

WHEN SATAN GOES TO CHURCH

Lessons on Avoiding Satan's Yum Yum Tree



Ephesians 6:11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

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

When Satan Goes to Church

Version 2.0



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Preface

This work is not a novel for the pleasure of reading, but more of a warning to Christian soldiers about the tactics of the enemy at the Gates of Hell.

Is written for true men serving the true God preaching the true gospel in a spirit of self-denial and self-sacrifice – something many do not believe even exists.

This e-book is not Chocolate Frosted Crunchy Sugar Bombs or Honey-baked Shredded Panda Puffs to eat at breakfast devotions, but more of a survivor's guide for ministers forced to engage howling wolves in sheep's clothing stalking the fat and ignorant.

When I first entered the ministry, I was totally unprepared to deal with woke intellectual movements sweeping through the country, differences of doctrine, sheep butting, and the moral compromise of the people . . . but, after I graduated from the school of Hard Knocks, I became a wiser shepherd able to fight off the wolves eager to devour mutton for Sunday dinner.

Plowing through the Scriptures hours a day equipped me to be a better shepherd for Christ – a soldier that was mean and lean, tough and tender.

This work represents some, but not all the dog-barking, wolf-howling troubles that I had to deal with as a minister.

I trust that in these days of apostasy God will use this work to keep Christian leaders away from Satan's Yum Yum Tree and in the Word clinging to the truth.

“Send out your light and your truth; let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling!” – Psalm 143:3).



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When Satan Goes to Church

1. War In the Gates

Judges 5:8

"then was war in the gates"

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.

Σ - When Satan goes to church, the Christians can be divided.

Q: Have you ever wondered why America is so fractured? There is an answer in the Book of Judges.

Judges 5:8 They chose new gods; then was war in the gates: was there a shield or spear seen among forty thousand in Israel?

"They chose new gods" suggests the following:

--government tolerated false religions to proliferate among the people. The law called it idolatry. The government calls the strength of multiculturalism -- (Exodus 20:1ff).

-the people neglected the law and failed to defend it in the body politic.

-the people tolerated the intrusion of alien powers which only multiplied the desire of aliens to rule over Israel.

-They allowed foreigners to make and enforce statutes that deprived the people of life, liberty, and property. The enemy disarmed the people so they could not defend themselves.

-The people preferred peace with the enemy rather than the duties to wage war against plunderers.

-When the people yielded the right of self-defense and the duty to kill enemies, foreign states took the reigns of power and plundered their resources.

Religious idolatry is to religion what an "affair" is to marriage. Most importantly idolatry involves treasuring something other than the Lord and happy obedience to His law-order.

War in the gates was the judgment of God for idolatry. War is God's remedy for idolatry because war forces people to re-evaluate their values and to choose sides.

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

In Israel, walled cities had four and six chamber gates. The city gates were the chamber of commerce, the judicial system, the seat government, and the place where all business contracts were made.

War in the gates suggests serious neglect of the duty to fight for God's law-order and to punish lawbreakers by hanging and stoning.

"was there a shield or spear seen among forty thousand in Israel?" informs us the nation was disarmed. Lacking a shield means the people had no armor or legal means of protecting themselves. Lacking a spear means the people possessed no offensive weapons to launch a strike against enemies who sought to enslave them and steal their income.

War is political. Wicked people love power and money. War erupts when enemies seek to take what is not theirs by force.

God's people must be physically and legally armed to prosecute war against lawbreakers. In a sinful world, good men must be armed and ready to protect themselves from states that seek to deprive men of life, liberty, and property (See the 14th Amendment, clause two).

When the reality of war erupted during the time of Deborah and Barak, the people became defenseless and unable to defend themselves against warring neighbors that demanded taxation / tribute.

Idolatry leaves God's people without shield and spear.

-Christians are defenseless when they fail to cite chapter and verse for their faith.

-Christians are defenseless if they do not know God's law or the fundamentals of American common law.

-Christians are defenseless if they cannot articulate the faith or the principles that lead to freedom.

- Christians are defenseless if they are not educated or don't have a trade.
- Christians are defenseless when they send their kids to school to be trained by Philistines.
- Christians are defenseless if they have not written down their philosophy of self-defense.
- Christians are defenseless if they don't have money to protect them during lean times and forced lock downs by totalitarian governors.
- Christians are defenseless if they are not armed with a 9 mm Glock or AR-15.
- Christian are defenseless if they don't know how to use the Bill of Rights to prevent government overreach by agencies that act under color of law and color of authority.

New gods have risen among us. CONgress tolerates murder, abortion, homosexuality, gender-bender stupidity, riots, and an invasion of young men of military age from the south. War is in the gates. Cities burn. Looters go unpunished. Marxist are unchallenged. Government criminals run free.

California Penal Code [CPC] §459.5(a) – *Shoplifting* – Penal Code Section 459.5 makes it illegal to enter a commercial establishment with the intent to steal while the establishment is open during regular business hours. The value of the property must not exceed \$950.

Political parties are irreparably divided. Each new president signs executive orders to reverse the policies of the previous administration. Transvestites and pedophiles sit in the seat of government. Disarmament is on the lips of anti-American politicians.

There is no religious basis for unity. Devotion to diversity divided America. Many Americans worship the Lord Jesus Christ while others bow to Marxism.

- One group wants to make America great again, and another group wants to burn it to the ground.
- One circle honors the flag, and the other wants to set it on fire.

- One faction believes in the sanctity of life, and the other group wants to fund baby killers.
- One party promotes the Second Amendment, and the other wants mandatory disarmament.
- One body respects the police and the other seeks to defund them; one side wants a strong nation, the other wants America to surrender its sovereignty to a world government.
- One crowd believes in the principles of the Founding Fathers, and the other believes in the economic principles of Karl Marx, Lenin, Stalin, Barack Obama, and Solinsky.

Q: And, this division in the nation is also in the church. Why all this division?

Ans: Because American tolerated diversity and chose new gods.

But, there is a way back.

The way up is the way down -- down on our knees to repent deeply for deep sins. The power of God is available to a repentant people who acknowledge one God, one Master, one King and His law-order.

Isaiah 1:19-20 If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good things of the land; but if you resist and rebel, you will be devoured by the sword .For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

Isaiah 66:2 "But to this man will I look: even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at My word.

The true church is invincible. Though it is called to fight and wage war at the gates of hell as an offensive army, it cannot and will not be defeated. It will survive and the gospel will thrive.

Number 14:21 But as truly as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD.

Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2. If I Were the Devil

Paul Harvey

Σ - When Satan goes to church he creates darkness

"If I were the Devil . . . I mean, if I were the Prince of Darkness, I would of course, want to engulf the whole earth in darkness.

I would have a third of its real estate and four-fifths of its population, but I would not be happy until I had seized the ripest apple on the tree, so I should set about however necessary to take over the United States. I would begin with a campaign of whispers. With the wisdom of a serpent, I would whisper to you as I whispered to Eve: "Do as you please." "Do as you please." To the young, I would whisper, "The Bible is a myth." I would convince them that man created God instead of the other way around. I would confide that what is bad is good, and what is good is "square". In the ears of the young marrieds, I would whisper that work is debasing, that cocktail parties are good for you. I would caution them not to be extreme in religion, in patriotism, in moral conduct. And the old, I would teach to pray. I would teach them to say after me: "Our Father, which art in Washington" . . .

If I were the devil, I'd educate authors in how to make lurid literature exciting so that anything else would appear dull and uninteresting. I'd threaten T.V. with dirtier movies and vice versa. And then, if I were the devil, I'd get organized. I'd infiltrate unions and urge more loafing and less work, because idle hands usually work for me. I'd peddle narcotics to whom I could. I'd sell alcohol to ladies and gentlemen of distinction. And I'd tranquilize the rest with pills. If I were the devil, I would encourage schools to refine young intellects but neglect to discipline emotions . . . let those run wild. I would designate an atheist to front for me before the highest courts in the land and I would get preachers to say "she's right." With flattery and promises of power, I could get the courts to rule what I construe as against God and in favor of pornography, and thus, I would evict God from the courthouse, and then from the school house, and then from the houses of Congress and then, in His own churches I would substitute psychology for religion, and I would deify science because that way men would become smart enough to create super weapons but not wise enough to control them.

If I were Satan, I'd make the symbol of Easter an egg, and the symbol of Christmas, a bottle. If I were the devil, I would take from those who have and I would give to those who wanted, until I had killed the incentive of the ambitious. And then, my police state would force everybody back to work. Then, I could separate families, putting children in uniform, women in coal mines, and objectors in slave camps. In other words, if I were Satan, I'd just keep on doing what he's doing."

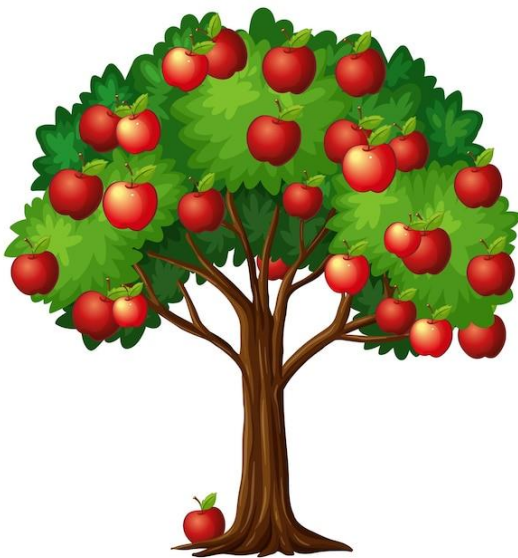
Paul Harvey, Good Day. (1965)

Read More: 'If I Were the Devil' Video by Paul Harvey 1965 | https://710keel.com/if-i-were-the-devil-video-by-paul-harvey-1965/?utm_source=tsmclip&utm_medium=referral

3. Satan's Yum Yum Tree

Genesis 3:1

3:1 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden . . . (5) For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.



Σ - When Satan goes to church, he leads people to his Yum, Yum Tree.

- There is Satan's Yum Yum tree that produces death, and there is the tree of life.
- Satan has all kinds of goodies under this tree.
- Adam and Eve found the knowledge of good and evil hanging on this tree.
- Noah found wine under this tree (Genesis 9).
- Nimrod found political power near this tree (Genesis 10).
- Simeon and Levi found sweet revenge under this tree (Genesis 34).
- Micah found religious power under this tree (Judges 17)
- Samson found seductive Delilah and David found beautiful Bathsheba sunning themselves near this tree (Judges 16; 1 Samuel 11).
- Solomon found many gorgeous women at this tree (1 Kings 11).
- Solomon warned his sons about strange women near this tree (Proverbs 1-7).
- Judas found silver all around this tree (Matthew 27:3).
- Simon the sorcerer found power and wealth under this tree (Acts 8).
- Herod found power, pride, and fame under this tree (Acts 12).
- Jack Hyles' son camped under this tree with 14 church women.
- Barach Obama met Michael at this tree.
- President Trump met Stormy Daniels near this tree.

- Odious women eat three meals a day from this tree (Proverbs 30:23).
- The lust of flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life can be plucked from this tree (1 John 2:15-16)
- The Jews build synagogues around this tree (Revelation 2:9; 3:9).

Joseph ran away from this tree and became the vice regent of Egypt (Genesis 39). Likewise, all the men in Hebrews 11 avoided this tree.

4. Termites Within

1 Timothy 4:1

Σ - When Satan goes to church, he ordains apostate preachers.

Someone has said that the church is not so much impaired by woodpeckers without as by termites within.

The Scriptures informs us that in the last days there will be a great apostasy wherein the church will be inundated with lawless and ungodly men that turn the grace of God into lawlessness by pitting grace against law. The faithful, are therefore, exhorted to “earnestly contend for the faith that was once delivered to the saints.”

In his commentary on Jude 4, Dr. Cooper Abrams comments on the apostasy of our age as follows:

“Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;” (1 Timothy 4:1)

Individual churches are rarely destroyed from outside. It is the Devil’s cunning trick to send in a liberal man who is poorly trained and equipped for the ministry.

These “hirelings,” having no call of God but aspire to the ministry as a profession. They are smooth talkers often well versed in psychoheresy and the Wellhausen documentary hypothesis. Their message is weak and sweet. In order to hold the crowd they turn to music and emotion.

It behooves every church of God that loves the Lord and His word to be on guard against apostates. Satan has such a man readily and available to move and take over every sound biblical church. These outward charismatic preachers change the grace of God into lasciviousness -- something indecent, wanton and without restraint.

Can anyone deny that we can see this every day on the so called “Christian TV Networks” where the TV evangelists hawk their false health and wealth gospel? These alluring men are well received by the public, which is attested to by the millions of dollars they receive. They have turned the Lord’s wonderful grace into a scheme to make riches for

themselves. The apostate women, who blatantly take the position of a preacher, do so in defiance of God's Word. He never calls a woman to be a preacher. (Abrams: A Commentary on the Book of Jude, 2014, online)

The first step in fighting apostasy is to recognize it and to be agin' it.

