

DOCTRINAL ISSUES IN MODERN TIMES

Worship Him “in spirit and truth” (John 4:23)



“Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.” (Colossians 2:8)

B r o o k y R S t o c k t o n

DOCTRINAL ISSUES IN MODERN TIMES

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Preface

We are an issue-centered society, and it is not surprising that all kinds of false doctrines from the Charismatic cult, secularism, and Freudian psychology have flooded the church.

Paul warned Timothy “For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;”

Therefore, one of the goals in the Christian life is to be sound in doctrine.

Thus, the believer must be aware of the historical battles of the church and the development of the great creeds. One would do well to study, think, and digest the truth verbalized by these struggles.

Furthermore, it seems that new doctrinal issues pop up regularly due to the corruption of the media. This work is a simple analysis of a few of the doctrines I had to confront as a pastor. Hopefully, it will be a help to you to be grounded in the truth.

Though the church faces many new issues, **never lose sight of the basics.**

Be ready to defend the fundamentals of Christianity: the authority of Scripture, the character of the Creator, the fall and the sinfulness of man, the deity and humanity of Christ, the kingdom of God, the historicity of Christ, redemption by blood, and the benefits of our glorious gospel received by faith.

We would do well to learn from the Eastern Church who developed dogmatic feasts – church services designed around an important doctrinal theme. Themes celebrated regularly every year in order to prevent apostasy: The Feast of the Epiphany, the Presentation of Christ (Feast of Circumcision to celebrate the humanity of Christ), Pentecostarion seasons, Palm Sunday, the Holy Pascha, the Ascension of Christ, and more.

Brooky Stockton, a man,
Retired pastor / professor

Acknowledgments

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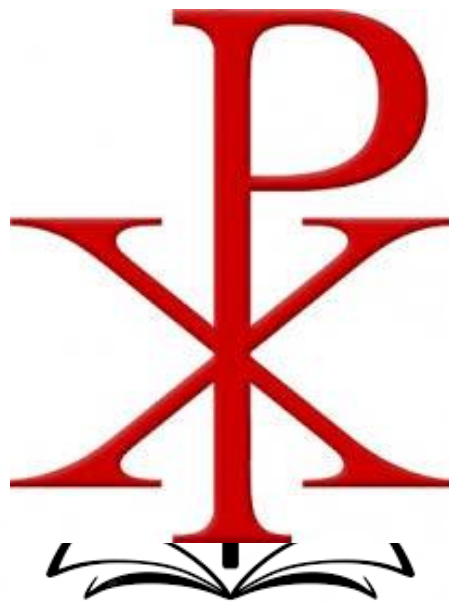
Because the present political climate is pro-Zionism, pro-lawlessness, pro-censorship, antichrist, and antichristian: and, because government employees and government media is more sensitive than a step-mother about criticism, it is necessary to warn government officials of the following:

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DOCTRINAL ISSUES IN MODERN TIMES



For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified" (1 Cor. 2:1-2)

1. Introduction

Colossians 2:8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.



The early church faced teachers involved in Greek philosophies that sounded “spiritual,” but threatened the progress of the gospel. “Beware” is Paul’s warning to the Colossians to be alert to sophisticated teachers claiming to have the answers to man’s fundamental problems apart from the cross.

Likewise, there are intellectual movements in every age that touch Christians in a way that may cause them to abandon Christ and the first principles of the gospel.

Colossians 2:9-10 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:

This work seeks to remind believers that Christ and His Word is sufficient for every problem known to mind and to not be led astray from the gospel by winds of doctrines blowing through society today.

The following represent many, but not all the sophistry facing the modern church.

“Gotquestions.org defines doctrine as follows:

Doctrine is “a set of ideas or beliefs that are taught or believed to be true.” Biblical doctrine refers to teachings that align with the revealed Word of God, the Bible. False doctrine is any idea that adds to, takes away from, contradicts, or nullifies the doctrine given in God’s Word. For example, any teaching about Jesus that denies His virgin birth is a false doctrine, because it contradicts the clear teaching of Scripture (Matthew 1:18).

As early as the first century AD, false doctrine was already infiltrating the church, and many of the letters in the New Testament were written to address those errors (Galatians 1:6–9; Colossians 2:20–23; Titus 1:10–11). Paul exhorted his protégé Timothy to guard against those who were peddling heresies and confusing the flock: “If anyone advocates a different doctrine and does not agree with sound words, those of our Lord Jesus Christ, and with the doctrine conforming to godliness, he is conceited and understands nothing” (1 Timothy 6:3–4).

The church is a fellowship of men who have tasted the benefits of the kingdom of God. All are exposed to different ministries, ideas, and doctrinal challenges. The purpose of the fellowship is to help one another sort through differences of doctrine and thinking, and to warn one another of fatal doctrinal errors. There are apostate doctrines that cannot be tolerated. Just because someone holds a different interpretation of Scripture than yours does not mean they are a liar or flawed in character or that they are engaged in heresy.

Many ideas of men are doctrines of antichrist opposing the fundamentals of the gospel. But, not all controversies in the church are apostate serious.

Just because one community of believers differ in doctrine does not mean they are enemies of the gospel. Discussing differences tests our emotional maturity and our ability to articulate the reasons for our belief. Christians must exercise patience and limited tolerance toward each other and pray that all of us would be conformed to His truth.

The Scripture is sufficient to meet all your spiritual needs. Do not be led away by fallacious teaching coming from the world or counterfeit Christianity.

2. Authority of Scripture

2 Timothy 3:16-17 16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

Q: What is the ultimate authority for what Christians believe?



Scriptural Position: The Scripture is without error and without contradiction. It is the ultimate authority on all subjects that it addresses. In is comprehensive in matters of doctrine and conduct.

Likewise, it is reasonable and universally applicable to all men, in all cultures, and all of man's institutions. It unassailable and is proven to be the highest standard of truth and ethics.

"The trustworthiness of the Scriptures lies at the foundation of trust in the Christian system of doctrine, and is therefore fundamental to the Christian hope and life" (Benjamin B. Warfield).

Modern Contentions: The problem is not that the Scripture is without authority but whether men will permit Scripture's authority to be eclipsed by claims that

“all truth is God’s truth;” or that psychology, science, medicine, and party politics is equal to or superior to that of Scriptures.

Admonition: When one sits in front of the drum section of pounding criticism, it is hard to hear the sweet sounds emanating from orchestra of God’s Word.

Ignore the howls of men and trust the Scripture. It is specifically and wholly true. Therefore, preach and teach it with all authority.

Belief in the authority of Scripture is grounded upon the authority of the LORD God.

Titus 2:15 These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee.

3. The Authority of Christ

Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power (authority) is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

John 5: 23 That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.

Acts 17:26 Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by *that* man whom he hath ordained; *whereof* he hath given assurance unto all *men*, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

Ephesians 1:21-22 Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: And hath put all *things* under his feet, and gave him *to be* the head over all *things* to the church,

Revelation 1:5 23 That all *men* should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.

Revelation 19:14 And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

Q: What is the authority of the Son of God?



Scriptural Position: Authority is attributed to God the Father, but due to the resurrection we learn that all authority has been given to the Son; that He is the God-man; the king of kings, and Lord of lords; that it is the duty of all to surrender to His reign.

Modern Contentions: The question is not whether Jesus is King of kings and Lord of lords, but will men acknowledge Him as such and live accordingly. When push comes to shove men have more fear of cops, judges, and governments than they do the Lord Christ.

Generally speaking, Christians will not deny the Lord Jesus Christ, but they do so practically by bowing down to every ordinance, statute, and regulation manufactured by Congress, State legislatures, and county governments. Instead of claiming their God given rights, men pursue marriages licenses, right-to-carry licenses, driver's licenses, zoning permits, et al.

Admonition: "Before you die, give some serious thought to vowing holy disobedience whenever necessary. Discerning and knowing why one would choose to disobey is by far the most serious and mysterious part of following the Lord Jesus Christ" (Karol Jackowski, a nun). If Jesus is Lord, it is not possible or desirable to always obey the State.

4. The Name of Jesus

John 17:11 I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name—the name you gave me—so that they may be one as we are one.

Q: Should we use the name Yahweh when referring to Jesus?

Scriptural Position: Nowhere in the NT do Biblical authors refer to Jesus as Yahweh. Yes, Jesus is God, but he is not called such except in the Book of John. The word "Jesus" is the Latin form of the Greek "Iesous." The strong "J" sound comes from German. The NT refers to Son of God (yios tou theo) as "Jesus" (Iesous), as "Savior" (Soter), as "Christ" (Christos). His official title is the "kuriov Iesouv christon." The name "Jesus" is pronounced "Yesu" in Swahili, "Ciise" in Somali, "Jezus" in Slovenian, "Gesù" in Italian, and "Iisus" in Russian.

Furthermore, Hebrew IS NOT superior to Greek. The Spirit of God was pleased to use the Greek language in forming the New Testament.

Yes, the OT word for "Jesu" is Yeshua or Joshua or Jehoshua meaning "God is salvation." His name means, "God saves." But, there is no record of the apostles calling Him by a Hebrew name.

Wiki has it correct. This early Biblical Hebrew name יהושע (Yehoshua) underwent a shortening into later biblical ישוע (Yeshua), as found in the Hebrew text of verses Ezra 2:2, 2:6, 2:36, 2:40, 3:2, 3:8, 3:9, 3:10, 3:18, 4:3, 8:33;

Nehemiah 3:19, 7:7, 7:11, 7:39, 7:43, 8:7, 8:17, 9:4, 9:5, 11:26, 12:1, 12:7, 12:8, 12:10, 12:24,

Modern Contentions: It seems to be posh for some Christians to refer to Jesus as “Yeshua.” But, why? There is no precedence for this in the NT. Moreover this Hebrew Roots Movement has no doctrinal Statement of “who’s in and who’s out” (thecrosspensacola.org). It appears many preachers refer to Him as “Yeshua” to bluster their superior spirituality; that is, using this name gives them a sense of being a commanding Hebrew-Talmudic-Messianic Jew in touch with the Hebrew roots of Christianity . . . of having superior knowledge – a means of impressing others with their piousness. Some even say you have to pray to “Yeshua” in order to be saved. This trend is massively fallacious.

Mature Christians are not afraid to use English, German, or Italian language equivalent pronunciations. They know that Jesus is Yeshua, but don’t feel they have to shove the name in your face to prove their Christianity is genuine. Many avoid the term “Yeshua” in order to prevent the impression that “Messianic Jews” are superior to Greek-English-African Christians or to prevent believers from being sucked into the “Messianic Cult.”

Admonition: Don’t be afraid to call Jesus “Jesus.” “Jesus” (Iesous) is the sweetest name I know (Lela B. Long).

5. Liberalism

2 Peter 2:1-2 But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction. And many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of truth will be blasphemed.

Q: What is liberalism?



Scriptural Position: There is one absolute God and one absolute law order. The Holy Scripture tells the truth about human nature. Men need to be saved and empowered by the Spirit to keep the law; that is, to love their neighbor.

Christian law does not bind, but frees men from oppression by lawbreakers. Liberalism, on the other hand, is a lie about God, Scripture, human nature, and rules for happiness.

Modern Contentions: Modern liberalism denies there is one absolute God; that his law is absolute. Liberalism follows French Utopianism; that is, men must

develop law and policies based on idealism, perfectionism, the way flawed men imagine things should be. Consequently, liberals tend to reject history and open themselves up to every new fad, trend, and opinion.

Christians do not rely on ideals, dreams, or wannabe(s); Conservatives deal with the real world, the nature of men as sinners, and uphold God's law as relevant for men today. Consequently, conservatives recognize nothing is new; that idealism kills society; and, that new ideas are really an "old corpse dressed up in new suit."

Admonition: Liberal ideas and populist trends are incapable of curing human evil. Beware of liberals who deny sin, offer freedom by amending law, and polish dangerous "equality" trends with upbeat jargon.

"Madam President, honorable MEPs, Mrs. Ursula, it is high time that someone told you straight what the vast majority of Europeans think of you. Your election as President of the European Commission in the previous term was a huge mistake and some people still have a hangover from that decision until today.

You are the face of the European Green Deal, which is destroying the European economy and agriculture, which is leading to Europe becoming an economic backwater. You are the face of all the EU's climate craziness, which leads to us Europeans becoming poorer and poorer." (Ewa Zajackowska, a Polish Member of the European Parliament, gave a blistering takedown of EU president Ursula Von der Leyen and the leftist ideology destroying Europe, circa July 22-23, The Gateway Pundit)

6. Christ the Only Way to God

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Acts 4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

1 Timothy 2:5 There is one God. There is also one mediator between God and humans-a human, Christ Jesus.



Q: Isn't there truth in every religion and therefore many ways to God?

Scriptural Position: All men are sinners and accountable to God. Sin must be paid for. Because Jesus was the only man qualified to be a sin bearer,

and because he died for sins, there is only one Savior. Moreover, He rose from the dead. All other religious leaders are still in the grave.

There is only one way to God and that is through the person and ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ. But, there are many ways to come to Christ.

- Peter was called directly by our Lord.
- Nicodemus heard the Word secretly at night.
- The Ethiopian Eunuch came to faith through the preaching of Philip.
- Paul met the Savior on the Damascus Road.

Some come to faith through hearing the gospel in church; others from hearing the good news from a friend; many read the Scripture in a hotel room and place their faith in the Redeemer; and, others come to Christ during a life crisis.

Many people get saved when they are a child; some are saved in their adult years; and, a few find Christ in the 4th quarter of their life.

Modern Contentions: Omnism is the belief that all religions should be respected. The system claims all religious paths lead to spirituality. It seems to be a mark of intellectual sophistication to condemn the narrow path and to promote the broad road. The liberal mind believes there are many roads to God, but can't seem to grasp the truth that there are many roads to hell.

Admonition: The Bible informs us that there are only two religions in the world: the religion of Cain and the religion of Abel: salvation by beans and salvation by blood; faith that leads to eternal life and unbelief that leads to hell. Religion is not the way to heaven. Christianity is not the way to heaven; faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and his accomplishments at Calvary is the way to heaven.

2 Corinthians 13:5 Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith.

1 Peter 3:20 . . . to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water

Matthew 7:13-14 – Enter ye in at the narrow gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many are those entering through it. Because narrow is the gate, and difficult is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

7. Creation

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

John 1:3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

Q: Isn't it possible that man is the product of time plus chance?



