John 3:8 The wind blows where He wishes.

GRANTING GRACIOUS ELBOW ROOM & BREATHING SPACE

One person regards one day above another, another regards every day alike. Each person must be fully convinced in his own mind. He who observes the day, observes it for the Lord, and he who eats, does so for the Lord, for he gives thanks to God; and he who eats not. for the Lord he does not eat, and gives thanks to God.

So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God. Therefore let us not judge one another anymore . . .

I know and am convinced in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself; but to him who thinks anything to be unclean, to him it is unclean. Romans 14:5-6,13-14

Conservative Unity vs. **Fundamentalist Uniformity/Fear**

"The SBC is drifting LEFT." "We're headed for a cliff." "SBC Elites vs. Bible-believing pastors." "We must resort to strange coalitions." "We will just have to be obstructionists." "Need agaressive identifiable leaders." "Need to engage in querilla warfare." "New conservatism is not our arandfather's conservatism."

SPECTRUMS OF VIEWS & PRACTICES

CLARIFYING OUR SENSE OF PERSPECTIVE ON A SCALE OF 1 TO 10

Where would you place a circle re: your personal position on this spectrum? Where would you place a triangle where you think our SBC founders were? Where would you place a square where you think most SBC people are?

LIBERAL TRIBES/CULTURE

- [] Scripture is fallible due to fallible writers
- [] Scripture is culturally relative to its era [] Scripture is a general moral code
- [] Scripture is a good starting point
- [] Scripture sets a direction, be we evolve
- [] All personal interpretations are valid

CONSERVATIVE TRIBES/CULTURE

- [] Scripture is infallible like its author: God
- [] It is the living, breathing Word of God
- [] It was given to point us to God Himself
- 11 It is sufficient for faith and practice
- [] Varied interpretations can be valid [] Key: Love, Grace & Breathing space

FUNDAMENTALIST TRIBES/CULTURE

- [] Scripture is infallible like its author: God
- [] It is sufficient for faith and practice
- [] Our Biblical views are The Biblical view
- [] Any differing views are "unbiblical" [] Unbiblical interpretations are heresy
- [] We must oust those practicing heresy

Where would you place a circle re: your perception of SBC Polity? Where would you place a triangle where you think SBC Polity should be?

HIERARCHICAL/ENFORCEABLE

Like a business or Catholicism

SEMI-FORMAL/CONTROLLABLE

Like local volunteer service groups

INFORMAL/RELATIONAL

Like chamber of commerce; movement

Where would you place the numbers of these issues on the Biblical Interpretive Spectrum?

- 1. Christ as only way to God?
- 2. Inerrancy of Scripture?
- 3. Literal 2nd Coming of Christ?
- 4. Trinitarianism?

- 5. Modes of baptism?
- 6. 4 Views of 2nd Coming? 10. Continuationism?
- 7. Arminianism?
- 8. Calvinism?

- 9. Cessationism?
- 11. Divine Healing?
- 12. Gift of Tongues
- 13. Annihilationism?
- 14. Complementarianism?
- 15. Egalitarianism?
- 16. Definition of "pastor?"

CORE BIBILCAL TRUTH THAT IS NON-NEGOTIABLE VS. HERESY

BIBLICALLY SUPPORTABLE VIEW BUT NOT EXCLUSIVE OR CONCLUSIVE PERSONAL BIBLICAL CONVICTION **BUT NOT UNIVERSAL TO OTHERS**

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