The second step is to expose it . . . and then be prepared for all hell to break loose. Satan wants his lawless man or lawless woman in charge, but discerning Christians will not be taken in by the fraud.

Romans 16:20 And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.

5. The Banksters are Back

Sweet Jesus Whippin' the Banksters!

John 2

John 2:15 And when he had made a scourge of small cords, he drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers' money, and overthrew the tables;

Revelation 18:21, 23 The great city of Babylon be thrown down . . . for by thy sorceries were all nations deceived.

Σ - When Satan goes to church it becomes a commercial enterprize; the pastor becomes a CEO of a tax exempt organization; and the church treasurer becomes an uncompensated tax collector for the IRS.

When commercial interest gained control of God's temple, our Lord made a scourge of small cords and drove out the money-changers.

With the American church under the spell of IRS, isn't it time to drive out the Banksters again?

Facts About the Passage

First, the pronoun "he" refers to our one and only Sovereign, the Lord Jesus Christ, Lord of the Sabbath, Master and Commander, King of kings, the only Lawgiver.

Second, the term "money-changer" (kollubistes) means "bankers" or "Banksters" in the pejorative sense of the term. Because Roman coins had the image of Caesar on them, temple administrators required "offerings" and "purchases" be made with Hebrew shekels. Thus, money changing became a means of making a profit.

Third, the term "tables" (trapeza) was the bench or counter on which banking transactions were conducted. *Trapeza* is properly translated "bank" in Luke 19:23; that is, *the table was the bank*. In overthrowing the bench, the Lord extinguished banking activity and banned Babylonian banking practices in the nation.

Fourth, the temple complex was both a civil and religious center. There was no separation of church and state in Israel. The temple was the seat of

Moses, the center where the Sanhedrin met to manage national affairs; and, it was also the place of worship, the center of redemption and reconciliation of the people to God. That is, in driving the money changers out of the temple complex, he was driving the Banksters out of the nation—out of civil government and out of church government.

Fifth, the Lord Jesus Christ established an absolute principle: “Make not my Father’s House an house of merchandise.”

The Greek word “merchandise” is *emporion* from which we get the word “emporium.” The term refers to “a center of trade” or “center of commerce” or “retail store that sells articles.”

The verb “make” (*poeite*) is a present, active imperative meaning that good Christian men are to constantly, perpetually resist and fight against Merchant Law. The negative demands negation of specific acts; that is, negative law limits government. It imposes a duty on man to deal with a particular evil. Emporiums are run by merchants under merchant law. Thus, we conclude that in driving out the Banksters, our Sovereign was abolishing commercial interests and Merchant Law in the church. True religion must disassociate from commercial interests.

Sixth, the Banksters were Jews, not Gentiles. These Jews partook of the forbidden fruit of the poisonous tree, and were barred from the tree of life and the benefits of the Kingdom of God.

Most of these Jewish Banksters learned their trade secrets from the University of Babylon, the rabbinical center of Judaism during the Intertestamental Period.

In driving the Jewish Banksters out of the temple complex, our Master was not being “anti-Semitic.” He dealt with the source of evil -- the poisonous root was Talmudic Jews who broke the Tenth Commandment of their One and only Lawgiver (Isaiah 33:22).

Seventh, the Lord God condemned the Banksters because they intentionally, maliciously, recklessly violated the Tenth Commandment, “Thou shall not covet thy neighbor’s property . . .”

This commandment had the effect and force of law; that is, government is responsible to identify lawbreakers with a scheme to plunder the wealth of others.

So, what is meant by “covet?” Is God sanctioning “thought police” or the lawful motive of making money? The answer, of course, is “No!”

Covetous is more than desire. It is a love of money coupled with subversive plans and clever schemes to unlawfully to dispossess people of their property —such as the “income tax,” “property tax,” and “home loans” that shift wealth from the family to the State under color of law.

Thus, the Son made a whip and banned the Banksters because their money-changing operation was not a legitimate business, but a financial contrivance deployed to fleece God’s flock.

Eight, in Luke 19:46 our Lord referred to the Jewish Banksters as a “den of thieves.” He was not addressing petty theft, but clever, constructive, institutional fraud on a grand scale by Sanhedrin-government officials.

This was a “den of thieves,” not a thief’s hideout. The Banksters banded together at the center of government to protect their commercial schemes so they could fleece God's flock while performing religious duties; that is, these Jewish Banksters used the power of the State and the color of law to hide thievery (trade secrets).

Ninth, though rudimentary, these Babylonian Jewish Banksters excelled in the art of loan-sharking and money-changing in the temple complex to give it an air of propriety.

The Banksters are back!

Likewise, America is controlled by the Jewish banking elite known as the International Monetary Cartel. This den of thieves a.k.a. “Occupied Wall Street” has driven America into incalculable debt and chained the church to the IRS.

The IRS has turned every church into a government controlled 501 c 3 non-prophet, commercial business corporation that must report all the earnings of the church staff to the government.

The IRS has turned every church treasurer into a Judas -- an uncompensated tax collector for the State. Now, the church must *pay to play*.

Just as the simple serpent in the Garden of Eden grew into a hideous dragon in Revelation 12, Jewish usury grew into a huge, complex, hideous international Monster which the apostle John called “Mystery Babylon” or the “Great Harlot.”

Complete with “sorceries” (Rev. 18:23), the whole earth comes under the spell of this hideous Banking Magician. These “sorceries” (the UCC Code)

include a depository of magic tricks: credit card scams, Federal Reserve Notes, foreclosures mills, electronic funds, interest on nothing, income, wages, junk bonds, toxic securities, derivatives, filter stocks, and other fictitious assets.

These Jewish, serpent-Banksters active during our Lord's lifetime morphed into the grotesque Ashkenazi Banking Monster we know today:

- Ben Bernanke, Federal Reserve Bank or FED.
- Thomas J. Benison of JPMorgan Chase & Company;
- James J. Hill of Morgan Stanley;
- Athanassios Diplas of Deutsche Bank;
- Paul Hamill of UBS;
- Paul Mitrokostas of Barclays;
- Andy Hubbard of Credit Suisse;
- Oliver Frankel of Goldman Sachs;
- Ali Balali of Bank of America; and
- Biswarup Chatterjee of Citigroup."
- Trilateral Commission
- Council on Foreign Relations, Club Rome, and the modern Illuminati.
- The IRS, the collection agency for the International Monetary fund.

Jesus' explicit statement referring to His "Father's House" meant the temple complex belonged to God, not to the State, not to the priests, and not to Rome.

With the "church" in bed with the Banksters, isn't it about time God's servants made a cat of nine tails to drive out the IRS Thieves?

But, it's not that easy! Jesus whippin' the money-changers for turning His Father's House into a for-profit business was the reason the Banksters crucified Him. And, modern business men (Banksters) in the church will do the same thing to any pastor who seriously seeks to escape the government's control and return "God's House" back to the Father for the purpose of prayer.

In trying to turn your "religious organization" back into an independent House of Prayer, you may find yourself out on the street beggin' for yur supper! When government is god in the minds of Christians, you can not expect them not to betray you.

But, it is possible to be free and to be His instrument to restore the house of God. But, you must search for it.

Matthew 16:18 . . . and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Psalm 85:6 Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee?

6. The Synagogue of Satan

Revelation 2:9

Σ - When Satan goes to church it supports the belief that modern, Ashkenazi, homosexual-lesbian Jews in Tel Aviv are God's chosen people.

2:9 "I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan."

I know: Jesus stated, "I know thy works." The Smyrnans learned that though they were rejected by the State, they were accepted by the Lord. He knew their trials and stood by to assist them in their legal conflicts.

Tribulation and poverty: The "tribulation" referred to here is the trial of living in an explosive, politically-charged environment. Trade guilds expected loyalty to their deities and knew nothing of "affirmative action."

Because Christians could not do business in the market place without taking an oath of loyalty to the guild and or to Caesar, they scrounged for a living in the black market. Refusing to apply for a State license resulted in a lower standard of living—the cost for confessing Christ as King. Possibly, their property was looted by mobs or confiscated by local government officials acting under color of law (Hebrews 10:34).

Rich: A human perspective about the dire straits of the Smyrnans might provoke pity or even hostility, but Christ announced, "thou are rich!"

They were rich in insight about Christ; rich in faith; rich in courage; rich in patience; rich in so many virtues esteemed by Heaven's King. They did not possess the wealth of this world, but they possessed the wealth of heaven. These were princes a foot; kings without gold; paupers without shame.

Synagogue of Satan: The term "synagogue of Satan" is a reference to Jewish hostility against Christians. The Jews were the problem because they are generally antichrist, anti-Bible, and anti-humanity . . . and Christians would do well to wake up and recognize that the Askenazi *goi*-Jews of today have adopted the same antichrist spirit and hostility that existed in the synagogue of Satan in first century (1 Thessalonians 2:15).

The “true Jews,” by way of implication, are those who believe that Jesus is Israel’s Messiah, and who accept Him as their Savior. False Jews, in John’s time, were physical descendants of Abraham that claimed to be God’s people by virtue of their genetic relationship to Abraham.

Blasphemy: The word “blasphemy” means “to speak against.” Slander was not directed against God, but against the followers of Christ! It is a form of murder, and it was the weapon of choice by the Jews. By registering false complaints against them in court, the Jews incited civil rulers to issue warrants for the arrest of Smyrnan Christians. Since the physical descendants of Abraham rejected Christ, they were not Abraham’s true children (Galatians 3:1-14). They were members of Satan’s army.

Revelation 2:10 Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

Smyrna was a difficult neighborhood to live in. Hostility was high. Tempers were short. Gangs ruled the streets. Political and legal harassment waited for opportunity. Without a doubt, the Jews stirred up Roman authorities to charge Christians with crimes against the State.

“Fear not” is an admonition to be governed by faith and principle rather than by circumstance and emotion. Greatness is determined, not by the size of one’s friends, but by the size of one’s enemies. The enemy of these believers was none other than Satan himself who used Jews to bash the true people of God. Jesus let His people know that Satan had gained control of the political system and that the authorities were being used by this ancient adversary to crush the advancement of the gospel.

Bias in favor of the State dominated the courts. Hostile to Christ, pagan authorities urged on by Jewish calumny marked Christians as targets of police action. Without a doubt, believers would be labeled “atheists,” “tax protesters,” or “traitors,” and charged with contempt for Roman law.

Prison: Some believers were indicted and thrown into prison because they were non-conformists—a threat to State cohesion and inclusivity. Imprisonment and death are viewed as satanic weapons designed to test the validity of the Christian witness. No doubt Satan used the Jews to put Christians in jail. Interestingly, many believers faced charges for violating man-made statutes in a corrupt legal system.

Ten Days was a symbol representing a short period of time or limited affliction.

Faithful: “Being faithful unto death” was Christ’s way of telling the Christians not to idolize life, but to serve Him. Just as Olympians are crowned for their achievements, Jesus promised these victors a reward for their allegiance. Christ, not the State, has the right to demand unlimited obedience from the people. And, when government is god in the minds of citizens, active Christians cannot expect not to be targets of political harassment by their neighbors.

Revelation 2:11 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.

(Source: Stockton, A Commentary on Revelation, <https://nikeinsights.famguardian.org/publications/>)

Revelation 3:9

“Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.”

Synagogue of Satan: The “synagogue of Satan” refers to the Jews who rejected the gospel. Having a settled persuasion regarding their Jewish customs, they vigorously opposed Christ.

Notice, the Jews who do not follow Jesus and practice some form of Judaism are called “liars!”

Thus, unbelieving Jews are members of the cult of lies headed by Satan himself. But, by the grace of God, some opened themselves up to historical facts regarding the death, burial, and resurrection of our Lord, believe, and entered the kingdom.

Simon Greenleaf (1783-1853) was one of the founders of Harvard Law School. He authored the authoritative three-volume text, A Treatise on the Law of Evidence (1842), which is still considered "the greatest single authority on evidence in the entire literature of legal procedure." Greenleaf literally wrote the rules of evidence for the U.S. legal system. He was certainly a man who knew how to weigh the facts. He was an atheist until he accepted a challenge by his students to investigate the case for Christ's resurrection. After personally collecting and examining

the evidence based on rules of evidence that he helped establish, Greenleaf became a Christian and wrote the classic, "Testimony of the Evangelists".

Let [the Gospel's] testimony be sifted, as it were given in a court of justice on the side of the adverse party, the witness being subjected to a rigorous cross-examination. The result, it is confidently believed, will be an undoubting conviction of their integrity, ability, and truth (Simon Greenleaf, "The Testimony of the Evangelists": The Gospels Examined by the Rules of Evidence, Kregel Classics, 1995, Backcover.)

"Say they are Jews, and are not" - The term "Jew"[1] in this text is used in a spiritual sense. A true Jew is one who is one inwardly; that is, one who has repented of his sins and trusted Christ as his Savior and Messiah. Since the racial Jews who practiced Judaism did not profess Christ, they lacked the faith of Abraham that qualified them to be true sons of Abraham. Furthermore, they not only failed to believe the promise, they became persecutors of the church. Thus, they were members of the Satanic cult.