Scriptural Position: We are not here by accident or by a trillion miracles of Time + Chance. The LORD God created heaven and earth and that what we see is a young earth. Men are creations of all mighty God and not a product of some evolutionary process.

Modern Contentions: Fake science has created the false narrative that we are here on this earth by time-plus-chance; that what we see around us is the result of a “Big Bang” evolutionary process, and that the earth is millions if not billions of years old; that all life came from two rocks bumping hips in some primordial soup during a lightning storm some 2 billion year ago. In fact, it is fashionable to contribute the material world to “Mother Earth” – another fiction.

Admonition: The whole argument for creation from an evidentiary point of view rests on the principles of contingency and irreducible complexity. Don't be too impressed by those multiple letters after men's names. They don't know it all . . . and there are many factual flaws in their arguments. Stand on the truth. Search for answers. Be patient, kind, and persuasive with those who oppose the truth.

8. Flat Earth or Ball Earth

Genesis 1:2 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth

Q: Does the Bible teach that the earth is flat or a ball.

Scriptural Position: The Bible speaks of the “ends of the earth” but does not specifically deal with this question. A natural reading of the Genesis leads to the proposition that the world is under a dome.

This is an important subject, but more of a scientific question than a theological one.

Modern Contentions: Got Questions.org takes an either/or position, “While the Bible does not teach that the earth is flat, neither does the Bible explicitly teach that the earth is spherical.”

Pythagoras appears to be the first to say that the world is round. Trillions of dollars are invested into convincing everyone that the world is round and that the earth is spinning around at 1000 miles an hour and wobbling through infinite space at 66,000 mph. NASA depends on its income based on this theory.

But, if you trust your instincts, you don't feel this movement, see this movement, or hear this movement. Moreover, no one has ever proved the world the world is round nor are there any photos of a round earth. All images are CGI or composites.

We hear much about fake news, but how about fake science? Perhaps the greater need is to distinguish between real science and fake science. Fake science has brought us evolution, the Big Bang theory, space and an infinite universe, deadly vaccines, virus theories, germ theories, statins, global warming, rising shore lines, Coriolis Effect, milk makes you strong, atheism, Mother Earth, Climate Change, the simple cell (no cell is simple), dinosaurs, Piltdown Man, gravity, health friendly cigarettes, people are ancestors of monkeys, the science of psychology, homosexuality is normal, pharmaceutical frauds, masking, gender-bender identify, a 4 billion year old earth, survival of fittest, natural selection, and more.

Admonition: We have and are being lied to. The goal of the minister is to discover truth and expose lies. Real science separates truth and lies.

Psalm 120:2 Deliver my soul, O LORD, from lying lips *And* from a deceitful tongue.

9. Predestination v. Freewill

John 6:44 No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day.

Ephesians 1:4-5 Even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will,

Colossians 1:16-17 For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities –

all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

Q: Is salvation a matter of God's sovereignty (election) or man's free choice?



Scriptural Position: The Scripture does not deny that life is filled with choices, and that men must make them. Rather, the Scripture teaches that God is sovereign; that He created all things; that He is the Ruler over all matters; that nothing occurs in this universe without his direction and permission. Some call this Calvinism though Calvin did not create the theology of sovereignty.

Modern Contentions: Modern man seems to be obsessed with choices; that life is what we make it; that we must decide to change the world; that we must decide change to history; to change life; and to become a better person. Failure is due to the wrong choices of men. We call this the Armenian position.

Admonition: Our Lord corrected the Arminian thinking of Pilate. "Do you refuse to speak to me?" Pilate said. "Don't you realize I have power either to free you or to crucify you?" Jesus answered, "You would have no power over me if it were not given to you from above. Therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin."

Change what you can. Make the best choices you can but realize that all success and failure comes from God. Blessed be His name.

Psalms 75:6-7 For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, Nor from the south. But God is the judge: He putteth down one, and setteth up another.

10. The Nature of Man

Genesis 1:26-27 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them

Romans 5:12-19 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world (Adam), and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: (for until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law.

Psalms 58:3 3 The wicked are estranged from the womb: they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies.

Ecclesiastes 9:3 This *is* an evil among all *things* that are done under the sun, that *there is* one event unto all: yea, also the heart of the sons of men is full of evil, and madness *is* in their heart while they live, and after that *they go to the dead*.

Q: Isn't man born good?



Scriptural Position: Man is valuable because God made man in His own image; but, he is deeply marred because of sin. He is not born good; rather, he is born with a tendency to sin. Man needs to be redeemed. Therefore, God sent His Son into the world to save sinners (Matthew 1:21).

Modern Contentions: The world seems to be saying “be all you can be” (U.S. army); that men are born good (Jean-Jacques Rousseau); that parents corrupt children; or that society subverts men; that people **need more self-esteem and more money so that can achieve their full potential. Man can improve by introspection, thinking positive, and making choices to be successful.**

“More often than not, children learn to not care about how their actions hurt others when they feel their parents don't care about them” (Quora).

Admonition: Good preachers uphold the value of man, but at the same time announce the depravity of men. Only when people realize that they are sinners do they seek a Savior. Accept responsibility for your thoughts and actions; stop blaming others, and seek the mercy of God at the cross.

11. The Deity of Christ

Malachi 3:1 3 Behold, I will send my messenger (John the Baptist), and he shall prepare the way before me (Jehovah): and the Lord (Adonai), whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant (the Lord), whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts.

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word and the Word was God.

Q: Who is Jesus Christ?



Scriptural Position: One cannot read the book of John and not conclude that Jesus is more than a man. He is called “the Word,” the Creator, the Light of the World, the King of Israel, and the Bread of Life. Jesus is the God-man who is fully God and fully man, the Son

of God, the promised Messiah, the LORD (Jehovah), the Lord (Adonai), the King of Israel and subject of Israel's hope. Christians reverently refer to Him as "the Lord Jesus Christ."

Modern Positions: Skeptics have not been able to deny the eye-witness testimony of the apostles or that God was among us in the Person of Christ. Rather, modern man minimizes Christ by referring to Him as myth or a mere man or a great teacher or religious leader. Seldom if ever do you hear anyone in the media refer to Him as the unique Son of God, the Savior, or the Lord Jesus Christ. The minimization of Christ impacts the church . . . so much so you seldom hear Christians referring to Christ as the Son of God or the Lord Jesus Christ.

C.S. Lewis got it correct:

A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic – on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg – or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice.

Admonition: That Jesus is the unique Son who is fully God and fully man is at the heart of the gospel. Defend His identity, titles, and character. Speak reverently and honorably about him and do not allow anyone to minimize His claims or twist them in trivia.

12. Feminism

Genesis 3:3 And when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, and that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make *one* wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

Genesis 3:16 . . . and thy desire shall be *to rule over your husband* (mine)

Esther 1:20 . . . all the wives shall give to their husbands honour, both to great and small.

Proverbs 21:19 It is better to live in a desert land than with a quarrelsome and fretful woman.

Proverbs 27:15 A continual dripping on a rainy day and a quarrelsome wife are alike;

1 Timothy 2:12-15 12 But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. For Adam was first formed, then Eve. And

Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.

Q: Isn't feminism good since women are equal with men?



Scriptural Position: Sin entered the world through Eve, and sin affects women as well as men. Women want to control their husbands, men, the church, and the nation.

Women are not equal with men in ability or the purpose of God. God created man first and then created the women for the man – not the other way around.

The Scripture asks, “Who can find a virtuous woman?” Solomon says he found none (Ecclesiastes 7:28).

Women’s virtue may be man’s greatest invention and greatest tragedy (Cornelius Skinner).

Thus, it is in the nature of women to control and manipulate their husbands. The greatest executive order ever written was by King Ahasuerus (Esther 1). But, in modern times, the cat is out of the bag.

Matters are made worse by so-called “romantic movies” – propaganda to inflate the power and status of women. The goal of feminism is for men to worship women and to give them what they want.

In juxtaposition to feminism, out of love the Lord orders women to submit to their husbands and forbids them from speaking in church or teaching men. Otherwise, women have freedom to work and participated in commerce appropriate for their God-given rights and gifts.

The cute little serpent of Genesis turned into a hideous, ugly dragon in Revelation 12. Likewise, Eve’s sin has grown into a Jamaican tangelo -- the ugly fruit of feminism.

Modern Contentions: Feminism is **not** about equality, but total dominion over men. They seek to induct the whole human race into their cult as their servants. The DEI Movement is the means of promoting women over men. But, the consequence is devastating. The Trump assassination attempt comes to mind.

The world teaches men to worship women and not wisdom; to love sex and not “Sophia:” to enjoy vice and not virtue. The main messages Solomon taught his son in Proverbs was to pursue wisdom and to flee strong wine and strange women -- from those alienated from the law of the LORD God.

Since 1928 women have been in open rebellion against the law of the LORD God and pushed for sexual promiscuity, birth control, abortion, trans-formation, and demanded equal pay – a plot that makes it impossible for men to provide

for their families. This trend has resulted in fornication, divorce, fatherless children, infanticide, national debt, and the destruction of the family.

American feminism is manufacturing odious women by the trainloads and they have created a fiasco in the family, the church, and the nation. Simply put, no man can live with an odious woman (Proverbs 25:24; 30:23). They are not suitable brides.

Admonition: It is impossible to put the cat back in the bag or to reverse feminism's tragic influences on society. Love all men and strive to discover and practice God's law-order in the family and the church. For men, strive to be loving, responsible men who **never** live under the thumb of a woman. Avoid "strange" women. For women, discover your role as defined in God's Word, and forsake any ambition of teaching men! You can share the gospel with anyone you wish, but women are forbidden to teach men or to lead the congregation in prayer (1 Timothy 2:8ff).

1 Corinthians 16:13 3 Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.

13. Manliness

Genesis 1:27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

1 Corinthians 16:13 Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.

Colossians 2:8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

Q: What does it mean to be a man?



Scriptural Position: God created two sexes: "In the beginning God made them male and female." Each sex has its honorable character, and God does not want mankind to mix them or to confuse them.

Strength is in the separation of the sexes and not the blending of the sexes. Active sin, however, can destroy the nature of manhood and the nature of femininity. For this reason the Scripture prohibits women from dressing like a manly-man (Deuteronomy 22:5).

Modern Contentions: Today, there are (sinful) cultural forces trying to neutralize masculinity and blend the sexes. Female soldiers are outfitted like male soldiers. Homosexuality is encouraged. Transvestism is accepted.

Lesbianism went mainstream. Maleness is depreciated. Tyrannies take female hormones and the taxpayer pays for this abomination. In some arenas, you can be fired or even go to jail for using wrong pronouns. Some congresswomen and some judges don't even know how to define a male or female. Consequently, many churchmen are "into" the equality, non-gender movement poisoning families and churches.

The question, "What is a man?" may become the greatest question of the twenty-first century.

Our Lord said John the Baptist was the greatest man who ever lived -- greater in character, holiness, and calling than any man. He is the model man who did not waiver like a reed in the wind, who was not soft like kings, who was a pure Levite, son of Aaron, the acting prophet-high priest of Israel. He is the subject of prophesy – a man martyred over the definition of marriage (Matthew 11:7-11)

John was not a philanderer, but a prophet; he was not world-centered, but Word-centered. He never married, but died defending the definition of marriage. A true man and a true priest, John introduced Christ to the world.

Admonition: Recognize the gender-movement as from the enemy. Expose it. Resist it. Discipline it out of the church. Remove practicing homosexuals out of the church and speak out loudly against this sin. Demand the government put a harness on public queerness. If you are a man, dress and act like one. If you are a woman dress and act like one.

14. Male Guardianship

1 Timothy 3:12 Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well.

Q: Is there a difference between the roles of men and women?



Scriptural Position: God placed Adam over Eve, husbands over wives, and male judges and kings over the nation of Israel. Further, he appoints male elders over the church. Females come under coverture of their fathers . . . and wives under the coverture of their husbands. Males were the guardians of the nation, and only men could join the army. While mothers have natural maternal rights over their children, God gave Fathers the legal rights over their children.

The word for son in Hebrew is "ben." Males were always considered the legal property of their fathers:

Numbers 15 And these are the names of the men that shall stand with you: of the tribe of Reuben; Elizur the son (ben) of Shedeur.

6 Of Simeon; Shelumiel the son (ben) of Zurishaddai.

7 Of Judah; Nahshon the son of Amminadab.

8 Of Issachar; Nethaneel the son of Zuar.

9 Of Zebulun; Eliab the son of Helon.

10 Of the children of Joseph: of Ephraim; Elishama the son of Ammihud: of Manasseh; Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur.

11 Of Benjamin; Abidan the son of Gideoni.

12 Of Dan; Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai.

13 Of Asher; Pagiel the son of Ocran.

14 Of Gad; Eliasaph the son of Deuel.

15 Of Naphtali; Ahira the son of Enan.

16 These were the renowned of the congregation, princes of the tribes of their fathers, heads of thousands in Israel.

Modern Contentions: There is madness in the land. The governance of men over families and the nation has been challenged by radical feminists. The nation is producing matriarchal families where fathers have no rights over their children except the duty to pay for the care of mother and child (slavery). Women dominate every profession. We have female firemen, judges and policemen; the brouhaha of female pastors; and the terrifying ranks of woman captains, colonels, and generals in the armed forces.

Admonition: Feminism and the ridiculous notion of equality of the sexes must be exposed and resisted. Pastors must get back to the fundamentals of Scripture – to preach the Biblical roles of males and females in the family, church, and nation. Assist men who have had all legal rights stripped from them by female judges in family court and been ordered to pay child support. Call men to be protectors of their families and guardians of society in general. Call them to be strong, reasonable, and fair. Encourage resistance to America’s legal female tyranny. Call women to be humble and to live under the law of the LORD God and not the hubbub laws in the cult of feminism.

15. Dress Codes

Deuteronomy 22:5 The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so are abomination unto the LORD thy God.

1 Timothy 2:9-10 In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works.

Q: How does God want us to dress for church?



Scriptural Position: God's law encourages different clothing styles for men and women. The Scriptures encourages modesty, makes notice of "the attire of a harlot," forbids crossdressing, and requires clean, holy attire for worship. Different kinds of work, weather conditions, and human activities must make room for personal, pragmatic choices of clothing. What is modest at church and what is modest at a swim meet are two different matters.

