Jesus died to and conquered flesh, Edom, our sin nature on the cross and offers us permanent salvation from it by simply believing that we died with Him to it.

Rom 8:6-7 **The mind of the flesh which is sense and reason without the Holy Spirit, AMP is death to and the enemy of God, for it does not obey God's rule; it cannot.**

9 **But you do not live as your human nature tells you to; instead, you live as the Spirit tells you to — if, in fact, God's Spirit lives in you. Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ (written to Christians) does not belong to Him.** TEV

Rom 6:6-7 **Knowing this, that our old person (our human nature) was crucified with Him, that the body of sin can be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. For those who have died (with Christ) have been freed from sin].**

Two more misunderstood verses - used to justify head reasoning over heart discernment

Isa 1:18 **"Come now, and let us reason together ," Says the LORD, "Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool.**

According to Strong's concordance, the expression "and let us reason together" is from the one Hebrew word # 3198 Yakach (yaw-kahh'); which means: To be right (i.e. correct); to decide, to chasten, to rebuke, and to reprove. Of the fifty times this word is used in the Old Testament it is always in the context of a rebuke, except once, in Isaiah 1:18 above!.

Ps 50:21 **...But I will rebuke (Yakach) you, And set them in order before your eyes.**

Ps 38:1 **O LORD, do not rebuke (Yakach) me in Your wrath, Nor chasten me...**

Ps 141:5 **Let the righteous...rebuke (Yakach) me; It shall be as excellent oil...**

Isa 1:18 Revised: **Come and be rebuked says the Lord, though your sins are...red**

Also, no one has ever come to understand, by the reasoning ability of their brain, that, through Christ, God made their red sins as white as snow. No it's hidden from the brain It is done exclusively by the Holy Spirit revealing it to a person's heart, that is, to their spirit.

Then there is this scripture: 1 Peter 3:15 **But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give an answer to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope (faith) that is in you, with meekness and fear;**

According to Strong's the word translated reason is the Greek word # 3056 Logos and means: saying, speech, talk, utterance and most frequently, word. Here are 2 examples:

Mark 4:14 **The sower (God) sows the word (Logos).**

1 Pet 1:23 **Having been born again...by the word (Logos) of God...**

Of the 300 times Logos is used in the bible it is only translated reason once in 1 Pet 3:15.

You often only hear the middle portion of this scripture quoted to support an intellectual approach to witnessing and Bible study. But the scripture begins with the requirement to "sanctify the Lord God in your heart". This means to be sure your heart is full of the Holy Spirit and God's words and that you are in your heart and not your heads. The scripture concludes with the requirement that whatever I do in responding to someone's questions, I should do it "with meekness and fear". Meekness means with a heart that is actively hearing and submitted to God's leading and fear means in reverence and submission to God. This is anything but a license to free reign with my brain but rather an admonition to be totally under God's direction in my heart whenever I have an opportunity to witness.

1 Pet 3:15 Revised: **With your heart full of the Holy Spirit and God's words, always be ready to give an answer to everyone who asks you for a word about the confidence that is in you, while listening to and being in submission to God.**

1 Cor 2:14 **The natural person (by use of reason) cannot know the things of the Spirit, Spirit can be known only by spirit, God's Spirit and our spirits in open communion.**