The reader would do well to understand that Jesus was a Jew in the sense He was from the tribe of Judah, but He was **not** a Jew in the sense that he practiced Judaism (2 Kings 16:6; Matthew 3:9; Galatians 1:4-7). God forbid!

The great trauma of history is **not** persecution of Jews, but the persecution of Christians by Jews. Modern Jews cloak their animosity toward Christians by playing the victim and claiming "anti-Semitism" when someone disagrees with them.

"Christians are dying for their faith at the rate of one every five minutes," says sociologist Massimo Introvigne.[2]

The problem is antichrists, not anti-Semitism. There are **not** two peoples of God (Jews and Christians), but one people of God (Christians) -- the church, true believers in Christ whether Hebrew or Gentile (Galatians 3:28). Moreover, modern so called "Jews" are not descendants of Abraham, but the posterity of Ashkenazim from Ukraine (Genesis 10:3).

Christians should be praying for the peace of Heavenly Jerusalem (the church) and curb their idolatrous devotion for the prosperity of today's cultic, geo-political fake "Israel." (Psalm 122:6; Hebrews 12:22).

“I will make them come and worship” probably did not have an immediate historical fulfillment. This promise probably refers to the conversion of the Jews to Christ throughout Christian history.

The background of this expression is Isaiah 60:14; 45:14; 49:23. But, there is a twist to this text.

In Isaiah it is the Gentiles who will bow down at the feet of Jacob (See Ezekiel 37:28; 36:23), but in Revelation, it is the Jews who will bow down at the feet of the Gentile church. John reversed the imagery!

The Jews, because of their rejection of Christ, surrendered their status as servants of YHWH. If Jews are to enter the kingdom, they must come on gospel ground through the church’s proclamation of Christ. Jews, who eagerly desire to sit down at the Messianic feast, must come into the kingdom on solid Christian theology, not on the quick sand of Talmudic Judaism.

Christians would do well to reflect on the fact that the church as the true Israel of God has the keys to the kingdom. Believers are commanded to avoid entanglement with Jewish myths and traditions (Matthew 15:1ff; Titus 1:14).

(Source: Stockton, A Commentary on Revelation,
<https://nikeinsights.famguardian.org/publications/>)

7. Modern Jewish Fables in the Church

Titus 1:14

“Not giving heed to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, that turn from the truth”

Σ - When Satan goes to church, he introduces the church to follow doctrinal fictions produced by Jews regarding the alleged formation of the state of “Israel” (1948), their genocide of Palestinians, and their eschatology.

During the Hamas-Israel War (10-7-ff) I received all kinds of emails from Christians requesting prayer “for God’s chosen People” because they are “victims of antisemitism” etc.

Because modern Jews run Reuters, NYT, Fox News, ABC, NBC, CNN, LA Times, Denver Post, et al. Christians are easily indoctrinated by Zionist propaganda and the Anti-Defamation League (ADL).

The Bible warns us to **not** give into “Jewish fables and commandments of men that turn from the truth” (Titus 1:14).

Let us look at some of the Fables

Fable: We must pray for innocent “Jews”

Answer: Yes! We should pray for those who call themselves Jews along with those who call themselves Chinese, Russians, Brazilians, and Australians. We pray for them, not because they are special and more deserving than normal men, but because they are common sinners in need of the extraordinary Savior.

Innocent? 250 victims were young people at a supernova festival dancing half nude to Brazilian Psychedelic Music working themselves into a trance (October 10, 2023).

Fable: Hamas is all to blame for the recent atrocities.

Answer: No. Militant Israel created this crisis by murdering Palestinians, stealing their land and homes and then shoving survivors into Gaza, the largest ghetto in the world. Pent up in a cage, Palestinians do what they can to fight back.

Fable: The Hamas invasion of Israel in October 7-10 was worse than America's 9-11.

Answer: Nonsense. The attack was bad, but not worse. This is merely Jewish propaganda designed to justification the mass murder of millions of Palestinians. One Israeli odious female lawmaker even called for the use of a nuclear bomb in Gaza.

Fable: The invasion by Hamas in October 7 . . . was a huge intelligence failure.

Answer: False! The Mossad has been touted as the most competent, well equipped intelligence agency in the world. . There is no way under the Sun they did not know about this. The Hamas invasion may have surprised the populace, but not the leadership. They not only knew about it, but permitted the atrocity . . . in part, as a pretext to continue their destruction of Gaza and the Palestinians.

Consider the motivation of Israel's inner circle. This gives militant Israel an excuse to annihilate the Palestinians . . . as if they were ancient Canaanites. Within 48 hours of the attack, we're now suddenly seeing enormous support for an American war with Iran and the genocide of the Palestinian people. American pastors and formerly level-headed media personalities in our world have completely lost their minds and are now calling for genocide of Palestinians – a vulgar violation of the Sixth Commandment.

Fable: Israel has a right to defend itself.

Answer: Yes, it does; but, it doesn't have a right to commit mass-murder in the name of self-defense. If your family is threatened, defend your family. But, no man has a "right" to kill everyone in his neighborhood in the name of self-defense.

Fable: Modern day Jews are from the 12 tribes of Israel:

Answer: Modern day so called "Jews" are Ashkenazim from the Khazarian Empire which is called Ukraine today. They are all Gentile Europeans with no Semitic Hebrew blood in them – a snake worshipping sex cult forced to convert to Judaism by their king around 860 B.C.

Fable: Jesus was a Jew.

Answer: Jesus was **not** a Jew. He did **not** practice Judaism **nor** does he belong to the race of the Ashkenazim. He is, however, a Judahite from the tribe of Judah

Fable: It is anti-Semitic to criticize Jews.

Answer: No! This is a propaganda tool created by the ADL to make the Jews look like victims pure as a December snow. The Jews are not victims; they are predators seeking to conquer nations by every means necessary. The so-called "Jews" are Europeans, not Hebrews. Palestinians, however, are very much Semitic.

Fable: The Jews are God's chosen people.

Answer: False! Those that believe the gospel are God's chosen people. God chose Abraham, but Abraham was **not** a Jew. That "Jews" are God's chosen people is another ADL propaganda initiative that has fooled Christians and pastors alike (Titus 1:14; 1 Peter 1:1-3; Deuteronomy 11:16).

Fable: The Jews are God's holy people.

Answer: False. There is nothing holy about the Jews or holy about the "Holy Land." The so called "Jews" in Israel are secularized, even atheistic. The Tourism Guide boast that Tel Aviv has the best gay bars in the world; that it is a city that does not sleep. The LGBTQ community voted Tel Aviv their favorite city. Prostitution became legal in Israel in 2018. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) rights in Israel are considered the most developed in the Middle East (Wiki). Moreover, full grown Jewish men are making brides out of six, seven, eight year old girls.

"A 2016 report by the Israel Parliament on Knesset's Law and Justice Committee states that 716 child marriages took place between 2014 and 2015" (GirlsNotBrides).

Jesus referred to Judahite Jews in his day as "murderers and liars" (John 8:44). Later he labeled the Jewish community "the synagogue of Satan."

Fable: Aren't the Jews victims of antisemitism?

Answer: No! The "Jews" declared war on innocent Palestinians in 1948 and have been stealing, killing, and pillaging their lands ever since. Victims, No! Predators, Yes!

No, the Jews are not fighting for their existence; the Palestinians are fighting for their existence.

Fable: We need to support the Jews because America was built on the Judeo-Christian ethic.

Answer: No! American was not built on the Judeo-ethnic! It was built on the Puritan Ethic period! The term "Judeo" was put in front of "Christian" by the ADL to manipulate Americans into thinking America was founded by Jews. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Fable: The Jews are victims of the holocaust.

Answer: Yes and No. Yes, the Jews suffered greatly in the European theater . . . but, it was mainly due to the breakdown of German infrastructure in 1944 caused by allied bombings. All Europeans suffered as a result of the collapse . . . not just Jews. No, they were not gassed to death in gas chambers (too expensive, too troublesome, and too difficult) . . . and no, six million Jews were not exterminated in ovens. Impossible!

The first reference to six million Jews being slaughter took place in 1914 to draw America into WWI. This is a myth created by the ADL who constructed over 400 Holocaust Museums to trick people into thinking WWII was all about them. Nonsense! See David Erving's research. No, I am not a Nazi nor am I pro-Hitler. I'm for truth and the first casualty of every war is truth.

Fact: It is estimated that more Germans were starved to death by Eisenhower after the war in his death camps than all the Jews that were mercilessly killed during the war. The real victims of WWII were the Germans, not Jews (Estimated 5 to 10 million Germans died).

Fable: Didn't Hitler hate the Jews?

Answer: Remember, winners of wars rewrite history to make their opponents look like devils and themselves to look like Virgin Mary.

No one has found a written order (the final solution) from Hitler to exterminate the Jews. Yes, he hated the banking Jews, not because they practiced a form of Judaism, but because they were communist, Bolsheviks, Leninist, and Stalinists that attempted to overthrow Germany and demoralize the people through banking monopolies, publication of pornography, promotion of homosexuality, and murdering leaders like Czar Nicholas.

Fable: Didn't Germany start WWII in order to exterminate the Jews?

Answer: No, Jews (Henry Strakosch et al.) paid Churchill to start WWII and to bomb Germany. Hitler sent ambassadors around the world to beg for peace, but the British government would have none of it. England bombed Berlin six times before Hitler retaliated in like kind. The war was not about saving "Jews". Rather, it was about humbling Germany who dominated European industry.

Fable: Israel must be re-established before the Second Coming of Christ.

Answer: False! There is not a single verse in the New Testament that points to a resettlement of Jews in Palestine before the coming of our Lord. This is a recent theology – a product of the highly edited Scofield Bible published by Zionists in 1967 through Oxford.

Metaphorically, Jesus cursed the Jewish Fig Tree vitiating the possibility of bearing fruit for God (Mark 11:12-25).

Fable: What about Gog and Magog?

Answer: These passages (Ezekiel, Zephaniah) were written in a mysterious, metaphorical, apocalyptic style to encourage those exiles in Babylon that God has a plan for them and that no plan by their enemies will succeed in preventing success of the faithful. These apocalyptic passages should **not** be interpreted literally but spiritually. This is apocalyptic literature, not a historical narrative.

Fable: Doesn't Revelation predict 144,000 Jews will be saved during the tribulation period?

Answer: No! What tribulation period? Where is that in Scripture? Revelation is a prophetic work written in apocalyptic literary style and needs to be interpreted by apocalyptic literary rules (Hermeneutics). The 144,000 is a metaphor for the church militant, the true Israel of God. Those in white robes are a symbol of the church triumphant. The great tribulation in Revelation 7 is not some supposed seven year framework for "Jacob's troubles," but the terrible struggle with death – the great tribulation every man faces; i.e., the "crossing of Jordan's River" at the end of life.

Q: Shouldn't America support Israel?

Answer: If we must choose sides, let us choose the side of innocent victims in Israel and innocent victims among the Palestinians.

Q: Where are the Peacemakers?

O, Lord, have mercy.

8. The Double Mind

James 1:8

Σ- When Satan goes to church people lose their simple faith and end up with a double-mind.

James 1:8 A double minded (dipsuchos) man is unstable in all his ways.

None of us like to admit that we have been deceived or that we are manipulated by the power brokers working through ABC, NBC, CBS, and Fox News.

But, the truth is, Christians minds have been subjected to the invasion of political correctness wired into our homes by the fake media.

Satan' goal is not only to divide the church but to bifurcate the man by creating a double mind with --

- Two masters
- Two souls
- Two ambitions
- Two laws (pluralism)
- Two values
- Two loves
- Two desires
- Two modes of living -- a private, secret life and a public life.

Satan loves a two-face man – a man with a religious face in church and a man with heart for money and power during the week. Beware of pluralism and multiculturalism.

Matthew 16:22-23

Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee. But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee **behind me, Satan**: thou art an offence unto **me**: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.

Though Peter did not know it, his rebuke to the Lord was from Satan. Likewise, many of our thoughts are from Satan. The wise know it and depart from it.

9. The Tempted Pastor

Matthew 4

Luke 22:3 Then Satan entered Judas, called Iscariot, one of the Twelve.

Luke 22:31 Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat.

Hebrews 11:33 Who through faith . . . wrought righteousness

Σ - When Satan goes to church, his first target is the pastor. As Satan tempted Christ, he will tempt pastors and elders.

After the dove came the devil; after Heaven's approval came the assault from hell.

There were three theaters for His temptation: the wilderness, the temple, and the high mountain.

The Devil tested the Son in three areas of human weakness (1 John 4:15):

The lust of the flesh: "Command these stones be made bread" (Mt. 4:3)

The lust of the eyes: ". . . sheweth him all the kingdom of the world, and the glory of them" (Mt. 4:8)

The pride of life: ". . . cast thyself down . . . his angels . . . shall bear thee up" (Mt. 4:6).

Luke 4:1 And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,

After Jesus' baptism, the Spirit led him into the wilderness of the Judean desert (Mark 1:12). Being filled with the spirit does not exempt one from bouts with temptation.