Modern Contentions: With so many styles of clothing for men and women, there is no lack of opinion about clothing which makes setting dress codes for church a sensitive matter. The fact that women are coming to church without a head covering, in sleeveless blouses, short-shorts, and in seamless legging requires elders to take a stand and to set rules for clothing. The problem is not just with women. Some men come to church in tank tops, shorts, and flip-flops as if they were going to the beach – totally inappropriate for worship in the King of kings.

When meeting the queen of England, women must wear a hat, a dress or dress suit, and a long sleeve blouse. In some cases, both men and women must wear gloves. No skin marketing allowed. No short sleeves even in the summer time.

The Greek Orthodox Church requires women to wear dresses, a headcovering, and long sleeve blouses. Men are required to wear dress slacks, a long sleeve shirt, no hats, and shoes.

Admonition: Pastors would well to set minimum standards for families coming to church. Women should be encouraged to wear a veil and men must remove their caps (1 Corinthians 11:1-16). Short sleeves, tank tops, and shorts are to be forbidden. Cowboy hats and baseball caps must be rejected. Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness refers to the distinctive, dignified clothing of the High Priest; that is, clean holy apparel is required for worship. Since you are going to worship the king, dress like it.

16. A Pastor's Attire

Matthew 3:4 And the same John had his raiment of camel's hair, and a leathern girdle about his loins; and his meat was locusts and wild honey.

Q: Should a pastor wear clothing that depicts his profession?



Scripture Position: There is no command in the New Testament for a minister to wear special clothing or a cross. There is no authority for the minister to call himself “reverend.” But, there is also no harm done if a minister wears distinctive clothing, and in some cases ministerial attire may be an advantage for promotion of the gospel.

Modern contentions: As Christian history developed, monks wore special garments. Ministers of the gospel wore a black robe and were called the “black robed regiment” during the Revolution. Today, ministers can be seen wearing frocks, collars, black vests, crosses and other holy symbols.

Oh, that men could wear something . . . anything that would make them holy. There is no such thing as “holy” vesture. Positively, distinctive clothing may remind the man that he has a special calling and it may remind others to assist the man in keeping his vows. Negatively, ministerial garb can be a show . . . a public persona that is different than the man is in private. But, may it not be so.

Admonition: All Christians and not just ministers are called to be holy. It is better to be holy than look holy. If wearing a black robe while preaching reminds the minister and congregation that he is speaking as Christ’s representative, then let it be.

17. Holiness

1 Peter 1:15-16 But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

Q: What is holiness?



Scripture Position: Holiness is an attribute of the LORD God – an attribute that is opposed to moral corruption, recklessness, and compromise. Christians are called to be holy, separate from sinful practices, and to obey his law from the heart. Christ came to purify His people and to purify them like silver. They man who wants to draw near the Lord and enjoy him must submit to the refiner’s fire and His sanctification process (Malachi 3:1-6; John 13:1-17; 1 Thessalonians 5:23).

Modern Contentions: The world knows nothing of holiness nor does it value this attribute of God. Consequently, holy people are labeled “legalistic,” “hyperreligious,” “religious fanatics,” and far-right conservatives. Liberals

honor those with a Harvard education, wealth, and who are sexually “experienced.”

If there is a legitimate criticism of Christians, it is that many are hypocrites that live two lives: one in church and the other in the shady places of modern life.

Admonition: Serve the Lord in the beauty of holiness (Psalm 29:2). Forget pleasing men. Find out what pleases God and do it . . . not to be accepted by Him but to accurately honor and glorify Him.

18. Sex Education

[Genesis 1:28](#); [Matthew 19:6](#); [Mark 10:7–8](#); [1 Corinthians 7:1–5](#); [1 Corinthians 6:9, 18](#); [1 Thessalonians 4:3](#).

Q: What does the Bible say about sex education?



Scriptural Position: Sex education is the responsibility of the home. Proverbs 1-7 represents Solomon’s sex education course to his sons. When the scripture addresses the wonder of marital intimacy it does so with metaphors so as not to arouse or offend the audience. See the “Song of Songs.” Sex is good. God ordained this powerful drive, but he also set rules for its use. And, it is the duty of all men to understand God’s permissions and prohibitions regarding human sexuality; that is, sex education is not so much focused on functions, but upon ethics and morality regarding sexual responsibility.

Solomon’s “sex-education” course can be found in Proverbs 1-8. It is not about the biological differences of men and women, but about exposing the character of evil women. Thus, a father who teaches his sons about the nature of women in order to help them discern between an odious woman and a woman that fears the Lord, has done a great service for his son.

Modern Contentions: Educators seemed obsessed with forcing new world order Zionist sexuality on children with functional specificity and particularity . . . so much so many school libraries openly display pornography and “free sex” propaganda as reading material in order to induct children into the sex cult.

The promotions of fornication, adultery, and homosexuality require the church to blow the trumpet and to send a clear, reasonable message about the dangers of a lifestyle contrary to the law of the LORD God.

Birth control comes into focus. Should couples use birth control or trust God? The Biblical answer is that we seek to responsibly cooperate with God’s plan,

not to countermand it. Responsible child bearing seems the correct route to go. How is a different matter. Any birth control system that aborts a baby or harms the mother (like pills) is cause for rejection. Because a method makes something possible does not mean that it is desirable.

Admonition: Parents must work with church leaders to address these matters and to protect children from the Sodomite, Lesbian, transgender madness burying this country in a deluge of shame.

19. Medical Madness

1 Timothy 5:23 Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities.

Q: How do modern medical theories square with Scripture?



Scriptural Position: Because of the fall, our physical state is one of weakness. Health is a concern of all men in every culture. The Bible provides lots of do's and don'ts regarding health, and men would do well to discover "natural law" or the "laws of nature" regarding health. But, the Bible does not address every medical issue known to man . . . nor should it. The main dilemma of man is spiritual depravity and not health disability.

Modern Contentions: Medical problems abound, and pharmaceutical remedies are pushed on us through the medical industry's advertising programs and vaccine agendas. However, these drug remedies come with risks of injury and death. People are reporting injuries from vaccines, MRNa testing, birth control pills, tetanus shots, and heart meds.

Moreover, the motivations of this industry are questionable. Much of the promotion of drugs is **not** about health but about making money and controlling the population. That all medical problems can be solved by Rockefeller, oil-based pills is denied. Thus, Christians have to protect themselves and their families from disinformation, dishonesty, and medical deception. Fortunately, in America the medical industry can't force and procedure on us. Everything requires the patient's consent.

Thus, church people range from having absolute trust in the medical profession to those who have no trust in doctors and only use natural remedies to address health challenges.

Admonition: From childhood we have been taught "to obey your doctor." We are not taught to obey our parents, teachers, pastors, or engineers. Learn to say,

“No!” In today’s avalanche of health “control” and drug propaganda, believers would be wise to question everything, to do their own research, and to accept total responsibility for their health decisions. Beware of trusting any doctor trained by Big Pharma as they too have been indoctrinated not to think, but to apply acceptable procedures in order to avoid “law suits.”

20. Masturbation

Proverbs 25:28 A man without self-control is like a city broken into and left without walls

Q: What does the Scripture have to say about masturbation?



Scriptural Position: Some men came to me as a pastor and asked me to address this issue at the men’s group.

I called the elders together and here is what we concluded: (1) this was huge issue among men and that they were ashamed to talk about; (2) that God’s Word does not address the subject directly, but that God made men with sexual drives and equipment; and, that this is good; (3) that relieving stress on a full prostate was as necessary as emptying one’s bladder; (4) that masturbation is not “onanism” (Genesis 37); nor is it a sin unless it is entered into with lust; (4) that men need to address this issue with sons in order to prevent abuse, to relieve them of guilt, and to establish rules for sexuality; (5) that men should not let guilt beat up them up over this concern; (6) that men should avoid pornography like the black plague; (7) to encourage young men to grow in self-control of their minds, emotions, and body (Titus 2:5-7); (8) that masturbation after marriage was a different matter as the Scripture forbids men and women from defrauding one another; (8) that husband and wives need to discuss marital intimacy and to help each to understand their sexual needs at different stages of life; (10) that glorifying God with our bodies demands we avoid fornication and adultery.

Modern Contentions: This subject is generally taboo among Christians and Biblical abstracts on this subject are difficult to find.

Admonition: Fathers need to address this subject with their sons and help their sons with the concerns they will face in puberty.

21. Freedom v. Responsibility

1 Timothy 5:8 - But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.

1 Corinthians 7:21-24 Do not be concerned about it; but if you can be made free, rather use it. For he who is called in the Lord while a slave is the Lord's freedman. Likewise he who is called while free is Christ's slave. You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of men.

Q: What does the Bible say about freedom?



Scriptural Position: The Scripture begins with a dominion mandate. One goal of God's law is freedom from tyranny. But, there is no freedom without accepting responsibility. Thus, much of life is about duty and performing one's duty creates freedom. Rights come from God and every command in the Bible creates a right for man.

God's law does not condemn voluntary servitude, but it places the death penalty on those involved in man-stealing (kidnapping).

Moreover, the Founding Fathers realized the greatest threat to freedom was government. Therefore, they built the nation on the rights of man and a limited government (Declaration of Independence).

"[T]he general government is not to be charged with the whole power of making and administering laws: its jurisdiction is limited to certain enumerated objects, which concern all the members of the republic, but which are not to be attained by the separate provisions of any." – James Madison, *Federalist* 14, 1787

Modern Contentions: Some churches are about controlling people, but this is rare. Most "coffee-cup" churches are extremely permissive requiring almost nothing from members. Consequently, careless and reckless behavior abounds.

Admonition: Set minimal, Biblical standards for dress, behavior, and speech for church services. Distinguish between a home Bible study and a public worship service. Reject humanistic permissiveness and beliefs there are no absolute rules for moral conduct. Be slaves to no man means also, do not be a slave to your own lusts or the codes of the State.

22. God and government

Romans 13:1 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

Q: What does it mean to be subject unto higher powers?



Scriptural Position: There are three institutions ordained of God: the family, government, and the church. While the Bible does not promote revolution, neither does it promote complaisance. That God requires obedience to the likes of Pol Pot, Mao Tse Tung, or Stalin is repugnant to Scripture. If Jesus is Lord, it is not possible or desirable to always submit to government. God requires obedience to Him regardless of whom or what is in power.

J. B. Philips translates verse one correctly: “Everyone ought to obey civil authorities, for all **legitimate** authority is derived from God’s authority.” (Emphasis mine).

Two principles in juxtaposition to one another come into play here: (1) cautious obedience to legitimate authority, and (2) resistance to tyranny. And, the latter is service to God. God calls Christians to cautiously obey legitimate authority, and to exercise wise resistance to rebels against God’s law-law order.

Furthermore, God not only calls Christians to cautious obedience to legitimate authority, but He calls all civil authority to veracious obedience to His law-order. When governments become humanistic and rebellious to God’s law-order, resistance is in order.

Modern Contentions: Contemporary pastors seem hell bent on maximum obedience to civil authority. Few, if any, call the government to maximum obedience to God’s law. But, they pound their fists on Romans 13 insisting that God requires obedience to communist, humanistic, feministic regimes. For this reason, governments get away with murder . . . literally. When is the last time you have heard a prominent Christian call the government to surrender to the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ?

Admonition: Develop a Scriptural theology of God & government . . . and, remember government is **not** god! There is no such thing as rebellion against a rebel government. Rebellion is always used in reference to God’s law-order. The gospel that turned the world upside down was one that promoted “another king”, King Jesus (Acts 17:6-7).

23. Place of the Law in the Church

1 Timothy 1:8-11 But we know that the law is good, if a man use it lawfully; Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers, For whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for

menstealers, for liars, for perjured persons, and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine; According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust.



Scriptural Position: The law is good and holy because it is a direct reflection of the character of God. It was **not** given to save men, but it was given to create an orderly society.

Men are not saved by keeping the law (or Talmudic case rulings), but they are saved in order to keep the law (Ten Commandment).

The opposite of law is not grace but lawlessness; and the opposite of grace is not law, but permissiveness.

There are few things more derelict than the notion that Christians are free to choose their own law order. God's law is for me, all men, all families, all churches, and all of society. No man is free unless his neighbors honor the Ten Commandments.

Modern Contentions: The one doctrinal issue that was not settled in the Reformation was the place of God's law in the Christian life. The Reformation rightly condemned performance-based salvation, but failed to clarify the place of God's law among Christians. Consequently, the spirit antinomianism and permissiveness entered the church resulting in fornicating couples, tattooed men and women, reckless divorce, and general lawlessness in the church and society.

Admonition: The failure to see NT commands as law is the product of more than a little evil.

Study God's law-order, master it, and apply in your family and church. Men are not saved by law, but they are saved in order to keep the law (Romans 8:4). In order to restore law and order in the church give law its proper place and support those who seek to restore God's law-order in the family and nation. If God's law is not the standard for righteousness, then what is?

24. Taxation

1 Corinthians 7:23 Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men.

Q: Should Christians pay taxes?



Scriptural Position: You are obligated to pay taxes that you legitimately owe, but you are **not** obligated to pay taxes you do not lawfully owe or you errantly think you owe.

God created men free . . . but in America freedom is lost at birth because the government tricks parents into making their children slaves of the State. The federal government claims it owns the child, it labor, and its property via the issuance of a birth certificate.

The Declaration of Independence articulates the Scriptural position correctly: "Men are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights." Among these rights is the right to property including the right to exclude government from taking his property.

"The earth belongs to the LORD and the people thereof" (Psalm 24:1).

Neither the earth nor a man's body nor his property nor even a portion of his income belongs to the government. Any claim that the State has "rights" over private property is a bold face lie.

No man is a debtor to the State . . . Unless . . . and this is a BIG UNLESS . . . UNLESS he has a contract with the government as a contractor employee. The government can tax its employees and corporations, but it has no authority or power to tax men or their property and their income. Indeed, they have not done so!! Where in the law (the Constitution) does Congress have the power to tax anything it wants? The Constitution limits Congress. It does not empower them to take property from people without just compensation.

Men are suckered into paying voluntary taxes due to government deception, artifice, and flimflam (propaganda).

Furthermore, men are not born slaves. They are tricked into becoming slaves by the birth certificate hoax, driver's license contracts, student loans, and 1040 forms.

When the naïve preachers say "pay taxes to whom taxes are due," it is because they do **not** understand American law, the Constitution, or Title 26. Americans are not conquered people subject to tribute. Further, Congress ever passed a law requiring the average worker to pay an income tax. They are forbidden to do so. Income taxes are for government employees called "U.S. citizens."

