

Acknowledgment

and God's Words will not clash if we understand them rightly. All truth is God's truth.

Scientists know that they make mistakes in understanding the data. One of the most powerful aspects of the scientific method is delighting in finding and correcting incomplete theories. Christians know as well that we are mistake prone. We need due modesty in claiming to relay the message of scripture. Indeed James 3:1 warns that teachers of scripture will be judged with greater strictness. If one is convinced that the Bible is without error in what it teaches, it is imperative to listen carefully for what it is teaching, and not to proclaim something as its voice which is not.

So how do we do get this right? We have to listen carefully to the original context, as it is written for us, not to us. We also gain much from community as we

check and learn from each other in the sciences, and in Christian faith, and here in this issue. ∞

Notes

¹2 Timothy 3:16-17.

²Matthew 5:45.

³Craig S. Keener, *Paul, Women, and Wives* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 1992).

⁴E. N. Elliott, "The Bible Argument: Or, Slavery in the Light of Divine Revelation," in *Cotton Is King, and Pro-Slavery Arguments*, ed. E. N. Elliott (Augusta, GA: Pritchard, Abbott & Loomis, 1860), 463.

⁵Elizabeth Fox-Genovese and Eugene D. Genovese, *The Mind of the Master Class: History and Faith in the Southern Slaveholders' Worldview* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2005); Eugene D. Genovese, *Roll Jordan Roll: The World the Slaves Made* (New York: Vintage, 1976); and Mark A. Noll, *The Civil War as a Theological Crisis* (Chapel Hill, NC: The University of North Carolina Press, 2006).

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