This was the dry, barren wasteland between Jerusalem and Jericho. The word "led" (ekbaino) is an imperfect indicating a durative in the past. It is translated "cast out" or "throw" in other texts. That is, the Spirit was

compelling Jesus. The Spirit chose the time and the place, and the Devil chose the nature of the temptation.

First, the temptation of Christ confronts the Bible student with some tensions within the biblical text. If our Lord taught the disciples to pray, "Lead us not into temptation," (Matthew 6:13) why then did the Spirit lead our Lord into temptation (Matthew. 4:1; Luke 4:1)? Since James informs us that God cannot be tempted (James 1:13) and we know that Jesus was fully God, how then could He be tempted (Hebrews. 2:18; 4:15)? He was tempted to show us the true nature of Christ.

Second, from the standpoint of our Lord's Messianic Mission, His entire mission is contingent upon His victory over every temptation of Satan. Jesus was being tested as the "Son of God." He was God's Son and Israel's Messiah and King. The Kingdom of Heaven was at hand. To fail these tests would nullify all of God's purposes and promises which were to be realized through the Son of God.

Satan's commands to the Son were contract offers. Because Jesus refused the offer, Satan had no jurisdiction over Him. In a legal sense, every offer of Satan was "REFUSED FOR CAUSE." Moreover, Satan seems to use contracts (with sparkling benefits) to chain us and control us.

We would do well to remember that contracts have strings attached . . . especially government offers. Every letter we receive from the government is an offer to contract. One of our God-given rights is the power to refuse. If we have no contract with the State, we have no obligation to the State; no contract, no duty!

Third, our Lord's temptation is proof that He was the Son of God, without sin, and qualified to administrate the Messianic era. There are many lessons connected with the temptation, but one meaning stands out above the rest. When Israel was in the wilderness and suffered want, they failed the test by complaining and rebelling. When the True Israel (Jesus) was tested in the Judean wilderness, he passed the test by obeying and refusing. His testing not only proved (a) He was truly Divine, but (b) He was the True Israel of God.

The critical issue: Could Christ sin? If He could not sin, could the temptation be real? If He could sin, could He be truly God?

Christ's temptation was real. Note the text says, "He fasted forty days and forty nights" --testing the limits of a real, breathing, flesh and blood man.

Christ could not sin because He did not have a sin nature, but he could be tempted because He shared in our humanity.

Christ could not sin because He was NOT governed by needs, wants, or weakness, but because the Spirit of God reigned in Him.

Christ could be tempted because He had a human nature, but He could not sin because of His righteous nature.

Christ could be tempted because he was a man, but he could not sin because He was God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him (2 Corinthians 5:21).

Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth (1 Peter 2:22).

You know that He appeared in order to take away sins; and in Him there is no sin (1 John 3:5).

Observe how our Lord repelled Satan's offer, "Man (ho anthropos) shall not live by bread alone. but by every word coming forth from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4; Deuteronomy 8:3). Clearly, Jesus identifies with our humanity (anthropos) and man's duty to rely upon God's Word for sustenance, guidance, strength, and direction.

Fourth, the victory over Satan is evidence there is a righteousness from God available to all who believe—a righteousness that qualifies the child of God for entrance into the Kingdom of God.

Our Lord was tested in the three areas we all face in life: the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life (1 John 2:15). He knew no sin (2 Corinthians 5:21), had no sin (1 John 3:5), and did no sin (1 Peter 2:22). Thus, we have the confidence His righteousness prevailed on this earth. Thus, we have the assurance there is a "righteousness of God" in the Gospel of Christ "without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; Even the righteousness of God which is by faithfulness of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference" (Romans 3:21-22).

Fifth, the temptation provides us with proof of claim that Jesus is Lord, and not Satan. Jesus did not obey a single command of Satan. But, when Jesus ordered Satan to depart, the text informs us, "the devil left him" (Matthew 4:8).

Sixth, the temptation provides us with a sword to overcome Satan more powerful than Excalibur, the legendary sword of King Arthur. That sword is the Word of God (Hebrews 4:12). One is never safer from the devil than when he knows and obeys God's law. When the snorting dragon growled out commands to Christ, our Lord defended Himself by lifting up His flaming sword three times: "It is written . . ."

Even when Satan misapplied Scripture (Psalm 91:11), Jesus repelled his assault saying, "It is written again . . ." (4:7; Deuteronomy 6:16).

Apparently, Satan knows Scripture and uses it out of context to entice the undiscerning into sin. He has an amazing ability to use God's Word to entice his prey into his trap . . . and, there is no greater evil than this: the conversion of Scripture into an instrument of plunder.

Scripture is true, but every text has a context. And, every text must submit to the whole of Scripture . . . and the whole of Scripture does not encourage reckless living like throwing yourself off the temple to see if God will keep his deliverance promises; that is, the context of Satan's quotation was the Most High's promise to soldiers on the battlefield trusting Him for victory (Psalm 91).

The purpose of law is not to promote justice, health, or wealth, but to prevent injustice from reigning (Bastiat, *The Law*, 1850).

Seventh, without a doubt, the temptation of Christ and His conquest over Satan is not only a cause of worship, but a model to all who are tempted.

Satan, the one "who conquered Adam," reacts to Jesus' resistance by walking away in shame, "that we might have him under our feet" (Cyril). "For God grants not His aid to those who tempt Him, but to those who believe in Him: nor ought we, because He deigns us mercy, therefore to make a vain display" (Commentary on Luke, Sermon XII).

We cannot bind Satan!! But, we can resist him by taking up our sword and using it against him. Faith should win out over pride, with the reassurance that God will help us (Wittman, Posted 2010).

James 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. **Resist** the

devil, and he will flee from you.

The highest degree of spirituality is not tolerance, but intolerance of evil and evil men. Americans are trained to tolerate the most outrageous propositions, but Jesus expressed zero tolerance for sin.

Three times the Lord said 'no' to Satan. Think about the strength it takes to say 'no' instead of 'yes.' The world, the flesh, and the Devil are not conquered by yes-men. 'No' requires conviction and strength, not apathy and passivity. "Yes" enables abusers to overpower the shmoozers.

Let us learn the power of the word "No!"

"My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not" – Proverbs 1:10.

10. The Fall of a Pastor

Luke 22:31-32

"Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift you as wheat, but I have prayed for you that your faith will not fail."

Σ - When Satan goes to church he strikes the Shepherd so the sheep will scatter.

I suppose there are many ways to fall from grace in the ministry, and here is one of them.

The following are clips regarding the story of Jack Hyles, former pastor of the huge fundamentalist church in Hammond Indiana. It is a warning about the fall of a minister.

When I first heard of the work of Jack Hyles, I was stunned by his success, growth, and influence. I even envied his work at a distance.

Years later, I received a report that during this era of church growth Jack had been involved in an adulterous affair.

Way of Life Literature has this to say in their article, "The Women Who Knew Jack Hyles"¹:

"Evidence was provided by Vic Nischik, a long-time deacon at First Baptist, proving that Jack Hyles stole the affection of his wife (Hyles' secretary),

"MY HOME WAS TAMPERED WITH AND MY MARRIAGE DELIBERATELY WRECKED BY JACK HYLES. HE STOLE MY WIFE, HER LOYALTY AND AFFECTION, and when the divorce hung in balance, unilaterally met with the two attorneys and negotiated the divorce settlement."

Testimony of Jack Hyles' daughter, Linda Murphrey:

"My dad lived a double life, one of a righteous family man and of a dynamic speaker in the public eye, but [another] one of sordid sexual secrets privately, secrets that only my siblings

¹ Source: https://www.wayoflife.org/reports/the_women_who_knew_jack_hyles.php

and me and my mom knew. He hated my mom. Hated her. Treated her terribly. Abused her. And even turned his own children against their mother. We hated her. He told us she was crazy. We thought to make him happy, we would hate her too. Our home was so full of turmoil, hatred, stress, strife, and as a little girl, it was isolating, it was intense, and it was frightening. He had affairs. He had a mistress for many years, the wife of a Sunday School teacher. He built her family a beautiful home right around the corner from our house. You could see their family from our back door. It was craziness, living one way, preaching another.”

“My older brother became another version of my father. He pastored a church in Texas and was found to be having affairs with 14 different women. He divorced his wife and married one of the 14. My father tried desperately to cover it up. He moved him to another church where he was found to have had 17 affairs with different women, and he just recreated what he had seen my dad live. And my dad did nothing but cover it up.

“I felt like I had one main responsibility as a child. It was simple, but daunting, and that was to keep all the secrets, and there were so many.”

Testimony of David Cloud:

“The major points that these women who knew Jack Hyles agree on are these: that Hyles had a morally inappropriate relationship with a woman who was not his wife, that he lived a double life by deception, and that he was a cult leader who controlled his people as a lord and not as a godly shepherd. The last point is just as unscriptural and wrong and dangerous as the first

First, we see that refusal to separate from those who are immoral takes away the ability to protest their evil. This is what happens to preachers who continue to associate with men like Hyles and their defenders.

Second, the fear of man brings a snare. The fear of man is as

much a problem among preachers as it is among teenagers, and it makes a man weak and incapable of taking the proper stand for truth.

Third, men naturally tend to have their eyes on “big men” rather than on the Lord. We can see men, but we can’t see the Lord except through faith, and the preacher who is not walking by faith in God’s Word will be a man pleaser. Having been an independent fundamental Baptist preacher for nearly 40 years, I am convinced that Bigism and Big-Manism is a major disease.

Fourth, our attitude toward sin reveals the condition of our hearts. A truly just man will *not* look with favor on an unjust man. He will “abhor that which is evil” ([Rom. 12:9](#)).

Just because one man failed, does not mean there are not true men serving the true God living a true life of self-sacrifice and self-denial for the advancement of the true gospel. They are there, but you will have ask God to show them to you.

Lord, have mercy on all true men that want to be Your servant.

(Source: for the whole article, see “The Women Who Knew Jack Hyles,” by David Cloud, September 4, 2012 – Way of Life Literature)

11. The Pope says It's O.K. to be Gay

Isaiah 5:20

Σ - When Satan goes to church it adopts the immoral practices of fornication, adultery, Sodomy, feminism, transvestitism, and lesbianism.

It's time for Catholics to excommunicate the Pope.

Isaiah 5:20 Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!

The man in white with a black heart said it's O.K. to be gay, "God made you like this and loves you like this."

What?

Is it O.K. to be a sinner because God made you like this?

Is it O.K. to be an adulterer because God made you like this?

Is it O.K. to be a liar because God made you like this?

Is it O.K. to be a thief because God made you like this?

Is it O.K. to be a fornicator because God made you like this?

Is it O.K. to abuse women because God made you like this?

Is it O.K. to be a tranny because God made you like this?

Is it O.K. to be a bully because God made you like this?

Is it O.K. to be an assassin because God made you like this?

Is it O.K. to be a loud-mouth, complaining bitch because God made you like this?

Is everything O.K. because God made you like this?

Is it O.K. to be a wretched, n0 g00d for nothing lazy bum because God made you like this?

Is God to blame for all the evil in the world? Is there no absolute code of right and wrong? Is there no human responsibility to seek righteousness?

Isn't it time for Catholics to excommunicate the Pope for heresy and apostasy from the faith or should men say, "Naw! God made 'im like t'is."

Will true men stand up and excommunicate the pope or will Catholics be gutless wonders couching behind rosary beads?

Titus 3:10 A man (even the pope) that is an heretick after the first and second admonition reject;

1 Timothy 1:10 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;

Catholics, if this doesn't show you the Pope is antichrist, what will?

2 Timothy 4:3 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;

Source: <https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/6337719/pope-francis-gay-man-god-loves-you/>

12. Sodom Followed Abraham

Genesis 14

“ . . . the king of Sodom went out to meet him. . . ”

Σ - When Satan goes to church Sodomy follows the people.

Sodom lived “across the street” from Abraham and lured Lot into its net:

Genesis 13:12 “Abram dwelled in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelled in the cities of the plain, and pitched his tent toward Sodom.”

Sissy Sodomite-soldiers are easy to conquer.

Genesis 14:12 And they took Lot, Abram’s brother’s son, who dwelt in Sodom and his goods, and departed.

Sodom followed Abraham when Abraham went to rescue his nephew Lot from five plundering kings.

Genesis 14:17 Then after his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King’s Valley).

Note: Sodom and Gomorrah was located north of the Dead Sea (Trinity Seminary, Albuquerque, New Mexico, Dr. Stephen Collins)

Sodom aggressively recruits perverse persons to their community.

Genesis 14:21 And the king of Sodom said unto Abram, Give me the persons, and take the goods to thyself.

The King of Sodom offered to contract with the Abraham, but God’s man refused to strike an agreement with the king of queers.

Genesis 14:22 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, (an oath of allegiance).

Genesis 14:23 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:

Sodom stalks the godly and surrounds them like a pack of wolves until the godly yield to their appetites and passions.