Modern contentions: That everybody owes taxes is not a phrase found in law; that two things are certain, "death" and "taxes" is not law. People have been so bamboozled by government propaganda most Americans wrongly conclude everyone must pay taxes.

Thinking men ask, "Where is the law that requires me to pay income taxes . . . property taxes?" They soon learn that there is no law recorded in the Federal Register requiring private citizens, American Nationals, or non-resident aliens to yield a portion of their income to the government.

Admonition: Know your God-given rights. Recognize presumption and identify government lies. Study Constitutional law, and know that the Supreme Court ruled that placing an income tax on American salaries has been ruled unconstitutional (The Pollock Case, 1894).

Simply put church members cannot tithe, pay bills, save for the future and pay 50% of their income to the government. Something has to give, and let it be the government.

The correct issue a knowledgeable man has to wrestle with is how does a wage earner get out of the tax system lawfully? For this answer, see SEDM, the Great IRS Hoax (<https://sedm.org/great-irs-hoax-form-11-302/>).

25. Tattoos

Exodus 20:2-4 Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth:

Leviticus 19:28 You shall not make any cuts on your body for the dead or tattoo yourselves: I am the Lord.

Ezekiel 8:9-10 And he said unto me, Go in, and behold the wicked abominations that they do here. So I went in and saw; and behold every form of creeping things, and abominable beasts, and all the idols of the house of Israel, portrayed upon the wall round about.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

Q: Is it O.K. for a Christian to obtain a tattoo?



Scriptural Position: God gave us a body to serve Him. Because He is the Creator of our person, we are charged with the duty of managing our bodies under His rules for His glory. When a man becomes a Christians, his body becomes a temple of the Holy Spirit . . . and no man has a “right” to mark, tattoo, or carve marking on the temple of God. Thus, tattoos are evidence people have committed idolatry.

Modern Contentions: More and more so-called “Christians” are showing up in church with tattoos on the arms, legs, and nether regions.

Humanism denies creation and God's sovereignty, and therefore teaches youth that their body belongs to them and that they are free to with it whatever they want, including, but not limited to marking it with idolatrous symbols.

Simply put, the prohibition against tattoos is case law for "Thou shall not commit idolatry." Tattoos are evidence that idolatry is at work in the man. When a person or woman gets a tattoo, the icon represents their most esteemed value at the time of mutilation. Yes, icons of Christ and the cross is also idolatry.

Admonition: The great question is what law-order are Christians going to follow: God's law order or the permissive laws of the State? Be faithful to God's Word. Know that His Word forbids tattooing. It is idolatry. Remind family and friends that Scripture prohibits His people from writing graffiti on God's temple with icons (Ezekiel 8-9).

26. Gospel Definition

1 Corinthians 15:1 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand;

2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.

3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

Q: What is the gospel?



Scriptural Position: The good news of the Bible is that Jesus came to save his people from their sin through His death, burial, and resurrection. Men receive the first fruits of kingdom blessing when they place their faith in Him.

Modern Contentions: Contemporary man is lost in a sea of ideas and errant definitions. The gospel is not how you can be born again; or, how you experience God; or how to achieve prosperity; or, how to be healed of your inner wounds; or, how you can reach your full potential; or, how you can forgive yourself; how to attract money, or, even how you can change and become a better person. The gospel is about the Son and His work at Calvary (1 Corinthians 15:1-12)

Admonition: There are five pillars of the gospel. A man would do well to understand the person of Christ, his historical ministry, the meaning of his visitation to earth, the effects of his work on believers, and the good news that men know what pleases God (See Stockton, [the Five Pillars of the Gospel](https://sedm.org/Forms/17-Theology/FivePillarsOfTheGospel.pdf_), https://sedm.org/Forms/17-Theology/FivePillarsOfTheGospel.pdf_).

27. The Prosperity Gospel

1 Timothy 4:1 The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons.

Jude 3 Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

Q: How should Christians view the prosperity gospel?



Scriptural Position: To turn the beloved gospel of Christ into a means of wealth acquisition is no less than apostasy. It is another gospel which bears the curse (Galatians 1:6-7).

Apostasy is a serious departure from the faith. It is an attack on the Christian gospel which holds out the hope of forgiveness and justification for sinners who come to Christ by faith (Romans 5:1).

All men need money to provide for their families and the work of the Lord. Yes, God supplies the needs of His people, but the gospel is not about wealth accumulation. Loving money is a different manner for “the love of money is (the) root of all evil.” Wise men pray that God would not make them rich or poor (Proverbs 30:7-9).

Modern Contentions: Solid Christians believe and preach the benefits and duties of men connected with the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ (1 Corinthians 15:1-6).

Those involved in the apostate prosperity gospel teach that God wants to make you wealthy and healthy; that is, if you have money, you are blessed by God; and, if you are poor you have inferior faith – a belief that robs people of joy and money through their promised “sowing seed” promises – a belief that injures the faith of the poor.

Admonition: Major on studying the gospel, knowing the gospel, and practicing the gospel. Beware of prosperity preachers and don't give them the time of day. Expose the sham as apostasy.

28. Waiving Hands in Church

Genesis 14: 22-23 And Abram said to the king of Sodom, I have lift up mine hand unto the LORD, the most high God, the possessor of heaven and earth, That I will not take from a thread even to a shoelatchet, and that I will not take any thing that is thine, lest thou shouldest say, I have made Abram rich:

Q: Should Christians raise their hands in church?



Scriptural Position: The first use of lifting up a hand is in reference to Abraham's oath to the LORD – a traditional way of swearing allegiance to a God or king. There is no command in the N.T. to lift up one's hands nor is there an example of it in the epistles. There is mention of an angel lifting up a hand to heaven but this is in reference to an oath or a sign of allegiance.

There is a time to raise one's hand (literally or figuratively) to take an oath . . . or to invoke the presence of the Lord. Further, there is some evidence that devoted worshippers raised their hands in prayer and worship as a sign of reverence and surrender to the Sovereign Lord (Psalm 134:2; 141:2).

Modern Contentions: Emotional-based Christians raise their hands every time they pray and they can be seen waiving their hands back and forth in song services as if they are trying to reach out and touch God. This touch-feely practice is not normal in the history of the church. Rather, it is a super subjective approach to our highly exalted Christ. It is ignorance at its best or fleshly at its worse.

Admonition: The "raising of hands" issue takes discernment because there is no mention of the practice in the N.T., but there are many psalms that suggest raising of hands is an acceptable practice. Moreover, Jesus lifted up His hands and blessed the people. However, jumping up and down like a pogo stick and waiving hands back and forth with closed eyes seems deeply sensual if not totally unspiritual. Ask yourself, "Did Jesus kangaroo around waiving his hands to the Father? Would N.T. Christians or the Puritans recognize this practice as proper worship? All this dancing and hand raising has a superficial resemblance to spirituality, but acts more like gateway drug to get one hooked on Charisma.

Yes, some Christians can seem to be stiff in their approach to God, but "pressing the metal to the pedal" and going bongos are the actions of religious fanatics. Let your light shine by reverence, holiness, and dignity. A minister raising a hand to bless the people seems appropriate. However, worship is not about going on an emotional pleasure cruise, but about acknowledging His authority and surrendering to it (Psalm 99).

29. Seeker Friendly Church Services

John 6:44, 67 No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day . . . Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away?

Q: Are seeker-friendly churches Scriptural.



Scriptural Position: God, not man, makes the kingdom grow. God adds people to His church, not man. The purpose of church meetings is to edify the saints and not to evangelize the lost. Though a church does not want to be hostile to visitors, its primary concerns are nourishing believers.

Modern Contentions: Seeker friendly churches have a different vision for the church than the apostles. Preachers seek “big churches” as kind of a status symbol. Every young minister wants to see God bless his ministry and make the church grow (Ephesians 4:15) . . . but there is a trap in his ambition.

According to one study, big churches grew, not by evangelism, but by stealing sheep from other congregations in the community.

The seeker friendly church wants to grow and become bigger by any means possible including but not limited to “making no demands on prospective church members.”

Admonition: Do we want quality or quantity? Or both? If you are a pastor, give yourself to personal evangelism outside the church meeting. Grow your church by winning souls in the market place.

Encourage Christians expressing dissatisfaction about their former church to go back and work out their problems there. Refuse to be a sheep stealer. Support other churches in your area. Erect a few hurdles for prospective members to jump over: a clear profession of faith, baptism, a break with sin and defiling habits like smoking and drinking, a general acceptance of the church’s doctrinal statement; a commitment to learn and to love.

Moreover, avoid visitor turn offs like having them stand and introduce themselves. Lame!

Attending some churches is like visiting hell . . . being alone . . . with no one caring for your soul. Don’t let visitors experience hell in church. Train ministry team leaders to recognize visitors, to be friendly, but not lawyer-like aggressive.

30. Calvinism v. Armenianism

Matthew 1:21 21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

John 6:44 No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.

Q: Can men choose to go to heaven or is something else involved?



Scriptural Position: The Scripture teaches us about the total depravity of man; that unless acted on by the Spirit of God, a sinner cannot and will not come to Christ for salvation. Calvinism believes in the total depravity of man and that God calls and enables men to believe in Him. Calvin did not create Calvinism. It existed in Scripture long before men were able to articulate and formulate it.

Calvinism does not deny that men must believe, but it insist that God is sovereign; that He chooses to be gracious to some; and, not to others; that in His grace He enables His chosen ones to believe and enter the kingdom. The Arminian mind insists that men must choose Christ and are able to choose Him without divine preparation; that salvation depends on the responsiveness of the man to the gospel message.

Modern Contentions: While there are hyper-Calvinist among us, these people are rare. The contemporary American mind is thoroughly Arminian in that Arminians believe men are sinners but not as bad off as Calvinist claim; that sin impacted the mind and body, but not the human will; that salvation is a matter of choice; that all of life is a result of human choices; that men are condemned because they choose not to follow Christ; that man proposes and man disposes; that man is the Captain of his ship and the master of his fate; that a man can lose his salvation if he chooses to abandon the faith; that he can be unborn again by an act of the will. All this is nonsense to the Biblical mind.

Admonition: Study the Scriptures more and hold your confidence in man lightly.

Romans 8:28-30 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also-called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

31. Defining the Church

Matthew 16 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.

Q: What is the church?



Scriptural Position: The church is **not** an organization or a building, but a living organism called “the body of Christ.” It is a fellowship of men (at least ten) who have made an unlimited commitment to accept the duties of a church as defined by God’s word in a local community to spread the gospel and be His light to men.

Thus, we distinguish between a church and a home fellowship group; between a church and a religious organization; between a church and government created 501 c 3 organizations.

Modern Contentions: Contemporary men define a church as a building or organization or two Christian meeting for coffee or as a government recognized entity called a 501 c 3 charity organization.

Admonition: a church goes **not** need government approval **or** to be organized under government statutes to be a church. Accept Christ’s authority, be a free church, cling to the Scripture, and stubbornly resist being a government approved organization.

32. Church Incorporation

Ephesians 1:22-23 And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

Colossians 1:18 And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

Colossians 2:19 And not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God.

2 Corinthians 6: 14 Be ye not unequally yoked together

Revelation 3:14-22 “You say, ‘I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.’ But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked.”

Q: Where does a church obtain its authority?



Scriptural Position: The authority for a true church has its source in the Bible which is “is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness” (2 Timothy 3:16; Matthew 28:19-20).

The Lord created the institution of the church and He is called “the head of the church;” that is, the church takes its marching orders from Him and Him alone. He is the vine, Christians are the branches. Believers are warned about not holding up the Head of the Church and are exhorted not to make contracts with the state (Colossians 2:19).

Modern Contentions: What men call a church today is not a church but a government registered, government created charity organization. Due to the influence L.B. Johnson, Congress created laws prohibiting government, religious organization from influencing political elections. It did not and could not prevent churches from speaking their mind. Soon after, overly-compliant churches started incorporating with the state; that is, (1) they exchanged the headship of Christ for the IRS; and (2) became legal fictions instead of faithful followers; that is, incorporating with the state, the church lost its power, its authority, and its God-given right to act as His representative. Many religious organizations, once called churches, are proud of the fact they are now “government approved.” So unnecessary!

Admonition: The Scripture exhorts us to “come out from among them and be ye separate, saith the Lord.” Every pastor would do well to figure out how to become a true church and to claim rights protected by the First Amendment. How can a 501 c 3 religious organization rightfully claim it is a church when it practically and legally contracts to make the IRS the head of it organizational structure? Impossible!

33. Church Government Type

Acts 14: And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.

1 Corinthians 14:40 Let all things be done decently and in order.

Q: What kind of government should a true church have?



Scriptural Position: Jesus is the head of the church, and he sets under-shepherds among his people to guide them and to teach them. Every good church is organized under the authority of Christ for service to members of His body.

Modern Contentions: Churches are organized under the hierarchy of the Episcopalian model (leadership from top down), the Presbyterian model (an elder / deacon plurality rule); and, a Baptist or congregational voting model.

Each model has its advantages and disadvantages, but the worst model is a democratic model.

Admonition: The worst model is the democratic voting model that has the power to vote on doctrine and to vote out good pastors – carnal members should have no say-so on how a church is governed; the second bad model is to have a plurality of elders; that is, a system where no man accepts responsibility for decision making; where group members hide behind the decisions of the board; further, it is next to impossible to change a church for the better when it is ruled from top down – particularly if the top is apostate; that is, from an Episcopalian denominational headquarters.

The best model is to have a servant-leader pastor or man-of-God led church with a ministry team that comes together for support and encouragement in order to better serve the needs of the congregation. The Calvary Church model appears to be healthy.

34. Women in Church Leadership

1 Timothy 2: 11-12 *Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.*

Q: Why can't women be pastors?



Scriptural Position: When it comes to radical feminism, the church seems to have the “pedal to the metal” to the detriment of the God’s law-order in the church.

There is no model and no warrant from God for women to lead a nation, lead a church, or for women to lead a family. God loves women, but He did not and does not appoint them to lead men. God forbid!

Modern Contentions: Feminism is out of the bag and it is affecting liberal churches and some conservative denominations. 50 % of the students graduating from seminary are women and they all want to pastor a church. Weak men who accept this option destroy any hope of having a Christ-approved church.

Admonition: The influence of radical feminism cannot be overstated. Feminism has brought disaster to the family, churches, and the nation. Insist on Scripture's authority and resist all trends to subsidize women pastors, women and men deacon-elder teams. Women have no business working on an elder board or as the pastor-teacher of the congregation. No, this position is not a radical opinion. It is thoroughly Biblical. The Word of God does not promote girl-power in the church!