Genesis 19:4 But before they lay down, the men of the city, even the men of Sodom, compassed the house round, both old and young, all the people from every quarter:

Note: The queers in Sodom were liberals that knew nothing about restraint, self-control, or love.

Sodom hates righteous people and God hates Sodom.

Genesis 13:13 But the men of Sodom were wicked and sinners before the LORD exceeding.

Genesis 18:26 And the LORD said, If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes.

(Modern) Kings, politicians, and civil rulers throughout history are absolutely fascinated with the policies of Sodom and want to be just like her.

Isaiah 1:10 Hear the word of the LORD, ye rulers of Sodom; give ear unto the law of our God, ye people of Gomorrah.

Note: God described Israel's leaders as being infected with the sins of Sodom. Likewise today, Sodomites seem to drift toward positions of power.

Sodom-loving politicians know no shame. They promote sodomy and erect memorials to honor the sins of Sodom: (Consider "gay pride month" and how Sodomite Barack Obama and his tranny wife Michael designated a Gay Bar as a National Park.)

Isaiah 3:9 The shew of their countenance doth witness against them; and they declare their sin as Sodom, they hide it not. Woe unto their soul! for they have rewarded evil unto themselves.

Note: Homosexuals know no shame. They find solace in the company of other perverts. God called male prostitutes dogs; that is, they are not even recognized as part of humanity (Deuteronomy 23:17).

Because Sodomite nations are marked by ungodliness all her siblings shall be destroyed.

Jude 1:7 Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

2 Peter 2:6 And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly;

Lamentations 4:6 For the punishment of . . . the sin of Sodom, that was overthrown as in a moment, and no hands stayed on her.

Sodom knows no compromise. Her kin infiltrated Jerusalem, the holy city, and Jerusalem became just like her. And, likewise, America.

Revelation 11:8 And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified.

Sodom kills the godly man, the godly family, and the godly church.

Revelation 11: 8 . . . Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified.

Homosexuality is a serious, defiling, deadly sin that is nearly impossible to overcome.

Leviticus 18:22 Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination.

Genesis 13:13 But the men of Sodom were wicked and sinners before the LORD exceeding.

1 Corinthians 6:18 Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body (the whole man).

Note: Sins like fornication and homosexuality are extremely serious because they have an adhesive, expansive quality about them that poison the whole man: mind, emotions, spirit, and body. Shallow repentance and superficial conversions cannot overthrow the king of Sodomy.

Leviticus 20:13 "If a man lies with a male as with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination; they shall surely be put to death; their blood is upon them."

Note: God's remedy for a society such as to Sodomy was death (capital punishment) because queers spread their wickedness through society like dandelion seeds on a windy day. A society that tolerates public promotion of Sodomy will end up in the graveyard of nations (Romans 1:18ff). Likewise, a church that preaches forgiveness and tolerance instead of judgment will have their candlestick removed (Revelation 1-3).

God even ordered the promoters of homosexuality to be killed (Deuteronomy 13:1-9).

Homosexuals will not enter the Kingdom of God.

1 Corinthians 6:9 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate (malakos = soft, girly boys), nor abusers of themselves with mankind (arsenokoites = homosexual perverts or Sodomites),

10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.

Though Sodom followed Abraham, Abraham did not follow Sodom. His allegiance and devotion was to the Lord God.

Genesis 14:22 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.

Proverbs 1:10 If sinners entice thee, consent thou not!

Don't be shocked if the sins of Sodom (fornication and homosexuality) haunt you like a midnight ghost all of your life. The assault by queers will never go away, totally. It is the nature of things in this life. Know that Sodom will not cease to pursue you until you say "No!!"; that is, until you refuse contract offers with a strong, clear statement that your affections and allegiance are to the Lord God:

"I have lift up mine hand unto the LORD, the most high God, the possessor of heaven and earth,"

Like Abraham, refuse to contract with ambassadors of homosexuality hell-bent on recruiting children into their perverse movement through lady boys and drag queens (Proverbs 1:10).

A nation that drifts into homosexuality loses its purpose and reason to exist. And, it is even worse when permissive people and the “get along, go along” crowd enters the church.

Stand up! Don't lay down for these perverts. Resist evil.
Expose evil. Preach the Word or Perish. Flame Faith or the Fire
of Judgment will come down on this country (Rick Wiles: 06-
15-2022).

13. The Antinomian Donut Church

1 Timothy 4:1-2

"In later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons, through the insincerity of liars whose consciences are seared".

Σ - When Satan goes to church it plunges into antinomianism and permissiveness.

Hebrews 10:16 This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them;

The Antinomian Donut church is in American churches that abuses grace because they are hostile to law.

The Bible is divided into two sections, the Old Testament (The Old Covenant) and the New Testament (the New Covenant).

A covenant is a contract. The difference between the term covenant and the term contract are only slight. When an agreement is struck between men, it is called a contract. When God is part of the contract or there is an appeal to his grace or law, it is called a covenant.

All true Christians have accepted God's contract offer in the gospel and are under the new covenant.

One difference between the Old Covenant and the New Covenant is that the Old Covenant told a man what was right, but did **not** empower a man to do what was right. The beauty of the New Covenant is that God puts his Spirit into the heart of the believer and then empowers him to keep the law of God (Romans 8:4).

1 John 3:4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

Romans 8:3-4 God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

1 John 3:6 Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever

sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him.

1 John 3:9 Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

Another difference between the Old and the New is the location of law. In the old dispensation the law was in the Tabernacle, in the Holy of Holies, inside the Ark of the Covenant; that is, the law was present among the people, but external to the man. In the Christian dispensation, the law is instilled, weaved, implanted, fixed, rooted, born, and active in the heart of the believer.

Hebrews 8:10 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind,

The distinguishing difference between the Old and the New is that in the New Covenant era God embeds His law into the heart of His children. The text does not say He puts love or compassion or even justice into the hearts of New Covenant people. Rather, he implants His law . . . and, with the law at work in the inner man accompanied by his Spirit, love and justice grow.

This is important because the modern, democratic man is permissive and antinomian; that is, he is hostile to law, rules, restrictions, regulations, directives and duties. Modern man seeks to live without restraint and without moral guideposts; that is, they are antinomian, even antichrists. The permissive "spiritual" man has replaced the Bible with donuts, sugar, and coffee. The spirit of the age impacts Christians with the spirit of antinomianism causing many to live lawlessly, carelessly, and recklessly with their words, "love life," and finances.

And, antinomianism is reflected in the decor of the casual church.

The average Protestant church has few standards for dress, speech, behavior, music, or order. "Come as you are" and "be what you want" describes the Open Door Donut Church. In many inclusive churches you'll find men and women in shorts and tank tops crunching on donuts and sippin' coffee during a "celebration-worship service."

Many pastors are scared spitless to establish rules lest the church lose members . . . and offerings. They are afraid that if they establish rules and enforce them the congregation will call them "legalistic" and fire 'em.

But, God calls men to fear Him and to regulate His law among the people.

Jude 1:4 For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

The opposite of grace is not law, but permissiveness. The opposite of law is not grace, but lawlessness. The opposite of excellence is no perfectionism, but sloppiness.

Love is **not** the solution to all of man's problems. It is part of the solution, but not the "solve all" remedy for man's challenges. Law is a remedy for man. It cannot regenerate the man or society, *but when properly applied, it can establish order and purge evil from among men.*

Man is not saved by law, but God saves men in order that they may keep the law. There is all the difference in the world between being saved by law, and being saved in order to keep the law.

Love is good, but love must be defined. Love without definition is nothing more than mushy sentimentality and ooey-gooey inclusivism flooding a community. The law defines love, and when men keep the law, they love accurately (1 John 5:1-3).

The great advantage of the New Covenant is that the true Christian man is devoted to the objective law, the Ten Commandments, the Living Torah, and to the Lord Jesus Christ His law-order.

The man of God is committed to fixed principles. His morality is defined by the Ten Commandments and is case law. A man of principle, he limits his behavior to avoid the sins of his age. Because he is a man of law, he can be trusted. He is dependable, certain, and reliable. And, because the law defines love, grace and compassion grow in the garden of the heart.

Ask yourself if Jesus came to your church would he be slurping coffee and devouring donuts?

Psalm 96:9 O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness . . .

It is time to get rid of the donuts and pass out Bibles.

14. Casual Christianity

And the Coffee Cup Church

Psalm 96:9

Σ - When Satan goes to church it becomes sloppy. The pastor dresses in a casual shirt; un-veiled women wear yoga leggings and tami tops; and men where vest tops, compression running shorts, and flip-flops to church.

When I was traveling and stopped in at a large church in Colorado Springs.

My family entered the auditorium and the congregation was being led by three young men in blue jeans, white T-shirts, and long hair.

The lead guitarist was jamming away like a Rock Star on drugs doing the Jail-house Blues. Some people were standing, some bouncing up and down in front of their chairs as if they were in a trance, and others sat in their chairs in tank tops sipping coffee and woofin' down Dunkin' Donuts.

A few minutes into the sermon, my family got up and walked out. We felt like we were at the Great Pyramid of Tenochtitlan waiting for a virgin to be sacrificed to the god of the Aztecs.

This was casual Christianity intoxicated with rock music . . . a plague sweeping the nation: casual dress, casual manners, casual sex, causal morals, casual ethics, casual theology. They want it all: food, sex, and God.

David Pratt described it well:

“I think many (most?) people in the U.S. who call themselves Christians are coasting:

We may (or may not) read the Bible. We may (or may not) expect answers to our prayers. We may (or may not) naturally and happily talk about Jesus with our friends. We may (or may not) be extremely generous with our time and money. We may (or may not) be known for being a loving community.” (The End of Casual Christianity)

A few weeks later, I met an “elder” on the church board and told him what I thought of his blasphemous service. He responded, “We don’t want to be legalistic!” What he meant by this is that his permissive church were moral relativists that had declared war on God’s law-order.

“So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth” (Rev. 3:16) came to mind.

Here is what the Barna Group had to say:

Q: What have you found to be the appeal of Casual Christianity, as opposed to what draws people to the Captive Christian or even the Mormon tribes – that is, other tribes that are much more fervent about their faith?

Barna: Casual Christianity is faith in moderation. It allows them to feel religious without having to prioritize their faith. Christianity is a low-risk, predictable proposition for this tribe, providing a faith perspective that is not demanding.

A Casual Christian can be all the things that they esteem: a nice human being, a family person, religious, an exemplary citizen, a reliable employee – and never have to publicly defend or represent difficult moral or social positions or even lose much sleep over their private choices as long as they mean well and generally do their best. From their perspective, their brand of faith practice is genuine, realistic and practical.

To them, Casual Christianity is the best of all worlds; it encourages them to be a better person than if they had been irreligious, yet it is not a faith into which they feel compelled to heavily invest themselves.

Q: What are the critical elements that make the Casual Christians tick?

Barna: The comfort that this approach provides. It offers them life insights if they choose to accept them, gives them a community of relationships if they desire such, fulfills their inner need to have some type of connection with a deity, and provides the image of being a decent, faith-friendly person. Because Casuals do not view matters of faith as central to one’s purpose or success in life, this brand of Christianity supplies the multi-faceted levels of satisfaction and assurance that they desire.

. . . Casual Christians are driven by a desire for a pleasant and peaceful existence. Captive Christians are focused on upholding the absolute moral and spiritual truths they glean from the Bible . . . “

Barna described two types of Christians: the captive Christian and the casual Christian. Which one are you?

The Scripture informs us that it wasn't "casual Christianity" that "turned the world upside down" in the first century, do you? (See Acts 17:6-7).

6-7 And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, 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.**

The more I observe Casual Christianity, the more I am convinced it is not only an enemy of God, it may be the greatest enemy of the church.

Can you imagine the Israelites gathered around Mt. Sinai to meet with God dressed in pajamas, sipping yucca root tea, and gnawing on a piece of beef jerky while the LORD God delivered the Ten Commandments?

It is not legalism to have standards and rules for conduct. Godliness demands a code of conduct. Worship demands clean, excellent attire. Legalism has to do with beliefs about salvation by law, not moral standards.

I thought to myself, if these donut-woofing, tank-top souls did this in front of a judge, they would be cited with contempt of court. Are not casual Christians showing contempt for the Lord in the holy sanctuary?

Don't hear what is not being said. I am not saying there is not a time for a casual home Bible study with family and friends. There is a time and place for everything, but there is no place for sloppy dress, sloppy singing, and sloppy preaching in church.

Enough of popilush yoga pants and sleeveless, cotton casual t-shirts. It's time to get back to honor, dignity, and integrity.

“We do not have time to waste our lives coasting out casual, comfortable Christianity.” –David Platt

Source: For Barna's full report see the following:

<https://www.barna.org/barna-update/culture/268-casual-christians-and-the-future-of-america#.VX3ycEZRJN0>

The Sloppy Church

The pastor stood up dressed in blue jeans and a dark t-shirt to read the Word. He did a nice job exegeting Scripture, but I had to ask, "Why is he so casually dressed?" No tie, no suit, no robe . . . just a black t-shirt?