35. Sunday Day of Worship

Acts 20:7 And upon the first day of the week (Sunday), when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.

1 Corinthians 16:1-2 Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. Upon the first day of the week (first-day Sabbath) let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

Revelation 1: 10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day (Sunday), and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet.

Q: What is the correct day to worship: Saturday or Sunday?



Scriptural Position: Celebrating the Christian Sabbath on Sunday was an established tradition even in the first century. It proclaimed freedom under God's rule. The importance and significance of the Sabbath has been clearly translated away! The Greek word "Sabbaton" is translated "day" or "week" in 1 Corinthians 16 by modern translators clouding its significance. The "First-Day Sabbath" -- the term Sabbath (Sabbaton) is used clearly to establish Sunday as the Christian Sabbath in the early church.

Modern Contentions: It is posh for the Messianic cult to refer to Saturday as the Sabbath. But, in rising from the dead on Sunday, Jesus restored the original Sabbath of Genesis to the church. It is proper and right for Christians to gather and remember Christ on Sunday, the First-Day Sabbath.

Admonition: The gospel spread around the world because Christianity made a true break from Judaism in the first century. But, there is a trend among some Christians to regard Saturday as the true Sabbath (Exodus 20:8-11). This must be resisted for the NT clearly has authority over the OT.

Moreover, the modern American church, influenced by sports and humanism, tend to secularize Sunday robbing it of its holy significance. While the Old Testament restrictions and penalties have been removed regarding the First-Day Sabbath, it does not mean the day should not be treated as holy.

36. Apostles in the Church

1 Corinthians 12: 28-29 And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues. Are all apostles? are all prophets? are all teachers? are all workers of miracles?

Q: Are there apostles today?



Scriptural Position: The word “apostle” means “sent one.” Jesus sent His disciples into the world and called them “apostles.” All Biblical apostles were eye-witnesses of the resurrection. And some, by virtue of their association with the apostles appear to be called “apostles.” But, are there apostles today with the power and authority of the first-century apostles? The best answer is “No!”

Modern Contentions: Some men eager to expand their influence over Christians call themselves an “apostle.” Most conservative pastors avoid using the term or calling themselves an apostle because it distracts from the importance and unique calling of Biblical authors. Moreover, it gives the impression that the so-called “minister-apostle” has special powers not available to common, ordinary, generic poor folk.

Admonition: Avoid anyone who calls themselves an “apostle.” They are most likely trying to control you and impress you with this title. Moreover, those who call themselves an “apostle” can end up a being shyster-cult leader that manipulates and plunders the gullible.

If a man is truly called of God let him prove it with humility, holiness, love, fruit in evangelism, and quality Bible-preaching. Titles have superficial significance in the modern world and servant of the Lord would do well to accept a simple caption like “minister of the gospel” or “pastor.” These are common terms that do not stir up dissention or promote pride.

37. Israel v. the Church

Mark 11:14, 21 And Peter calling to remembrance saith unto him, Master, behold, the fig tree which thou cursedst is withered away . . . And Peter calling to remembrance saith unto him, Master, behold, the fig tree which thou cursedst is withered away.

Q: Does God have a plan to replace the church with a Jewish Israel?



Scriptural Position: The subject of Israel is a major doctrine in the OT. God chose Israel to be His base (beachhead) to reach the rest of the world. But, the nation rejected Christ and killed Him. In symbolic fashion, Jesus cursed the fig tree – a symbol that the nation would never again bear fruit for the kingdom of God; that is, there is no such thing as a “restored Israel” as a replacement for the church in some alleged “millennium.” John called the Jews of the first century members of the Synagogue of Satan and offered no hope for them outside of Christ (Revelation 2:9; 3:9).

God’s work today consist of building his church – a community made up of believing people made up of Jews and Gentiles – a community we can call “the true Israel of God” or the “new Israel of God” or even “spiritual Israel.”

Galatians 6:16 And as many as walk according to this rule, peace *be* on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

Modern Contentions: Gentile Ashkenazim calling themselves “Jews” declared themselves a nation in 1948. That this was a fulfillment of prophecy was drilled into the youth of Evangelical Christians through the proclamation of Dispensationalists. This Zionist propaganda was promoted by J.N. Darby, Dallas Theological Seminary, Dwight Pentecost, and Hal Lindsey in the 1960s.

Taking OT return verses addressing the return of the Jews to the Holy Land in 536 B.C., J.N. Darby 1907 conceived the notion of a return of the Jews to Palestine before the return of Christ. Theodor Herz (1860-1904) originated this view as a political agenda for Karl Marx and others Jews bullish for a Jewish homeland – a movement that culminated in the Bolshevik (Jewish communists) Revolution in Russia in 1914 and the spread of Zionism which culminated in the establish of a European, Jewish State in 1948. This errant theology has resulted in the mass genocide of Palestinians including the murder of innocent women and children . . . a history censored by Jews whose hearts are filled with madness (Ecclesiastes 9:3) – a history forced on the world by Zionists.

The whole idea that modern day Ashkenazi “so-called Jews” are the chosen people of God shows how effective Jewish propaganda has been on gullible

Christians. The church is the chosen people of God. Modern fake Israel is not the people of God (1 Peter 1:1-3).

Admonition: Gentiles declaring themselves Hebrew-Jews does not make them related to Abraham. Realize that the majority of conflicts around the world are grounded in the work of Zionist-Ashkenazi Jews. Their work and influence must be resisted with an iron will because their agenda is “contrary to all men” (1 Thessalonians 2:15).

There is no such thing as “anti-Semitism” and besides there is nothing Semitic about so-called “Jews.” They are Europeans. This is Zionistic propaganda with the Jews playing the victim. Let us quit calling these European Gentiles “the chosen people of God.” Call them what they are (murdering Ashkenazi Zionist homosexuals hell bent on world dominion). Urge them to repent, to forsake racism, and to believe the gospel.

(Note: the LGBT community called Tel Aviv the most gay-lesbian friendly city in the world (2011); and *Out Magazine* called Tel Aviv “the gay capital of the Middle East in 2007).

38. God’s Chosen People

Romans 2:28-29 For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.

Romans 9:6 Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel:

1 Peter 1:2, 4 Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied . . . To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious,

Q: Are Jews God’s Chosen People?



Scriptural Position: The Jews are not God’s chosen people nor have they ever been. This is Jewish, anti-defamation league propaganda. The phrase “chosen people” is only used once in Scripture (Daniel 11:15). Yes, God chose Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, but none of them were Jews. God’s chosen people include Jews and Christians, those called to share in the kingdom blessings of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Modern Contentions: Jewish propaganda wants the world to think that Gentile, Ashkenazi Jews are God's special people; that European Polish-Ukrainian so-called "Jews" are the descendants of Abraham; that Jewish suffering is worse than the suffering of other men; that the "Jews" are victims of "anti-Semitism;" that the whole world must forget Christian history and remember fabricated Jewish history: that America was founded on Judeo-Christian ethic is all hoopla germane to Jewish propaganda. America was founded on the Puritan ethic, period!

This false American belief impacts politics and policy . . . so much so, the United States gives 40-50 billion dollars a year to Jewish causes out of the taxpayer's pocket. Moreover, this false belief causes the ignorant Americans to support Jewish genocide against Palestinians; that is, the murder of innocent people.

Admonition: Wake up. Realize you have been lied to all of your life and that your pastor has been lied to also.

Expose Jewish propaganda in the media, universities, and in Jewish published text books. Russian, Jewish communists killed 10 times more Christians than Hitler killed Jews.

Know that most of the suffering in the modern world with its wars and death panels has its roots in Judaism-Zionism. Remember, Bolshevism was a Jewish Movement. Hitler hated Jews not because they were "Jewish," but because they were communists seeking to subvert Germany to Bolshevism. Even then, there was no "ultimate solution." This is 90% fake news and propaganda. Jews suffered at the end of WWII not because they were Jewish, but because of the breakdown of the infrastructure caused by allied bombings. No, six million Jews did not die in concentration camps . . . but over 18 million Germans died in the war.

39. The Alleged Holocaust

Psalm 120:2 Deliver my soul, O LORD, from lying lips, *and* from a deceitful tongue.

Titus 1:14 Not giving heed to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, that turn from the truth.

Q: What about the Holocaust?



Scriptural Position: Jesus taught us that the world will hate true disciples (John 15:18). It was Jews that crucified Christ; Jews that

persecuted the early Christians; and, modern day Ashkenazi Jews who have done everything in their power to subjugate Christianity to Judaism in our time. They even called their annihilation program in Gaza “the gospel.” This so-called “Israel” is not the solution to man’s political problems, but the source of political suffering.

Modern Contention: Jews control America. They write our text books, and have the audacity to tell us that America was built on the Judeo-Christian ethic; that is, they shifted the American mind away from their Puritan roots and focuses the nation on alleged Jewish history and their suffering. They lie about the supposed Holocaust to focus the world on their suffering to the neglect of Christian persecution. For example we hear much about “Jewish” concentration camps, but we never hear about how the Jews built the Russian Gulags or about how Stalin brutally murdered around 20-40 million Russian Christians.

Admonition: Because the Jews play the victim and never admit to being the predator, true men must expose the undue influence the Jews have upon American news, banking, and publishing companies. Discern the real war . . . the war against Christ and His cross and expose it.

40. Pornography

1 Corinthians 6:18-20 - Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

1 John 2:16 - For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world.

Q: How should Christians view pornography?



Scriptural Position: The Bible condemns the act of adultery and all the steps leading to the act (Matthew 5:28). Scriptures urges Christian men to seek sanctification of the spirit, soul, and body – to think on things that are good and wholesome. Viewing porn is a sin of the mind – an act that stunts spiritual grow and derails the man from the path of love (1 Thessalonians 4:23, 24; Philippians 4:8).

Modern Contentions: Porn is big business, and the government receives taxes from this industry. Thus, government has been derelict in enforcing obscenity laws for filthy lucre to the injury of America.

Most conservative Christians view pornography as fleshly enticement from Satan.

Dennis Prager of PU does not believe watching pornography is a sin. Rather, he takes a Jewish approach condemning only the act of adultery as evil (May 15, 2023, Trunews (Rick Wiles)).

Admonition: Sex is good, but it is not a spectator sport. Moreover, Hollywood sex scenes are presented as a safe, honorable, holy sacrament – delicious propaganda to enslave men – to control them and to make them servants of lust. Life is more than sex. Porn is for losers – a Zionist plot to destroy Christians and obtain money. Don't allow it to happen to you and your loved ones.

41. God and Government

Text: [Genesis 9-11](#) and [1 Samuel 8:10-22](#)

Q: What is the place of government in the lives of Christians?



Scriptural Position: God established three institutions for the good of men: the family, government, and the church. God gave His law, not to save men, but to produce an orderly society. He ordained government to punish criminal acts (Genesis 9).

The State, however, is portrayed in Scripture as an institution in rebellion against the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Psalm 2). The Scriptures encourage limited veneration to government and rewards righteous resistance to tyranny (Exodus 1, Daniel 3). Israel lost their land and was deported to Babylon, not because they disobeyed their kings, but because obeyed their progressive kings and refused to resist lawlessness (2 Kings 17).

Modern Contentions: Due to a flawed interpretation / application of Romans 13, the majority of pastors teach maximum submission to the State. Few call the State surrender to the laws of the Lord Jesus Christ, King of kings, and Lord of lords?

The Bible does not support anarchy, but it does support righteous resistance to tyrants (Genesis 12, Exodus 1, Daniel 3, Acts 5). When the State rebels against His law, resistance becomes duty (Declaration of Independence).

Admonition: Confront those who misinterpret Romans 13. This passage does not control the Bible. Rather, it must surrender to the authority of the whole of Scripture. And, the whole of Scripture does not support the total subjection of total man to total government. Know when to comply and when to resist.

Christians have no duty to support a regime financially in rebellion against the Lord – regimes that support murder, fraud, theft, Sodomy, and DEI feminism.

42. Dispensationalism

2 Timothy 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Q: What is dispensationalism?



Scriptural Position: One who rightly divides the word of truth will make a distinction between the Old Testament and the New Testament. But, not to the extent of producing two gospels, two kingdoms, two peoples of God, and building a wall between the Old Testament and New Testament.

Modern Contentions: Dispensationalism is credited to C.I. Scofield who did much to uphold the authority of Scripture during the liberal war against fundamentalism (1900-1920). The good news is that Dispensationalists love the Word of God and have corrected many of the early errors associated with the movement. But, classical dispensationalism continues to rule the minds of adherents causing them to embrace eschatological fantasies, Jewish myths, modern Zionism, antinomianism, and genocide in the Middle East.

Admonition: Dispensationalism is a pastor's problem and must be studied and critiqued with scholarly integrity. Embrace its strengths, and shun its weaknesses . . . if you can perceive them. Shun antinomianism and begin to question dispensationalism's millennial, eschatological theories. The Scripture does not contradict itself. Moreover, some dispensationalists must be confronted for their unlimited support of Israel's genocide against Palestinians. War prevails because modern Evangelicals give unconditional support to the maniacal wars of this rebel nation.

43. Zionism

Matthew 3:7-9 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance: And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our

father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham



Scriptural Position: The Bible does not address Zionism directly because Zionism is a modern invention (1880). In the first century and following God acted to save Jews and Gentiles -- to bring them into the kingdom – a kingdom that is not tied into geography or race. But, in modern times, Zionism is a racist philosophy that depicts Jews as more righteous than other men; as victims of hatred; and, as morally superior to all men.

Modern Contentions: Zionism was a movement for the re-establishment of the Jewish nation that has warped into a vision for Jewish supremacy over every industrialized nation on earth.

For many American Christians, it will always be fake Israel First . . . Evangelical Christians are pushing the world into Armageddon says Infowars – August 2, 2024).

Zionism is a doctrine from Satan and those who stand with fake Israel and its genocide of Palestinians are antichrists.

Oxford Academics offer this mild, politically correct criticism about modern Zionism:

“There are four principal charges *against Zionism*: **First**, that evangelical Christians support aliyah (Jewish emigration to Israel) mainly because it speeds the battle of Armageddon, the mass conversion or death of the Jews, and Christ’s Millennial kingdom. **Second**, that evangelicals’ true motive is to convert the Jews (hummm?). **Third**, Christian Zionist theology distorts Christianity; it misunderstands biblical covenants and ignores the scriptural emphasis on doing justice, relieving suffering, and showing compassion to the oppressed, who, in this view, are the Palestinians. **Fourth**: the evangelical Zionists’ biblical worldview allies them with extreme right-wing Israeli politicians in opposing any exchange of land for peace.” (Source: <https://academic.oup.com/book/7112/> . . .) (parenthesis mine)

Admonition: Just because Chinese Muslims call themselves Muslims does not give them the right to conquer Mecca and claim the Masjid al-Haram belongs to them. Likewise, just because Europeans from Ukraine call themselves Jews does not give them authority to conquer Palestine, call themselves “Israel,” label the Palestinians “Canaanites,” and to recklessly and viciously slaughter them as if they were bugs.

Stand up for those who can't defend themselves and pull the mask off of those who are calling themselves Jews.

44. Restoring Church Ordinances

Matthew 28:19-20; Matthew 26:17-30 1 Corinthians 11

1 Corinthians 11:2 Now I praise you, brethren, that ye remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances (paradosis), as I delivered *them* to you.

Q: What are the ordinances of the church?



Scriptural Position: There are three ordinances (paradosis) of the church promoted by the apostle Paul: baptism, headcoverings, and the Lord's Supper. 1 Corinthians 11 addresses three subjects: headship, headcoverings, and head remembering. Three symbols are found in this chapter: headcoverings, the bread, and the wine.

The practice of men removing their headwear and women veiling themselves reminds the church of God's law-order; the bread and wine remind us of Christ's passion and his accomplishments of redemption.

Modern Contentions: Since the feminist revolution, the American church has abandoned the ordinance of headcovering. Men and boys can be seen wearing baseball caps and cowboy hats in church. You would be hard pressed to find a woman who acknowledges God's law order; and communion is celebrated 3 or 4 times a year. Can you say apostasy?

Admonition: Many of our nation's cultural problems are due to the church's neglect of God's ordinances. Do all you can to restore these ordinances in the *pragma* of the church.

45. Headship of Christ

Jeremiah 10:7 Who should not fear you, King of the nations?

1 Corinthians 11:3 But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.

Ephesians 1:22-23 And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

Acts 17:6-7 These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also; Whom Jason hath received: and these all do contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, one Jesus.

Q: Is Christ the head of a 501 c 3 religious organization?



Scriptural Position: Christ is Head of the church; the head of every man, and the King of the nations. The gospel that turned the world upside down was not that Christians ought to obey government; but, that Jesus is King and kings; that men need to surrender to His authority.

Modern Contentions: People give lip service to the authority of Christ, but in practice denies His supreme status. Every time a church becomes a 501 c 3 religious organization they unwittingly replace Christ as head of the church with the IRS. Duped by British BAR attorneys, they commit apostasy. When government is the ultimate authority in the minds of men you cannot expect them not to commit treason to Christ.

Admonition: That Christ is Head of the Church is not disputed. The issue is whether Christians will live consistent with this Biblical truth. When government is god in the minds of Christians, you cannot expect them to proclaim His kingship. Honor His headship or risk being pruned from the vine (John 15).

46. Baptism: Immersion or Sprinkling

Acts 2:41 41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

Q: How should one be baptism?



Scriptural Position: Baptism is a church ordinance that represents one's identification with Christ. The New Testament promotes water baptism as a sign that one is identified with Christ and come under the blessings of His redemptive work on their behalf.

Modern Contentions: Over the centuries, the church became divided over water baptism and paedobaptism; over sprinkling and immersion.

Baptism is a symbol of identification of Christ. If the heart is right does it really matter whether a person is "dunked" or "sprinkled?" Somewhere in this process, pragmatism must be considered.

Admonition: There is no doubt NT Christians baptized new converts. But, it seems like pouring water on a convert's head or sprinkling with water is sufficient to fulfill the Dominion Mandate (Matthew 28:19-20). We have to be practical about these things. As to whether God accepts paedobaptism is a matter of study (See R.C. Sproul's position).

One time I went to a dispensational church that believed in water baptism, but they had a huge, uninstalled baptismal tank sitting in the sanctuary. I asked why. One of the elders told me the city wouldn't let them install the baptismal without handicap access Which would cost an additional \$400 thousand dollars. My first thought was to tell the "govement" to get out of the church, sell the baptismal, and initiate the practice of sprinkling. I went back to the church five years later and the baptismal tank was still sitting in the sanctuary.

47. View of Communion

Luke 22:19 19 And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.

Q: What is the Biblical position on the meaning of communion?



Scriptural Position: The Lord instituted the Lord's Supper as a remembrance service saying, "This is my body . . . blood" which is given/ shed for you: "do in remembrance of me."

Modern Contentions: Historically, Christians have been divided into three camps: (1) that the elements are merely symbols of our Lord's passion (Symbolic position held by Baptists and Presbyterians); (2) that the bread and wine are magically turned into the actual body and blood of Jesus (Transubstantiation - Romans Catholic Position); (3) the bread and wine contain the mystical presence of Christ (Consubstantiation or Lutheran Position).

Breaking of Bread was a regular practice of the early church (Acts 2:42; 20:7; 1 Corinthians 11).

The cultic Judaistic-Messianic Movement seeks to replace church communion services with a one-a-year Passover Service – a going back into Judaism.

In some circles, communion has been pushed aside and practiced reluctantly once or twice a year.

The intrinsic value of communion is not a blessing that comes from eating the bread and drinking the wine, but the grace that comes with remembering our Lord's passion and the price he paid to redeem souls.

Admonition: Communion (Eucharist or Breaking of Bread) is important, but not all important. The Apostle John doesn't even mention the service except in the cleansing lesson at the Last Supper (John 13). Nevertheless, remembrance of the cross and our Lord passion may be the most important "sacrament" of the church. Men are made better and churches are made holy by taking the bread and wine once a week. Get communion off the back burner and practice it on the "First-day Sabbath" in order to prevent apostasy and to impart grace to communicants.

48. Theotokos

Luke 1:43 *And whence is this to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?*

Luke 1:47 *"And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior."*

Q: Is Mary the Mother of God, the Theotokos?



Scriptural Position: True men in all generations hold Mary in high esteem. She was truly the blessed virgin, the honorable mother of our Lord Jesus Christ. Her humility, purity, and modesty is a model for all women. But, the Scripture goes no further. There is no doctrine regarding Mary or veneration of her in the New Testament or the early church. This was a late development that ended up in Mariolatry.

Modern Contentions: The Greek Orthodox Church holds Mary to be the Theotokos, the Mother of God, not of Jesus' Divinity, but of His Humanity. Protestants are nonplussed by the term "Theotokos" because God has no mother. However, no one should severely object to the use of the term as the Greeks define it. She is the human mother of our Lord Jesus Christ, the God-man.

The Greeks do not believe Mary was divine, but they do hold to the extreme view that she was sinless – something Western Christians cannot accept. The Greeks do not worship Mary, but they do pray to her for grace – a doctrinal oxymoron to the West. The Greek / Russian church believes Mary was a perpetual virgin, but the Protestants do not. She is not a Savior, but some Eastern Christians believe that salvation will come to the one who says "Hail, Mary" at least 200 times.

What saith the Scripture?

In contrast to the high esteem of Mary by the Eastern Church in the salvation plan of God is the Baptist's low lack of respect for her. Many Catholic women long to be like Mary in her devotion to God. However, have you ever met a Baptist girl who says, "When I grow up, I want to be like Mary?" Why not?

Admonition: No one should worship Mary, but Christians in the West would do well to honor her as the virgin Mother of our Lord and to hold her up as a model of submission to God, of humility, and reverence for the LORD.

49. Separation from the State

2 kings:17:7-8, 15 For so it was, that the children of Israel had sinned against the LORD their God, which had brought them up out of the land of Egypt, from under the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and had feared other gods, And walked in the statutes of the heathen, whom the LORD cast out from before the children of Israel, and of the kings of Israel, which they had made . . . BS they rejected his statutes . . . and they followed vanity,

Psalm 118:8-9 It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man. It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in princes.

2 Corinthians 6:17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, smith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,

Q: Does God want us to mix religion with politics?



Scriptural Position: The nations are in rebellion against the LORD and His statutes (Psalm 2:1-2). The Scripture calls Christians to obey the LORD God and His laws, and any obedience rendered to the State must be limited and cautious. While Christians may exercise compliance to a legitimate government, they are called to resist tyranny. Compliance to rebel authority is a weakness among good men. If Jesus is Lord, it is not possible or desirable for men to always obey the State. Moreover, great preachers call civil rulers to obey God. When rebellion becomes policy, resistance becomes duty. Think of the Hebrew mid-wives who disobeyed Pharaoh.

Modern Contentions: Perverting the intention of Romans 13, many pastors call Christians to exercise total compliance to total government. Others teach that believers should resist the State when the State orders them to do something immoral . . . something they almost never do. Mature men teach the State is corrupt and that resistance to tyranny is service to God.

Admonition: Resist tyranny. Modern totalitarian governments are lusty and abusive of the people even taxing them into poverty. Pretending to be democracies, they are engaged in total war against the people imposing taxes without a law to do so, depriving the people of the benefits of a trial, declaring themselves vested with power to legislate for men on all matters of life, transporting money and weapons to complete the works of death, desolation, and tyranny, inciting insurrection among us, and erecting a multitude of New Offices, and sending hither swarms of Officers to harass our people, and eat out our substance . . . ” And, all of this is done in the name of “national security” in order to save us from global warming.

50. Christian Counseling

2 Corinthians 3:16-17 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

Romans 15:14 And I myself also am persuaded of you, my brethren, that ye also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another.

Q: What is Christian Counseling?



Scriptural Position: Mature men, relying on the Word of God, are competent to admonish, counsel, correct, and exhort the people of God. But, eastern mysticism in the form of pop psychology has no place in “Christian” counseling. Discipleship involves helping others to learn God’s law, taking up the cross, denying self, and following Christ.

Modern Contentions: Modern men do not believe in the sufficiency of Scripture. Counselors believe they must receive training from the psychology department from secular schools . . . that people are victims . . . that pop-psychology principles are necessary to heal the wounded inner child of each man – a faux in the minds of secularists.

Admonition: Resist the psychologization of the church. Believe in the sufficiency of Scripture, and demand that all staff members involved in “counseling” are competent in Biblical knowledge – which is seldom the case. Lead people to explore Christ and not the deep caverns of the inner man. Only by seeing Christ accurately can men change for the better (2 Corinthians 3:17-18).

51. Psychology

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Colossians 2:8 See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.

Q: Where does psychology fit into Christian counseling?



Scriptural Position: The Scripture is sufficient to correct and to build better men. The Spirit exhorts men to discover the Word of God, to obey it, and to reject the world's newest fads and fancies.

People need to be saved from their sins and the sins of others trying to snare them. Moreover, the church needs to be saved from the cult of psychology.

Modern Contentions: Most so-called "Christian counselors" are not Bible men, but men studied in the Hindu arts under the name of psychology. Using the cute phrase "all truth is God's truth," they integrate pop-psychology into "Christian" counseling programs. Asking, "how do you feel about that?" These so-called "counselors" fondle the human soul to discover blame points for personal problems. Other counselors trained in the Scriptures lead people out of self into Christ and into a life of love.

Admonition: People are not victims; they are predators (sinners). Men do not become better by looking inside the tainted portions of their lives, but by looking outside themselves at Christ and the cross. They cannot save themselves from their sins by looking inside and exploring their "inner wounded child." They must learn God's Word, God's law, and God's mercies in order to escape the orbit of self. Help people to obey the first command in the Book of Romans (Romans 6:11) after they understand what the Lord has done for them.

52. Nature of the Believer

Romans 8:9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

Q: Does a believer have two natures?



Scriptural Position: A believer does **not** have two natures. When a man receives Christ, he is born again as a new creature. His body is does not change, but his inner man is alive to God (Romans 6:11). Paul calls the Romans believers “saints” and not sinners (Romans

1:7).

It is important to define things correctly. Christians do not have two natures. They are identified with Christ (Romans 6) and have one nature – a nature that is dead to sin and alive to God. The tension a Christian experiences between sin and righteousness is **not** between two natures, **but** between the regenerated soul and the unregenerated body and all its components.

Modern Positions: Modern preachers love to tell men they are rotten sinners. But, have you ever heard a sermon that Christians are “saints.” Many teach that Christians have two natures: a good side and a bad side; a spiritual nature and a carnal nature; that they are a Dr. Jekyll and a Dr. Hyde; that they have a black dog and a white dog living inside the man. What? Doesn’t this make Christians spiritual schizophrenics?

Admonition: Remember the first command in the Book of Romans (6:11). Define terms correctly. There is no such thing as a “carnal” Christian. He may think carnally, but thinking and being are two different matter. The two natures theology and its misinterpretation of Romans 6-8 hinders spiritual growth, produces spiritual schizoids, and frustrates Christian victory. Define terms correctly in context and avoid Baconian approaches to this subject whereby ministers catalogue verses together to prove a point. Exegete each verse in its context.

53. AI v. Humanity

Psalm 8:4 What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?

Q: Wouldn’t society be better if we could merge AI (artificial intelligence) with the human brain?



Scriptural Position: God created men in His own image as moral, sentient beings, but sinful men want to turn men into slaves, robots, and chattel. When God created mankind He said, “It is good.” Only God has the right to define good. When people define good, we end up with a bionic, AI man.

Modern Contentions: Cultural warriors believe that something is wrong with men . . . that men suffer from a lack of knowledge . . . that society will be better if we merge AI with the human brain. Think of how much better our nation could be if we had “super humans.”

The emergence of the computer and cell phones puts pressure on men to be 100 percent accurate; to act like a computer chip; and to not think and only comply with every demand modern society places on men. Companies no longer treat people as people. Rather, corporations (artificial entities) are demanding mainframe perfection from ordinary folk and then abusing them verbally, commercially, or legally when they commit human error. There is no forgiveness in this system, only punishment. Be one day late on your utility bill and you be charged a 40 dollar late fee.

Admonition: We must return a Biblical understanding on what it means to be a man. AI is limited and is only as good as its programming by sinful programmers. That men should behave like computers is denied. Modern man needs to investigate what it means to be human and never apologize for it.

“To err is human to forgive is divine.”

54. Charisma (Gifts for Today)

John 14:25–26 “These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you

1 Corinthians 13:10 But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.

Q: Are the gifts active in the first century present today?