A few weeks later, the pastor was absent, and a deacon gave a "Christmas message" dressed in blue jeans, a wrinkled, stained mechanics vest, and boots with some kind of brown goo caked on the sides of the leather. He looked like he just came from doing his chores in the barnyard. His "sermon" did not contain a central text; and, his first ten sentences began with the word "I." Further, his message contained all the Christian phrases he'd heard over the last 20 years.

According to John Blake at CNN, "people are really letting go and taking that whole "come as you are" thing too far."

"It's like some people decided to stop mowing the lawn and then decided to come to church," says DeBonville, rector at the Church of the Good Shepard in Massachusetts. "No one dresses up for church anymore."

"Instead of donning their Sunday Best, many are just showing up in whatever they could've worn on Saturday. Some church leaders are encouraging the trend by dressing in jeans and untucked "Banana Republic" shirts themselves to create a "seeker-friendly" atmosphere to attract souls who might not be Christians yet, but are thinking about it. If they see a pastor sharing the gospel in some track pants, I guess they might be more inclined to accept Christ?"

Clothing and the Word of God

The Lord commanded Moses:

And the LORD said unto Moses, Go unto the people, and sanctify them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their clothes . . .

1. The LORD God is a great King. When we dress and act our best, we honor him as a Great King (Malachi 1:14).

The Scripture says "do all things decently and in order" (1 Corinthians 14:40).

The word "decently" means behaving in a way that conforms to acceptable standards relevant for the occasion -- the standards set for the house of God and **not** the local track team. The word "order" refers to the rules and standards of a holy society.

When there is a cloud in the pulpit there is a fog in the pew; when there is muck on the pastor, there is mud on the sheep. When a pastor fails to represent the King (Malachi 1:14), the people do not understand the sovereignty and excellence of Christ.

Words mean something; and, the attire one wears communicates a message:

- If the pastor does not dress up, the people will dress down.
- If the pastor is casual about what he wears, parishoners will be casual about the Word of God.
- If the pastor doesn't care about the message his attire sends, why should the people care about the mission of the church?

How could a visitor come away from a casually-dressed church service thinking that Jesus is the King of kings and Lord of Lords?

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

The word "decently" (euschemonos) is an adverb meaning "propriety, decently, or mannerly." The word "order" refers to the rules of a holy community.

Its application to dress implies Christians should array themselves properly, decently, with dignity when attending church. You don't have to look like a prince in Buckingham Palace, but you are going to meet the king. Dress appropriately for meeting royalty.

The word "order" (taxis) refers to the appropriate "order" and "proper distribution of things." There is a properly, orderly way to dress for church. Instead of "dressing down" maybe people should consider "dressing up" to God's standards following the rules of His House.

Admittedly, styles change through the decades.

A sanctified people wash up and clean up before meeting with the Lord (Exodus 19:15).

Modesty, propriety, and humility are always in style (1 Timothy 2:9).

Hat removal by men and headcoverings by women is always appropriate (1 Corinthians 11).

As looking rich is vain so is looking poor . . . or casual . . . or sloppy (James 2).

When approaching the LORD God, be beautiful within and without. Dress like you are going to church to meet the King!

Worship him in the beauty of holiness (Psalm 96:9) -- a reference to the High Priest's robes and the attractiveness of set-apart-ness. He is a "great King:" therefore, kiss His scepter by acting and dressing your best (Malachi 1:14).

One's outward presentation is evidence of one's inner disposition.

Our Lord is a Great King and everything we do should reflect humility and excellence.

"But cursed be the deceiver, which hath in his flock a male, and voweth, and sacrificeth unto the Lord a corrupt thing: for I am a great King, saith the LORD of hosts, and my name is dreadful among the heathen" (Malachi 1:14).

The guide for meeting with the King of Queen of England is as follows:

"It is said that in the presence of royalty you should avoid wearing something exposing your arms. Formal dress is recommended. Jeans and trainers will be unacceptable (Whales online: May 26, 2022).

If you are the Lord's servant, dress like a servant of his Majesty in Heaven. You don't have to dress in a formal Ethnic Midi Dress like a member of the Brahmin Class in India, but look sharp. After all, when you go to church, you are going to meet with the King.

15. The Me Too Movement Goes to Church

1 Timothy 2:12

But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.

Σ - When Satan goes to church, sanguine women give their opinions in church, perform like rock stars on stage, and push the men into a paralysis of silent passivity.

The "Me Too Movement" visited the Southern Baptist Convention accusing ministers of dishonoring women and their failure to manage sexual sins against women. See article [here](#)

"#MeToo goes to church: Southern Baptists face a reckoning over treatment of women"(Alex Johnson, NBC News, June 8, 2018)

The Southern Baptist Convention, the country's largest evangelical denomination, is headed for a showdown over its treatment of women that could not only have far-reaching ramifications for the church but also influence the broader secular #MeToo movement.

At its annual meeting next week in Dallas, delegates called "messengers" will decide whether to approve a resolution acknowledging that, throughout the church's history, male leaders and members of the church "wronged women, abused women, silenced women, objectified women."

"The #MeToo moment has come to American evangelicals," Albert Mohler, president of the flagship Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, wrote last month. "And I am called to deal with it as a Christian, as a minister of the Gospel, as a seminary and college president, and as a public leader."

The convention is meeting in the wake of several widely publicized scandals in which prominent Southern Baptist leaders have been accused of or have admitted inappropriate behavior toward women.

"Many women have experienced horrific abuses within the power structures of our Christian world," Beth Moore, a prominent evangelical teacher in Houston, wrote in an open letter last month.

"Many women have experienced horrific abuses within the power structures of our Christian world," Beth Moore, an evangelical teacher, wrote in a letter

It is true some women have experienced horrific abuse within the power structures of the church . . . but so have men!

Because Allen's perspective is feministic, he misdiagnoses the problem. Why did he use "sinfulness" instead of the word "crime?" He cites the failure as a deficient view of women.

This is a false premise!

I was an SBC minister and I never once met a Baptist minister who failed to honor women or treat them as children of God. Never! If anything, the Baptists have released the moorings on women from Biblical constraints within God's law-order -- out of fear of a feminist revolt in the church and others because of the tenets of the gospel.

If there is a problem, it is not because SBC ministers don't honor women, but that they don't honor God's law above the wokeness of feminism tornadoing through the culture.

Because the majority of ministers are antinomian, they tend to see abuses against women as a sin to be forgiven, rather than a crime to be reported.

Likewise, they tend to see abuses by women against men as tolerable rather than as a violation of God's law order. Men do not have a monopoly on sin! Women are not always victims. Too often, they are predators who by their mouthiness provoke indignant acts from their husbands.

Solomon said that a foolish woman who has her tongue tied in the middle and flappin' at both ends deserves a slap in the choppers.

Proverbs 18:6 A **fool's** lips enter into contention, and his/her **mouth** calls for **strokes**.

Seeking to avoid scandals in the church, ministers are prone to turn a blind eye to physical abuse or sweep sexual transgressions under the church carpet. Out of sight, out of mind . . . and out of the newspapers!

Some acts are criminal in nature and not peccadillos that offend the emotion of this "touchy-feely" generation.

Southern Baptists along with other Evangelical churches have an inadequate view of the place of God's law in the church; that is, they have a negligible respect for the Biblical law.

Many Evangelicals tend to see New Testament commands as suggestions and options rather than law, obligations, and duties. The failure to treat New Testament commands as law is the product of more than a little evil.

Rather than seeing the criminality of certain negative behaviors that needs to be reported to the police, and a matter of church discipline, Protestant pastors interpret crimes as sins that victims needs to forgive.

When is the last time you have ever heard of an SBC church disciplining a member, male or female, for violating God's law (1 Corinthians 5)? SBC churches are all about additions, not subtractions; all about being politically correct, rather than Biblically correct; and, all about being "cool" and inclusive rather than holy and separate.

Forgiveness is not the first issue that needs to be dealt with. Some people need to go to jail for injuring people.

Loving your neighbor means doing your neighbor no harm. Harming a neighbor is a criminal matter that needs to be punished by civil courts as well as a sinful matter that needs to be disciplined by the church's ecclesiastical court.

To be fair, the number one theological issue in Evangelical circles is the failure to develop an adequate theology of law in the church -- a failure that stems back to the Reformation. The practice of law is the practical application of Theology. Pastors are notoriously inadequate in the studies of law; and, therefore, lack the ability to apply law correctly.

The issue is not a lack of honor for women, but a lack of honor for God's law-order. God's law is good for Baptists, all men, and all of man's institutions.

1 Timothy 1:8 Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully (3rd class conditional),

1 John 5:2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments.

16. Strange Fire in the Church

Leviticus 10:1-2

“And Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took either of them his censer, and put fire therein, and put incense thereon, and offered strange fire before the LORD, which he commanded them not. And there went out fire from the LORD, and devoured them, and they died before the LORD”.

Σ - When Satan goes to church fanatics offer strange fire in worship.

Nadab and Abihu, newly ordained priests from the family of Aaron, offered strange fire to the Lord.

That they were immediately executed by God, and that the surviving family of priests was not permitted to mourn their deaths ought to be of tremendous interest to the seeker of truth.

Nadab and Abihu were not pretenders or false men. They were legitimate, properly sanctioned priests . . . yet, the LORD executed them.

What did they do wrong? What was their sin?

Apparently, the two men put fire and incense in their censer, went into the Holy Place to trim the candlestick, and to service the ordination of burning incense on the golden altar.

- (1) They each took their own censer rather than the sacred tabernacle utensil designated and consecrated for this purpose (Exodus 40:9).
- (2) Instead of using coals from off the brazen altar to burn incense, they used coals from another source to burn incense.
- (3) They presumed to go into the Holy Place together. The duties to service the tabernacle inside the Holy Place were to be done by one priest only. Never two priests. God did not appoint a committee to serve Him.
- (4) Servicing the inner tabernacle was not their job; that is, it was the duty of the High Priest (Aaron), and not the subsidiary priests to service the rituals inside the tabernacle proper (Exodus 30:7).
- (5) They offered the incense in their own censers and went into the Holy Place at an unauthorized time; that is, the chores of servicing the

candlestick and the provision for the golden altar were to be performed twice a day, once in the morning and once in the evening.

(6) Possibly the two men were slightly inebriated. In verse ten Moses instructed Aaron, after the fact, to not drink wine while on duty in the tabernacle.

These men offered strange fire, and therefore died by fire.

There are at least three lessons for us in this passage:

First, those who serve God must regard Him as holy.

Leviticus 10:3 Then Moses said unto Aaron, This is it that the LORD spake, saying, I will be sanctified in them that come nigh me, and before all the people I will be glorified. And Aaron held his peace.

To sanctify God means to treat Him as the highest authority in all matters -- to honor him with obedience, dignity, reverence, and our most excellent service. Where God is obeyed, God is glorified. Where men follow His Word instead of their own feelings, He is honored. When men are more concerned about obedience to God's law than the laws of the State, they sanctify God as holy.

This passage ought to give us pause to consider how Christians can offend the holiness of God by offering strange fire things not commanded . . . in the worship of the church today.

- Do not Christians offer strange fire to the Lord when unqualified men lead the congregation in prayer (1 Timothy 2:8).
- Do not Christians offer strange fire to the Lord when women preach or lead the congregation in prayer (1 Timothy 2:9ff)?
- Do not Christians offer strange fire to the Lord when its ministers and Sunday School teachers perform the duties of the church absent the power of the Spirit of God (Ephesians 5:18-20)?
- Do not Christians offer strange fire to the Lord when speaking in pseudo tongues, performing acts of "holy laughter," and doing all kinds of undignified gyrations, jerking, and gymnastics in theatrical performances on stage in a Pentecostal church?
- Do not Christians offer strange fire before the Lord when young musicians "rock out" the church in some "rap" or "jam" session in the sanctuary? [Do not hear what is not being said. There is a place

for dignified, God-honoring compositions using musical instruments]

- Do not Christians offer strange fire before the Lord when men pray to God with a hat on their head and women pray in church with their head uncovered (1 Corinthians 11:1-16)?
- Do not Christians offer strange fire before the Lord when they drink coffee and eat donuts in a “worship” service?
- Do not Christians offer strange fire before the Lord when they offer prayers to God in the name of Mary or some saint?
- Do not Christians offer strange fire before the Lord by incorporating with the IRS and subjecting it to the rules of the State? A church that permits godless, pagan IRS agents to inspect its tabernacle records is not only blasphemy but strange fire in the Holy Place.
- Do not pretenders offer strange fire before the Lord by smoking “weed” as a substitute for the elements of the Lord’s Supper in the “Church of Cannibis”?
- Do not pretender-Christians offer strange fire when they conduct services in the nude like the Whitetail Chapel apostate church in New Jersey?
- Do not pretender-churches offer strange fire when congregants are composed of practicing homosexuals, transvestites, and lesbians dressed in rainbow colors (1 Corinthians 6:9-10)?
- Do not so called “Messianic churches” offer strange fire before the Lord by wearing Jewish prayer shawls, yarmulkes, tallits, and phylacteries in church?
- Do not pretender-churches offer strange fire when preaching all religions are a way to God . . . or there are many paths to God and not many paths to hell?
- Do not pretender-churches offer strange fire before the Lord when preaching psychological theories in substitute for or alongside the Word of God?
- Do not pretender-churches offer strange fire when preaching salvation without blood currency . . . or repentance . . . or the cross . . . or the Lordship of Christ?

- Do not pretender-Christians offer strange fire to the Lord when people handle rattlesnakes on an Arkansas podium to demonstrate supernatural powers?
- Do not pretender-churches offer strange fire when preaching a gospel that encourages Christians to always obey the government and presumptions of law?
- Do not pretender-churches offer strange fire to the Lord by adopting the State's definition of marriage as a union between two people and then receiving them as members of the church?

Surely, such doctrines and practices grieve the Holy Spirit who has instructed us how to please Him:

“And grieve not the Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption” (Ephesians 4:30).

Second, the surviving priestly family was not permitted to mourn the death of Nadab and Abihu informing us that all Christian ministers must identify with, rejoice in, and side with the judgments (law) of God as presented in His Word.

The flower and hope of Aaron's family was suddenly destroyed by the terrifying justice of God. Yet, he was not permitted to yield to his natural emotions of sorrow, shock, and grief. Aaron had to identify and uphold the righteous judgment of the LORD God of Israel. There is a place for human emotions and grief, but not while Aaron had the anointing oil upon him in the service of the LORD God.

God’s Word, not human affections, is the only authority for faith and practice. We are not permitted to let natural desires or personal values determine the course of ministry. Ministers are not permitted to adopt modern sympathies as standards for conduct in the Church of Jesus Christ.

Third, this page of history reminds us how sin taints everything man touches.

Oh, how the joy of the day turned to sorrow. Four times in Leviticus 9, it says Moses did as the LORD commanded in the ordination of the priests (9:5, 6, 7, 21), and then suddenly, without warning two priests offered that which “He commanded them not” (10:1-2) to offend the holiness of God.

No sooner had the first couple been placed in the garden that they took a bite out of the fruit of the poisonous tree (Genesis 3).

In the new world, Noah quickly corrupted himself with wine to the shame of his family (Genesis 8-9). No sooner had the tabernacle and the priests been consecrated, they followed the ways of their own heart and subjected themselves to the fires of God's wrath (Leviticus 10).

During the first battle in the Land of Canaan, Achan took the forbidden Babylonian garment and hid it in his tent (Joshua 6-7).

As soon as Israel captured the land, they "forsook the Lord, and served Baal and Ashtaroth" (Judges 2:13).

Saul, Israel's first king, quickly became corrupt (1 Samuel 14-15).

When Solomon achieved the pinnacle of power, he gave his heart to foreign women (1 Kings 11).

In the first church, the people witnessed the judgment of Ananias and Sapphira for their deception (Acts 5). No sooner had the blessings of the gospel been preached around the Mediterranean than it became needful for the Holy Spirit to warn the new churches about "grievous wolves," "apostasy," and all manner of deception (Acts 20:29; 1 Timothy. 4:1-3; 2 Timothy. 3:1-5; 2 Peter 2; Jude). And, to crown all, we have the prophetic record of human apostasy amid all the splendors of millennial glory (Revelation 20:7-10).

The passage in Leviticus 10 warns those in the priestly service of ministry **not** to be under the influence of wine in the service of the Lord. This would include being under the influence of drugs or the mind being under the influence of the madness of political correctness and the rewriting of history produced by universities and the Zionist media today.

Let's be careful to do "what the Lord commands," and to shun all "strange fire" (that which He has not commanded) in the service of the Lord.

17. The Psychologization of Scripture

Proverbs 23:7

*For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he: Eat and drink, saith he to thee;
but his heart is not with thee.*

Σ - When Satan goes to church it adopts psychology, pop-psychology, and psycho-heresy as the basis of its counseling program.

Proverbs 23:7 has wrongly been interpreted by the psychologized Christian counselor to support a psychological model of spirituality.

He that “thinketh” in this verse is the greedy man and **not** a person with mental illness!

The context of this verse is about dining with a man that hath an evil eye; that is, a stingy, hoggish man. Out of courtesy, he may say, “Eat and drink” but in his heart he is angry that he has to share his food with you.

The whole idea of an evil eye is one of greed, covetousness, and jealousy: (Deuteronomy 15:9; Matthew 20:15; Mark 7:22).

Deuteronomy 15:9 Beware that there be not a thought in thy wicked heart, saying, The seventh year, the year of release, is at hand; and thine eye be evil against thy poor brother, and thou givest him nought; and he cry unto the LORD against thee, and it be sin unto thee.

Here is a more recent translation of Proverbs 23:7, the NRSV:

‘Do not eat the bread of the stingy; do not desire their delicacies; 7 for like a hair in the throat, so are they. “Eat and drink!” they say to you; but they do not mean it. 8 You will vomit up the little you have eaten, and you will waste your pleasant words.’

In other words, when the Bible says “as a man thinketh in his heart” it is actually literally saying “as a hair caught in your throat.”

The greedy man may offer you dinner, but when he does, he has a hair stuck in this throat; that is, though he may be smiling at you on the outside, he nurses bitterness and anger on the inside over the fact that he has to put something on the table that belongs to him and give it to you.

The ESV translate it this way

Do not eat the bread of a man who is stingy; do not desire his delicacies, for he is like one who is inwardly calculating. "Eat and drink!" he says to you, but his heart is not with you. You will vomit up the morsels that you have eaten, and waste your pleasant words. (Proverbs 23:6-7)

The New Living Translation translates the meaning of the text which is very clear:

"Don't eat with people who are stingy; don't desire their delicacies.

Greedy people are always thinking about how much it costs.

"Eat and drink," they say, but they don't mean it!

There is again a footnote after "costs" which says "The meaning of the Hebrew is uncertain".

In summary, this verse has been wrongly used to support the theory that psychological counseling must explore the inner thoughts and feelings of men; i.e., to tunnel into a man's deepest thoughts. The point of the passage is that a greedy man in offering you a meal is a hypocrite; that is, he does it begrudgingly. So, don't let his fake smile fool you.

Psychoanalyst takes a man deeper into self, but it does not take him deeper into Christ. All of pop psychology focuses on feelings instead of one's faith in the Lord.

1 John 5:4 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, *even* our faith.

There is no growth without exploring the wonders of Christ and the cross, and no victory over guilt and fear without faith.

"Look to self and be depressed; look to Christ and be impressed."

18. Satan Loves the Third Wave Movement

Charismatic Confusion Cover Up

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.

Σ - When Satan goes to church people speak in gibber-jabber, dance in the pew, roll in the aisles, and fall backward in a trance.

All that is wrong with American “Christianity” can be found in the Childish Charismatic Movement.

Charismatics are in retreat from the cross and reality. Charismatics are babyish at best and insane at worst. Holly Rollers are not holy, and Charismatics are not “filled with the Spirit.” “Feeling the Spirit from the top of your head to the bottom of your toes” is not part the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is wretched subjectivism.

Definition: “a theory that limits knowledge to subjective experience” (Merriam-Webster).

This brief focuses on the Vineyard Movement and its relationship to the pseudo gospel and the Charismatic Movement.

The 1st Wave of the Pentecostal Movement began in April 1906 at Azusa Street 2nd Baptist Church in California. Many reported being “baptized by the Spirit” which was manifested by speaking in tongues (jibber jabber). The Pentecostal fire spread rapidly across America and the world. As these congregations descended into the indignities of barking like dogs, clucking like chickens, and rolling in the isles like laughing children, a group of Pentecostal business men formed the 2nd Wave of the movement who wanted the Pentecostal fire without the undignified perversions happening in mainstream Pentecostalism.

The 2nd Wave of the Pentecostal movement practiced “speaking in tongues” in their private prayer closet (1960’s). These Pentecostals called themselves “Charismatics” meaning “gifted ones.” The Charismatics

practiced their aberrations and sought the Spirit's anointing in small groups.

The 3rd Wave of the Pentecostal Movement was started by John Wimber who broke away from the Calvary Chapel Movement in 1974 in order to Pentecostalize to form Vineyard Ministries International.

Chuck Smith, the founder of Calvary Chapel, emphasized the supremacy of the Word of God and self-control among its members while Wimber emphasized sensual experiences supposedly from God.

His leading disciple, Dr. Peter Wagner, taught the "signs and wonders" class at Fuller Theological Seminary at the School of World Missions. Desiring a more flammable fuel, Wimber returned to his Pentecostal roots introducing members to "Power Evangelism" through "signs and wonders." The movement became known as "The Third Wave of the Holy Spirit."

Some Evangelicals believe all three movements have done more to break down the truth of the gospel and to prepare people for the one-world harlot church than any other movement in history.

Because there are so many victims of this heteropraxy, you need to know *the fruits of the 3rd Wave of Pentecostalism* so you can help restore them with truth and gentleness.

Sensuality

With "anointed" music as a tool, Wimber appealed to the feelings and emotions of his audiences with the effect of producing sensual Christians. A Jazz musician, Wimber awed his audiences with variations of Beetle music.

A "touchy-feely" person doesn't need to study the Word of God because he already knows the will of God by his feelings. He doesn't want to know God through His Word; He wants to experience Him in his heart. The sensuous Christian is moved by emotion and feelings. He probably regards strict adherence to the Bible as legalism and "child-like faith" as ignorance. As weeping, loud sobbing, shaking, animal noises, physical gyrations, deafening music, jumping, and hysterical laughter often break out Vineyard meetings, Wimber could be heard saying, "It all right folks, the Spirit is at work. Come, Holy Spirit, Come."

Pragmatism

Wimber believed in a “fierce pragmatism;” i.e., and that the ends-justifies-the means. He tried to find out what works in the realm of healing, prophetic messages, casting out demons, etc. by visiting Pentecostal power practitioners. “If it works, it must be good; if it helps, it must be of God,” reasoned Wimber.

Jacob’s deception of his father, Isaac, worked but it did not mean it was right. Pragmatists are concerned about results and the results determine the truth. The pragmatist is not concerned so much about what the Bible says but about whether the “practice” produces the appearance of good or bad (Wimber, “Zip to 3,000 in 5 Years-Part I, “Signs and Wonders”: Christian Life Missions).

False Gospel

The gospel of the 3rd Wave is not about Jesus Christ and his death, burial, and resurrection or the marvelous effects of justification, regeneration, and eternal life received by faith, but a gospel of here and now, the gospel of deliverance, the gospel of “signs and wonders,” the gospel of personal revelations, the gospel of healing, the gospel of a spirit of thrills and chills in the heart.

We are not against deliverance from evil, but in the context of the Vineyard, deliverance is “another gospel” that by-passes the cross (Galatians 1:6)

The 3rd Wave believes in animism; i.e., there are demons in people, over cities (territorial spirits), in trees, in cars, in foods, and things.

Wimber believed in casting out demons from believers and emphasized exorcism and healing. F.V. Scott observed “the gospel is more than a disclosure of magic that matches and outdoes the magic of folk religions and cults. Its agenda includes more than relief from the pains of life. The ultimate goal is the fruits of spirituality – good feelings, power, self-esteem, wealth and health, and not the gifts of the Spirit. Yet, that is the emphasis of John Wimber’s ministry” (See Wimber, Healing Seminar Syllabus, Section 2, Healing in the New Testament).

Low View of the true Gospel

Wimber does not outwardly deny the glorious gospel of Christ but he did not believe in its power. He believed the task of world evangelism could not be accomplished by emphasizing an accurate articulation of the

Gospel, but that it needed to be shored up by “signs and wonders and miracles and healings.”

This view not only contradicts Romans 1:16, it induces the false notion that Christians have been deceived and deprived of power for 2000 years.

The Vineyard needs to be reminded that faith comes by hearing the Word of God, not by seeing signs and wonders (Romans 10:17).

Duplicity

Though Wimber was a Pentecostal of Pentecostals, Wimber had the reckless-audacity to call himself an Evangelical. “I just call myself an evangelical who’s a little more Biblical than I have been before.”

Identifying with Evangelicals gave Wimber respect he would not otherwise have gained . . . and, a cloak under which to practice the debasing acts of Pentecostalism. The Vineyard’s close association with Pentecostal, Charismatic leaders in major rallies refute their non-charismatic claims and document their duplicity says M.H. Reynolds (Foundation’s Magazine, Vol. XII, Los Osos, CA).

Childishness

Wimber and his Charismatic brethren are childish false prophets. Speaking in tongues is not of the same character as the gift of languages in the New Testament. Seeing Charismatic madmen rolling in the isles, flopping on stage with laughter, slapping people on the forehead so they fall backward, crawling on stage like a drunk, neck jerking, twitching, and convulsions is nothing but psycho-childishness. It is worse than being babyish, it is criminal fraud – pass the offering plate please. This is not Christianity; it is *the cult of wretched subjectivism*.