Scriptural Position: The Spirit came on the Day of Pentecost and gave gifts to men. The sign gifts were given (as) credentials of an apostle; and (2) in order to expedite the gospel to the world in the first century. Once the Word of God was complete (“perfect”), these sign gifts faded away (1 Corinthians 13:10-11).

Modern Contentions: Some believe the dramatic gifts like tongues, healing, and prophecy are presently active in the Christian community; others believe the sign gifts ceased sometime during the first century. Researchers like Dr. Kidahl offer powerful evidence that modern claims to possess the gifts are a fraud and that people involved in these trends decline in mental maturity.

Admonition: Men love the power cults, subjective experiences, and possessing unique religious gifts. Beware of counterfeit Christianity. Exercise faith and faithfulness. Don't let yourself be swept away by those claiming to have special powers. Grow in Christ for all spiritual growth reflects his love and holiness.

55. Second Blessing

Acts 1:4-8 And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

Q: Is there more to Christianity than the hard road I am experiencing?



Scriptural Position: Jesus is no longer with us. He is ascended into heaven and is sitting at the right hand of the Father. There He works as our Savior, Justifier, and Sanctifier. He promised to send his Spirit – the Spirit that testifies of Christ (John 15:26). Each believer receives the Spirit and is regenerated when they examine the cross and place their faith in Christ. At this moment, they begin their Christian life – a life of learning about the Savior. Christ gives them the Helper (the Spirit) who conforms them to the image of the Son.

It is called sanctification – the process of weaning us from sin and growing in Christ-like character. This process is also-called "child training" or "chastisement" (Hebrews 12). This chastisement is hard, but necessary. Charismatic emphasize instant spirituality, but there is no such thing.

Modern Contentions: Charismatic preachers promise instant spirituality that by-passes the path of hard knocks. Many people are looking for a fast track to spirituality, and they find this hope in the Charismatic / Pentecostal / 3rd Wave Movements. The more one pursues the promises of instant spirituality, the more carnal they become. Seeking existential experiences with the Spirit are paths into a pit of sensuality.

Admonition: The so-called "Second Blessing" is nowhere to be found in Scripture. There are many "fillings" of the Holy Spirit, but only one baptism. Though you may be struggling with temptation, if someone starts talking about the Second Blessing, run! It's a trap that takes you away from the cross into wretched subjectivism. There is no short cut to spirituality.

56. Tongues for Personal Edification

Acts 2:1-3 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

Acts 2:4-6 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. 5 And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven. Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.

Q: Is there a gift of tongues today?



Scriptural Position: The word “tongue” (glossa) simply means “language.” From the word “language” in Acts 2:6 we get the word “dialect.” Tongues, the ability to speak the gospel in a foreign language, was a gift given on the Day of Pentecost in order to expedite the gospel to the Mediterranean world. Tongues is not a personal “prayer closet” exercise, but the ability to speak a known language without having to study it. As the church matured the gift of tongues faded away.

Modern Position: Biblically mature people reject the modern day emphasis on tongues as an existential experience. The Tongues Movement is part of a counterfeit Christianity. Charlatans use Bible verses on tongues to “pull the wool” over the eyes of gullible people in order to control them, to conquer them, and to set themselves up as a super-spiritual person.

Spiritually stable people do not succumb to this fraud.

Admonition: Keep your head down in the Book, avoid this “Catholic cult,” take up your cross and follow Christ. Seek holiness. Work on loving your family and friends as a servant of the Lord.

57. Dreams and Visions

Joel 2:28 And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:

Acts 2:16-17 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

Q: Does God speak to men in dreams and visions?



Scriptural Position: The Old Testament anticipated a day when God would judge the world and His kingdom would appear and bring salvation to men. The book of Joel warned of a judicial locust plague and predicted a day when the Spirit would come upon all men without sex, class, or age discriminations.

On the Day of Pentecost, the Spirit descended in a dynamic, cataclysmic way. Peter stood up and declared Joel's prophecy was being fulfilled in his day. What shocked everyone was not the Spirit's coming but that Joel's prophecy was fulfilled, not at the end of history, but in the middle of history.

Modern Contentions: Rick Wiles and other Charismatic preachers claim that God speaks to them in dreams and visions. It is not uncommon to hear these snared people say, "God told me . . ." Rick Wiles informed His audience on July 5, 2024 that if you are not having dreams and visions, something is wrong with you. How about that for a guilt trip?

John Mac Arthur gets it correct. True Christianity does not involve dreams and visions, but taking up the cross and following Christ. The man obsessed with the Spirit is not a Spirit-filled Christian because he denies the ministry of the Spirit which is to exalt Christ. "When the Person sought is the Holy Spirit, His work has been rejected."

There is no mention of dreams after Acts 2:17. Only Paul and John discuss visions. There is no command or encouragement to seek dreams and visions in the New Testament. These "dreams" and "visions" were limited to the Apostles, the writers of the New Testament.

Once the Canon was closed, there was for God to speak to men in these forms. All we need to know about Christ and His will can be found in the Word of God. We walk by faith, not by sight; by Scripture and not by dreams; by knowledge of His Word and not by personal visions; by obedience to His law and not by personal ecstatic experiences. Scripture is supreme, not our experiences. Yes, God leads His people, but He does not speak directly to them as He did with the apostles and prophets.

Admonition: Avoid pseudo spirituality and its bogus assertions. Those who claim to see visions while declaring that God speaks to them personally are involved in spurious Christianity where "Christ is obscured, Scripture depreciated, and a pre-occupation of counterfeit experiences imagined to be

induced by the Holy Spirit but having nothing to do with Him at all" (John MacArthur).

58. Modern Day Prophecy

2 Peter 2:1-2 But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.

Q: Is there such a thing as prophets in the church?



Scriptural Position: There are true Biblical prophets who spoke the Word of God – who had the authority to say, “Thus saith the Lord” “But, they do not exist today! The Canon is closed. New Testament authors warn us that false prophets will appear in history. Call them “seers,” “soothsayers,” “prognosticators,” or “futurists” they are all false prophets distracting men from the gospel and the vital message of the true gospel.

Modern Contentions: It is difficult to read current events without running into an article written by a man or woman claiming to have a word from God about current events. These superstars in the Charismatic / Pentecostal church seem to have a Facebook connection with God. They mesmerize the people and lead them into the world of fantasy and fiction. They are not about truth but about power, personal promotion, and exploitation of the naïve and undiscerning.

Admonition: That there are modern prophets is a ruse – a product of counterfeit Charismatic Christianity. Study the Word. Be a cross-carrying disciple who is Christ-centered and doctrinally sound. Do not allow yourself to be distracted from Christ and His gospel.

59. Church Discipline

1 Corinthians 5:6 Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump?

1 Corinthians 5:10 . . . Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person.

Galatians 1:8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.

2 Thessalonians 3:13-14 But ye, brethren, be not weary in well doing. And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed.

Q: Is there such a thing as church discipline, and if so, why isn't it practiced more?



Scriptural Position: Christ calls his people to a life of holiness and empowers the willing to do His will. The New Testament exhorts churches to exercise discipline on those calling themselves “believers” who are involved in unacceptable behavior: “if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioners; with such an one no not to eat.”

Church discipline is limited to rebuke and excommunication against severe, habitual sins. Peccadillos and exercises of personal freedoms are not subject to the discipline of the church.

Modern Contentions: The modern permissive “donut church,” eager to attract visitors, refuses to use church authority to discipline errant members. In these communities, love is interpreted as tolerance of evil; and discipling a miscreant appears harsh and cruel. Biblical churches follow Paul’s admonition in 1 Corinthians 5 and his example in Galatians 2.

Admonition: Holiness is not contagious but compromise is – “a little leaven leavens the whole lump.” Practice discipline or perish. Further, Christian families who love and discipline their children must be alert. Because we live in an ultra-permissive, over-indulgent society, cultic psychologists may accuse parents who discipline their children of engaging in hate crimes or child abuse. Don’t stop disciplining your children, just do it fairly and discreetly.

“When the Lord’s white sheep become dirty gray, the black sheep feel more comfortable” (Vance Havner).

60. The Millennium

Revelation 20:1-2 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,



Scriptural Position: From Revelation 20 theologians have rightly speculated about the meaning of the term “thousand years” (a millennium). An apocalyptic book using images as the medium to communicate truth, John informs the believers that Satan is limited in the Christian era; that the gospel will succeed in a limited way during the Christian age. The church will prevail. Thus, the millennium is the Christian age. After the Christian age, Satan will be unleashed to deceive the nations again. Then comes the end. Is this time quote used literally or figuratively? In a Book full of apocalyptic imagery, interpreting the thousand years as representing the “Christian era” makes sense.

Modern Contentions: Modern theologians are divided into three camps: Premillennialism (a literal approach); Amillennialism (a symbolic or metaphoric approach); and Postmillennialism that believes in a golden age at the end of the Christian era.

Dispensationalism teaches that the church age is an intercalation . . . a secondary plan; that at some time in the future the church will be raptured and replaced by 144,000 believing Jews who will lead the world into a 1000 year reign of Christ on earth. Reformed theology interprets the millennium figuratively as the Christian age. When Christians pray, “Thy kingdom come” they are not praying for some alleged millennium golden age but that men will recognize God’s rule and surrender to it now.

George Eldon Ladd argues well for the premillennial position; and, Anthony Hoekema presents an excellent amillennial position. Postmillennialists work hard to establish God’s law-order in this present evil age.

Admonition: Do all you can to interpret Revelation 20 correctly and to not be trapped by pseudo eschatological, end-time schemes circulating in Christian circles. Men perform according to their theology. Do all you can to interpret Scripture accurately and with integrity!

61. Views of Hell

Matthew 5:29 29 And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell.

Matthew 10:28 And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

Q: Is there literally such a thing as hell?



Scriptural Position: The word “hell” is used 23 times. Hell appears to be a real place of eternal torment and the destination of unbelievers. Life is serious! Reject Christ and one dies in their sins. Hell is a judicial sentence delivered at the “Last Judgment.”

Modern Contentions: Conservative Christians believe in a literal, tangible hell . . . of conscious, everlasting torment. If there is no hell or eternal punishment for sins, why then did God send His Son to die on the cross?

The secular mind does not believe in hell because it does not believe in Christ or the Holy Scriptures. Many thoughtful, sentient Christians can’t conceive of something so horrible as an eternal hell. Consequently, these people view hell as eternal non-existence or annihilationism. I hope they are correct . . . but internal evidence seems to support the traditional view of a final judgment with Christ-rejecters facing the Lake of Fire.

Admonition: Whether or not there is an eternal hell is a question raised by skeptics. Since Jesus never lied and every word he spoke had meaning, one would do well to think hard and long on this subject.

“Who has warned you to flee from the wrath to come” – John the Baptist.

62. Self-defense and Gun Rights

Luke 11:21 “When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own house, his possessions are safe.

Acts 12:4 After arresting him, he put him in prison, handing him over to be guarded by four squads of four soldiers each. Herod intended to bring him out for public trial after the Passover

Psalms 149:6 Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a two-edged sword in their hand



Q: Isn’t killing wrong?

Scriptural Position: The world is full of sinners and madmen governed only by their passions and fear of punishment. The law, “Thou shall not kill” includes the right of self-defense from those who love death. When Jesus ordered his disciples to go buy a sword (Luke 22:36), he was instructing them that their three year journey with them was coming to an end, and that these men would re-enter the world where they would have to protect themselves from evil men including those who wished them dead.

The greatest threat to the disciples was democide – death by government. Eventually, all died by an order of some official.

Both the saving of life and the taking of life is a duty of men.

Good men do not kill their fellow man unless they are in a civil police force that requires them to do so for justice sake.

Not only should good men not kill or steal, they should not be killed or stolen from! That is, the Scripture fully supports self-defense and the use of lethal force. Both the saving of life and the taking of life is a duty of men. Just as important as being armed with a 9 mm Glock, men must arm themselves with knowledge of law . . . of the rights of men . . . in order to protect themselves from officers working for a corrupt state.

Furthermore, in modern times it may be more important to be armed with a camera to protect yourself from over-zealous prosecutors.

The Founding Fathers believed in self-defense and codified the right to bear arms in the Second and Ninth Amendment. Moreover, the right is a God-given right and not a civil privilege. The greatest threat to liberty is the government and for this reason the Fathers insisted on an armed citizenry.

Modern Contentions: Some people live in La La Land near Lake Utopia believing that all governments are good; that self-defense is unnecessary; and that the police will protect them from dangers large and small; that is, these people don't own guns and condemn those who do.

Simpletons errantly believe that “turning the other cheek” means to let men abuse you. When Jesus said, “Turn the other cheek,” he was not giving a discourse on crime and self-defense, but market place ethics.

Free men believe it is their right, even their duty, to protect themselves and their loved ones. Because these people can't carry a policeman in their back pocket, they own guns and have them locked and loaded. Moreover, powerful Christians arm themselves with knowledge of the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of rights knowing that they will have to defend their God-given rights before a tyrannical regime.

Admonition: Come to grips with the sinfulness of man and the tyrannical nature of the state that believes in the total subjection of the total man to total government. Know the law. Keep them in their cage. Be armed legally and grow in competence to defend yourself physically.

Due to the amount of maniacs ambushing churches and slaughtering people with a spray of bullets, every American pastor would do well to see that he and his deacon team are trained and armed; that the church have some practical

means of defending the flock should a nut-case come in and start shootin' up the place.

63. Abortion

Exodus 20:13 13 Thou shalt not kill.

Psalm 37: 28 For the LORD loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints; they are preserved for ever: but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off.

1 Samuel 15:3 Now go and strike Amalek and devote to destruction all that they have. Do not spare them, but kill both man and woman, child and infant, ox and sheep, camel and donkey.'

Q: Is abortion always wrong?



Scriptural Position: Infanticide and murder in any form is an abomination and ought to be resisted. However, God uses abortion by the wicked to destroy the seed of the wicked: fornicators, adulterers, and rapists (Psalm 37:28).

Modern Contentions: Christian are generally opposed to abortion and rightfully so. Mature Christians oppose legalized murder.

Fornicating feminist believe that abortion is a right. But, it is not. It is a wrong. While women have rights over their own body, they do not have rights over a baby's body.

No woman or man has a right to kill a baby . . . (the only exception might be in the case of rape. Why would Christians demand an innocent woman bare the child a man she hates?)

Rights come from God and God does not give women the right to kill baby boys or girls. They are not gods. But, the LORD uses the government's tolerance of abortion to cut off the seed of the wicked. We don't need more loose, seductive, fornicating children acting like their promiscuous mothers. In one sense, abortion is a blessing to society in that it eliminates the spread of wickedness by purging evil children from society.

Admonition: Oppose abortion and the slaughter of babies, but consider the legalism and callousness involved in forcing a woman to raise the child of her rapist. Life is sacred, but not that sacred (Leviticus 20:13). Moreover, don't get too uptight about rebellious fornicating feminist killing their babies. God uses the wicked to destroy the wicked and to prevent their proliferation on earth (Psalm 37:28).

64. Homosexuality

Leviticus 13 If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them.

Q: Why do Christians oppose a love relationship between two men or two women?



Scriptural Position: From Genesis through the New Testament God condemns Sodomy, homosexuality, and lesbianism – as acts that strike against the law of nature . . . of propriety . . . of marriage. Body parts don't fit!

Strict justice demands the death penalty (Leviticus 18) . . . and at the minimum to push it out of the public square. Queers, homos, lesbians, trannies, et al. shall not enter the kingdom of God (1 Corinthians 6:9-10).

Modern Contentions: Not much needs to be said here. The rebellious state with its permissive professors and social engineers have pushed queerness as a civil right and promoted this abomination. Liberal churches seem to think it is posh to have homosexual clergy and drag queens come to church.

Conservatives thoroughly reject these as immoral and Godless.

Admonition: Use this issue as an excuse to preach the gospel, to point out sinfulness of sin, and the supremacy of God's law. Stand up! Speak up. Don't be silent. Silence is agreement."

"In the End, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends" – Martin Luther King

65. Inclusivity

Matthew 10:34 Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword.

John 7:7 The world cannot hate you; but me it hateth, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil.

2 Corinthians 6:17-18 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

Q: Shouldn't we seek world peace through a policy of inclusion.



Scriptural Position: Jesus did not come to make friends with the world and to bring peace to rebels. He did not come to change the world, He came to redeem men. He spoke against the sins of men and in so doing exposed their corruption. Likewise, the Scripture does not command us to love the world but to speak against the sins of men and to separate from their lifestyles. There can be no peace between Christians and murders; Christians and rapists; Christians and adulterers. Peace can only be found at the cross.

Modern Contentions:“ Followers of Christ live a life separate from the world and the world hates them for it (John 7:7) But, there is a push in modern times for people of different races, genders, and religious beliefs to come together, hold hands, smile, and sing “kumbaya.”

On August 1, 2024, I read this headline, “Pope Francis Tells Pro-LGBT Conference He Will Be ‘Spiritually with All of You United in Prayer’

There is an insanity about globalist that promote inclusivity, harmony, and unity among all people whether they be straight or queer, heterosexual or homosexual, truth tellers and liars. We can live with different races, but we **cannot** live with legal or moral pluralism.

Admonition: It is impossible for sheep to have peace with wolves in sheep's clothing. Wolves want to include sheep in their dinner invitation only to have mutton for supper. Multiculturalism is not strength, but a weakness to overcome. Atheists and Christians, queers and straights will never unite!!

Therefore, comes to terms with our mission. The goal is not to get along and go along, but to live and preach in such a way that causes division between the sheep and the wolves, light and darkness, patriots and traitors. It is difficult if not impossible to have a sane mind and embrace all the nonsense in the modern world.

John 7:7 The world cannot hate you; but me it hateeth, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil.

66. Prophecy

Proverbs 12:22 Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who act faithfully are his delight.

1 Corinthians 13:8-10 Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be

knowledge, it shall vanish away. For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.

Q: Do men still have the gift of prophesy?



Scriptural Position: Prophecy refers to (1) predicting a future event, and (2) speaking the mind of God. The “that which is perfect is come” in 1 Corinthians 13:10 refers to completion of Scripture. The Canon is closed. Foretelling the future with 100 % accuracy was a gift of the prophets, but that gift came to an end when the NT was completed.

While knowing the mind of God and using the Scripture to address political or cultural issues is a gift for the church in every generation foretelling the future is not! Only God knows the future, and anyone claiming to know the future today with a “Thus saith the LORD” is a false prophet who is deceived and deceiving.

Modern Contentions: Men are obsessed with knowing the future. Soothsayers abound. The majority of news commentators can’t resist the temptation to forecast the future and make predictions . . . howbeit base on the latest trends, stats, and polls.

Mature Christians seek to know the mind of God and contend for the faith once for all delivered to the saints. **None** claim to have the power to predict the future. Good men live by faith and are content not to know the future. Indeed, they are not required to do so.

But, there is a locomotion rooted in the Charismatic Movement that believes there are male and female prophets -- diviners who stand up in gatherings to announce their latest insight into politics -- clairvoyants who think they know the mind of God, who mimic holy ones in order to impress their friends with their supposed knowledge and wisdom.

Others, among Evangelicals, use the slippery hermeneutic of “double prophesy” to make claims about events in the Middle East having a Bible in one hand and a newspaper in the other.

Admonition: Use Scripture, not emotion to address the issues of our time. Refuse to be a prognosticator or one who controls the future. Let God be God! Don’t be trapped with predictions about the Middle East. No man knows where we are in history but we are free to express our human opinion about trends – just don’t do so in the name of Christ. Expose slickster-prophets (mainly women) pretending to be seers.

2 Peter 2:1 But there were false prophets also among the people,
even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall

bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

67. DEI and Multiculturalism

1 Timothy 2:5 For *there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;*

James 4:12 There is one lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy: who art thou that judgest another?

Q: Shouldn't Christians tolerate different lifestyles, laws, and values?



Scriptural Position: There is one God and one absolute law order. No society can survive pluralism with multiple gods and multiple law orders. God's law is good for me because it is good for all men and all of man's institutions.

Modern Contentions: Conservatives exercise limited tolerance toward diversity and are death on apostasy.

Modernism (omnism) opposes the truth that Jesus is the only way to God (John 14:6)

Multiculturalism is touted as something positive. "Diversity is strength," they say. DEI (Diversity, Equality, and Inclusion) is molded into policy by communists. But, this has proved false again and again.

Strength is in purity and devotion to the truth, not pluralism. Truth must consider the pragmatics of things. The more watered down a substance becomes the less power it has. Likewise, with dogma! Tolerance is the doctrine preached until the unthinkable comes to power and then the intolerant critic demands censorship of any idea contrary to his. Silicon Valley comes to mind.

DEI is not only non-sense, it is totally impossible. We don't send women to war, we send men; we don't choose women to be firemen, we prefer men. We don't require women to compete against men in sports of any kind, because real men are 50 to 75% stronger and faster than women. Practically, Consider the backlash that took place in the 2024 Olympics over the strength disparity in women's boxing. Remember the insanity of the Secret Service sending 5'6" woman to fight or rescue a 6'3 man. DEI as a policy in the secret service courts disaster (See the Trump assassination attempt).

Admonition: Recognize pluralism, DEI, and multiculturalism for what it is, "a vain philosophy" (Colossian 2:8) – an attempt to force the leftist agenda on the

world -- a design to supplant and repress the Christian gospel. Exercise intolerance toward evil and any movement designed to overthrow God's law-order.

68. Woke v. Wise

1 John 2:15-17 15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him .For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever

Q: Is there wokeness in the church?



Scriptural Position: The Scripture contrasts wisdom with foolishness; wisdom of God v. the wisdom of this world; and Scriptural truth with idolatry. Today, it is necessary to contrast God's wisdom with wokeness – a new term that represents foolishness, permissiveness, inclusiveness, and wickedness.

Modern Contentions: Social engineers want society and the church to think that “wokeness” is something new and needed; that if you are not communistic, totalitarian, permissive, and anti-justice, then you must be promoting racism and inequality.

The Church of England was involved in some slavery affairs in the 17th-18th centuries and benefited from it.

Out of wokeness, church leaders in Britain have developed a “reparations” fund in order to avoid being called “racists.” The problem is that modern members don't own slaves and had no involvement in movements that took place 150 years ago. Thus, the woke plan to “deconstruct whiteness” and promote so-called “racial justice” has destroyed motivation to give to the church out of fear their gifts will be used to support this ridiculous woke “race action plan.” Indeed! Why isn't this money going to missionaries?

Mature Christians recognize that wokeness is the old philosophy of Sodom and Gomorrah, the Canaanites, and Bolshevism.

Admonition: Remember, the world does not change; that it constantly comes up with new terms like wokeness, affirmative action, and DEI (Diversity, equality, and inclusion) to lure the unperceptive on to the broad road that leads to hell.

The key is “what saith the Lord?” Follow Him. God wants us to be wise, not woke. Be perceptive, not inattentive. Keep your B.S. meter charged up as the

winds of revolution blow through society pushing Marxism, guilt, and permissiveness on the church with the use of neologisms.

69. Counseling v. Ministry

Colossians 2:8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

Q: What kind of counseling program should the church adopt?



Scriptural Position: None. Jesus did not come to counsel people on their emotional, marshmallow conflicts, but to minister to their essential needs. Men are sinners, not victims. Most do not need healing from devils and demons but from sins and unbelief. They do not need to look inward, but to look at the “Serpent” in the middle of the camp (John 3:14). Men are not healed by exploring their inner wounded child, but by believing the gospel and understanding what Christ has done for them at the cross. A healthy church helps each other understand what God has done for them at the cross through Christ (Romans 3-6), and not how to be “healed” (sozo) by allowing the Spirit to touch their inner traumas.

Modern Contentions: Counterfeit Christianity does not take people to the cross, but into self to identify all the alleged hurts, wounds, and conflicts within the soul. This system does not preach the gospel. Rather, it promotes humanistic healing of soul, body, and spirit through meditation, introspection, and prayer. In this movement people are victims, not predators; wounded souls, not sinners.

All modern church counseling programs believe people are victims of abuse and need inner healing. In these programs, there is no need for Christ or Scripture or the cross or death to self. Rather, the emphasis is on the Spirit and not blaming yourself for your problems. Most of these pseudo guides promote some kind of self-esteem program, and none emphasize Christ-esteem. And, it is even worse when promoters charge for their therapy programs.

Admonition: Psychology is the Trojan Horse that has entered the church. “Christians” counseling programs are its saddle and reins. Be aware of psychoheresy. Men do not change by entering into an inner-healing session, but by “beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord . . .” (2 Corinthians 3:18).

Men do not need a counseling program that probes wounds in the soul but ministry of a mature brother who understand the wounds of Christ: “But He

was wounded for our transgressions (at the cross) . . . and with his stripes (at the cross" we are healed" (Isaiah 53:6).

70. Hate Crimes

Psalm 15:1, 4 "LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? . . . In whose eyes a reprobate is despised . . ."

Proverbs 6:16-19 These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.

Romans 9:3 As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated.

Q: Isn't it true that Christians should not hate people?



Scriptural Position: In listening to the left-wing news, you get the idea that hate of any kind is a horrible crime.

Hate is an attribute of God? Hating Esau was a virtue and not a vice. Likewise, Christians are called to not only hate evil, but to hate derelicts; that is, it becomes impossible to separate the man from his acts. Further, it is not possible to be a good man and not hate evil men and what they do?

While we are called to love our enemies, we are **not** called to love the wicked.

A Christian may hate the wicked, but he does not act on that hatred. He defers all judgment to God and to the civil authorities.

Modern Contentions: Contemporary men claim to be all about love and that hate has no place in contemporary life; that love is the only virtue all men should develop. *It seems like the only thing men are allowed to hate is hate itself.*

Lady Gaga sings, "It's always wrong to hate, and never wrong to love." But, does this statement pass Biblical inspection?

How can you be a good man if you do not have evil men? Jesus hated sin so much; He died on the cross to save sinners from their sins. So pervasive has been this warped ideology that lawmakers are labeling some acts as "hate crimes." This is all nonsense. All crimes involve hate toward victims. Hate is virtue and love is a vice in a world where men commit evil acts. The Spirit of God moving through Jehu the prophet condemned Jehoshaphat for supporting and aligning himself with King Ahab, a man who sold himself to do evil more than any other king before him (1 Kings 16:30).

2 Chronicles 19:2 And Jehu the son of Hanani the seer went out to meet him, and said to king Jehoshaphat, Shouldest thou help the ungodly, and love them that hate the LORD? therefore is wrath upon thee from before the LORD.

Admonition: Believers are not only called to love, they are called to hate (Revelation 2:6).

Ecclesiastes 3:8 A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.

Get a Scriptural grasp on the character of God. He is not some adorable fluffy love ball. While He is merciful, He is also righteous. Grow in His attributes.

Addendum

Be Courageous?

Genesis 15:1 After these things the word of the LORD came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: I *am* thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward.

Joshua 1:6–9 Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them. Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go. This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.”

Revelation 21:5 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

Fear is all around us. Why shouldn't I be afraid?

We live in a fallen world and part of the sinfulness of man is to fear man, to fear criticism, to fear rejection. There is a time to flee and a time to stand and fight. The Bible honors courage and condemns fearfulness. Fear is a snare that keeps people from sharing the gospel and preaching the kingship of Christ to government officials. Cowards will not enter the kingdom of God.

The message we get from politicians, media personalities, and TV program is be afraid . . . be very afraid . . . From childhood we are taught not to rock the boat . . . don't cause waves . . . don't upset others . . . shake hands and be friends with everyone. Some go the opposite direction and plunge into obnoxiousness. But, the best among us stand for truth, speak the truth, and live the truth without rudeness and ugliness.

Some churches believe that if you cause ripples in relationships, you are the problem. Others see negative reactions are caused by weaknesses within people.

Some Christian pastors promote fear, others promote courage.

Be governed by faith and not fear. Take up your cross and follow Jesus knowing that you will create enemies. Love them with the kindness of the Lord. Speak firmly but respectfully to them; and, never yield to evil. Provide an answer to issue. Persuade others with sweet reasonableness. Be tough and tender; wise and prudent; and, never use foul language or bitter invectives in your effort to persuade others.

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2. [Should Christians Always Obey the State?, Form #13.014](#)
3. [The Crisis of Church Incorporation, Form #13.017](#)
4. [A Family Under God, Form #17.001](#)
5. [Origin of the Bible, Form #17.002](#)
6. [The Gospel of the Kingdom of God, Form #17.003](#)
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9. [Old Testament Theology, Form #17.006](#)
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