Experience Based

The Vineyard Movement is dependent on experience rather than Scripture. Wimber’s use of Scripture is problematic because his starting point was his own experience. Wimber said, “I’m sort of a have-experience-will-travel person” (New Wine, 1.87., p. 7) “Experiencing God in the heart,” a Catholic concept, is more important than knowing God accurately through His Word –

To Wimber, the locus of salvation is not Calvary, but the human heart; the Savior is not Christ, but the Spirit; the great necessity is not Christ’s

experience on the cross, but the believer's experience with hyper-spirituality.

The Vineyard folk are deeply subjective, feeling orientated, and introspective. They seek daily illumination and self-authenticating experiences with God, which they believe are of God merely because they have experienced them.

One member of the 3rd wave was telling me about how God had spoken to him with a word of knowledge and how it changed his life. He went on and on about his sensual vision that caused him to tremble and shake. Thereafter, the audible word "God" supposedly spoke to him. He almost impressed me until I found out he was shacking up with a live-in girlfriend. He saw no contradiction between his orgasmic spiritual experience with "God" and his fornicating experience with his mistress. What spirit was speaking to him? Not the Holy Spirit!

Wimber believed in "speaking things into existence," the act of a god; i.e., that Christians can bind the Devil, command spirits, and rebuke diseases.

A modern day ghost buster, Wimber believed in power messages, power evangelism, power healings, and power exorcism.

Instead of being content with the fact that power is resident in God alone, Vineyard ministers can be seen "breathing in" power, be heard making sucking sounds, and waving hands pushing in the Spirit to the heart to receive power. Can you imagine the honorable Apostle Paul practicing this hocus pocus?

In the Vineyard, Spiritual power is a goal in itself. Wimber emphasized the need for his adherents to seize the force and power of the Spirit, the force of grace, and the force of love which separated "dead doctrine" from "living reality."

Since when is Biblical doctrine "dead"? When did the Spirit become a "force"? If I remember correctly, "you shall be as gods" was a promise of Satan to the first couple.

Low View of Scripture

Wimber did not believe in the sufficiency of the Word of God declared his advisor ("Wimber Changes His Mind", Evangelicals Now, p. 15).

In criticizing the Calvary Chapel Movement, Wimber is reported to say that,

“They’re very Pharisaical in their allegiance to the Bible. They have very little life, and growth and spontaneity in the innards” (Wimber, Church Planting Seminar, Tapes I-V, 3.28.81).

He equated those who measure a ministry with Scripture as unbelieving Scribes.

Wimber believed, “all truth is God’s truth” even “truth” outside of Scripture. The Vineyard movement practices “listening to God” through impulses and feelings. Listeners hang on every word supposedly received directly from God.

In the Indianapolis conference in 1990, Wimber told his audience,

“It was amazing and astounding to me when I found out that God also could communicate outside of the Scripture and directly to His children—astounding to me. . .” (Reynolds, p. 7).

Leaders in this sensual movement will claim that “God spoke to me;” that they have a message from God; or “the Lord said;” or they have a “revelation from God.”

It is reported that Wimber heard a voice from God saying that the “Beetles music” was the sound Wimber should use for his ministry.

Really?

“To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them” (Isaiah 8:20).

Though his experience on the Mt. of Transfiguration was real, Peter said, “We have a more sure Word of Prophecy” –a reference to the Word of God (2 Peter 1:18).

Wimber taught that the church was hiding behind doctrinal beliefs that curtail the work of the Spirit. “The church today is committing evil in the name of sound doctrine,” taught Wimber (Church Planting Seminar, 3.28.81).

Wimber was wrong!

Sound doctrine will not curtail the work of the Spirit but encourage it and shape it to produce godly character (1 Tim. 6:2-3; Tit. 1:1, 2:9, 10; 3:5-8).

Its members are wrong when they errantly quote, "Knowledge puffs up."

The Scriptures says,

"My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also reject you as my priests; because you have ignored the law of your God, I also will ignore your children" (Hosea 4:6).

"Those who grounded everything on knowledge are reminded parenthetically that knowledge by itself may have a bad effect, and also (1Corinthians 8:2-3) that there is an element in the consciousness of our knowledge which destroys the truth and purity of that knowledge itself" (Ellicott)

Paul is not addressing men who seek the knowledge of God. General knowledge on many subjects can puff up the man (Ellicott).

"It is a strange, sad result of superior intelligence or acquirements, that it so often leads to conceit, to a false estimate of the worth and power of knowing, to a ridiculous over-valuing of certain acquirements, and to an insolent contempt and cruel disregard of those who have them not" (MacLaren).

Knowledge of mathematics, music, engineering, medicine, foods, business, economics, and law can inflate a man's ego, but the knowledge of God is truth that humbles a man and **sheds light for daily guidance (Psalm 119:105)**.

Permissiveness

The Vineyard's low view of Scripture combined with an emphasis on following "the spirit" (emotions) as opposed to following the Word creates a climate of permissiveness and tolerance. The Word is perceived in juxtaposition to the Spirit contrary to the teaching of Paul (Ephesians 5:18; Colossians 3:15-16).

Spontaneity is seen as "spiritual" and obedience to Scripture and strict adherence to the Word is perceived as Pharisaical legalism.

When corrected by a knowledgeable Bible student who speaks the truth in love, Vineyard adherents will say, "that is not loving, or "the letter killeth," or that is "legalistic."

Since when is obedience to the Word of God legalistic? If obedience is legalistic, may all of God's people be "legalistic." The great Christians of history have been people of the Book with an iron-clad grip on its truth: "Blessed are they that hear the Word of God and keep it," declared Jesus (Luke 11:28). The Vineyard movement needs to be reminded that it is not loving or Christian to depart from Scripture.

Eastern Mysticism

Hinduism invaded the West through the inroads of pop psychology. It is clear that the Vineyard drifted deep into psychology and the occult through Wimber's leadership. The Vineyard practices "inner healing" and uses borrowed ideas from the false prophets of John Sandford, Sigmund Freud, and Carl Jung.

Wimber believed in "healing memories," "repressed memories," and the "touchy-feely" world of inner feelings. He saw men controlled by demons. He had his "antennae" into the cosmic reality so he could receive special anointings. The Vineyard forms small groups so they can "call down the power of God" through their "power ministry" so victims can experience "power healing" and "power speaking." Instant relief from the pains and struggles of life is not only commanded in prayer, but paramount to their false gospel.

Wimber taught his followers how to heal, how to cast out demons, and how to bring about deliverance. Instead of exploring Scripture and challenging people to grow in godliness, adherents explore the inner psyche of the victim to detect blame points for present behavior. Instead of teaching truth, prayer warriors seek to somehow manipulate God and control His powers for deliverance — an occult concept.

Vineyard shamans seek innate power inherent in themselves. Advocates believe that taking a person back into the past, using meditation concepts and visualization, Jesus can enter the past traumatic event and heal it."

Inner healing includes: "hot flushes and stiffness in certain parts of the body, tingling sensations, trembling and shaking, falling down under the power of the Spirit, strong electrical current, ripples on the skin, movement underneath the skin, radiance on the face, heavy breathing, moaning and groaning and being in a trance" (Healing Seminar Syllabus: II Observations, p. 74).

“Forgiving self” is often emphasized in the Vineyard Movement. Can you imagine Jesus telling the prostitute, “You must forgive yourself? We have no authority to forgive ourselves, but we can believe that God forgives sin and enjoy its fruits by faith (Luke. 5:24).

The real problem of inner healing is that it shifts the emphasis from Christ and the cross to a spirit, the heart, and the human will –thus, the Vineyard undermines the work of Christ turning the Gospel upside down (Galatians 1:4-8). Wasn’t this the heresy in Roman Catholicism that Luther confronted in his day?

More can be said about the Vineyard’s false prophets, false apostles, false gospel, and “damnable heresies”.

The wise Christian will avoid the movement and find a Bible believing church that teaches the sufficiency of the Scripture and the sufficiency of the Gospel. It is more important for the believer to understand the Gospel of Christ and to lay hold of its blessings by faith (Eph. 1:3ff) than it is to tunnel into one’s past or investigate the demonic realm of principalities and powers.

If you have come under the influence of the 3rd Wave or know someone who is under the influence of the 3rd Wave, there is cleansing power in the Word and joy in the true grace of God

“that brings salvation . . . to all men which teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope– the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, Who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good” (Titus 2:11-14).

If you are in this vile movement, run away as fast as your sandals can slap pavement! Get out now! Find a solid Bible-based fellowship and recover!

19. Wretched Subjectivism

Genesis 3:10

“ . . . and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself . . . ”

Σ - When Satan goes to church men turn inward and seek inner spiritual experiences.

One time I saw an ad by an Eastern religion promoting meditation that read,

*“You go in and in and in, And then you go in and in and in,
And after that you in and in and in and in.”*

In one of these eastern groups, the adherent sits on a mat with his legs crossed and arms folded to meditate on human flight. In his trance, the spiritualist seeks to levitate above the earth. With his legs folded in a frog like motion, he unconsciously propels his meditating body upward about 4 inches off the mat in a sequence of hopping motions giving him the supposed sensation of flight.

This retreat into self as spiritual experience is called subjectivism. Because the soul of man is only occupied with self, its feelings, an experiences it is “wretched subjectivism.”

Subjectivism began in the garden:

**And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him,
Where *art* thou? And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was
afraid, because I *was* naked; and I hid myself (Genesis 3:9-10).**

The worst kind of subjectivism is religious subjectivism. Whether it is the practice of a meditating Hindu lying on a mat of nails, or Islamic boys bowing and chanting prayers, or a Charismatic tongues meeting with adherents excreting monosyllabic phrases, these religious practices *are fraudulent expressions of spirituality.*

Medieval Subjectivism

Wretched subjectivism was active in Christianity as far back as the medieval period of church history where spiritualist emphasized the work of the Spirit inside of man instead of the work of Christ outside of man.

Rome substituted grace in the heart for the grace revealed at Calvary.

The Anabaptists cried, "The Spirit! The Spirit!"

Wesleyan Subjectivism

Those objecting to the Protestant movement with its emphasis on justification by faith retreated to a Wesleyan pietistic experience. Influenced by Moravian pietism, Wesley emphasized sanctification in the Methodist movement. Because Wesley believed in justification by faith, his emphasis on pietism was not all bad. Wesley, however, taught his followers that no soul could claim the blessing of justification without the manifestation of sanctification. To Wesley, sanctification was the higher "stage of redemption" (Reinhold Niebuhr, The Nature and Destiny of Man, 1949, Vol. 2, p. 180.)

Many of Wesley's followers were not as balanced as their leader. As Wesleyan doctrine spread in the Americas, the doctrine of "entire sanctification" hit the church in the form of a "second blessing" or "Methodist Perfection." Urged to seek a "second blessing" the Methodists slid down the slippery slope into subjectivism.

On the American frontier, Wesleyan preachers held camp meetings. Anemic from lack of Biblical instruction, frontiersmen attended these yearly meetings with a Bible in one hand and bottle of whiskey in the other hand to take his yearly "spiritual bath." He was used to braining bears, killing Indians, and chasing wolves. When he came to a camp meeting, he wanted his religion to be as exciting as an Indian raid. After listening to hours of stump preaching, men and women would often plunge into "godly hysteria" where they were seen falling on the ground, rolling in the dirt, and barking like dogs. Some would take a swig of whiskey every three minutes just to maintain their courage to keep listening to these preachers. These wild displays of religious fervor were entirely subjective in nature.

The Finney revivals of 1850 swept Americans off their feet where his followers experienced a "snapping" or very deep emotional crisis supposedly acceptable to God. The emphasis was not upon the objective gospel, but upon dramatic, subjective, inward experiences.

During the alleged 2023 Asbury revival in Wilmore, Kentucky we did not see humble men and women bowing to the Savior or sharing the faith with people on the street. Rather, news clips showed young men wearing baseball caps and tank tops and veiless women in short shorts waiving their hands, swaying back and forth as if they were trying to touch God.

When revival happens, men and women yield to the dictates of the Scripture, take up their cross, forsaking sin, and perform humble acts of service to their fellow man while taking bold stands against evil.

Pentecostal Subjectivism

Following Finney, the “holiness” movement swept the country and holiness publications sprang up all over the country. Perfectionism, complete sanctification, and victory tracts flooded the market. The Keswick Movement was born. Christians were desperately trying to get out of Romans seven into Romans eight. Here Roman Catholicism and Methodism merged creating a flood zone of introspection in Christianity.

One branch of the movement emphasized the “baptism of fire” (Iowa, 1895) which regarded a miraculous visitation of the Spirit. In the 1900, the Pentecostal movement was born with its subjective religious snapping and revivalism. Labeled “holy rollers,” this title stuck like ugly on an ape. Between 1900 and 1960 the Pentecostal movement began to grow.

Charismatic Subjectivism

About 1960, a new wave of religious subjectivism crossed the stage known as the “Neo-Pentecostal Movement” or the “Charismatic Movement.” This movement shifted the “religious crisis” from the center stage to the prayer closet. Thousands of tongues speakers boasted of their private experiences claiming there were visitations of Spirit with biblical proportions. Catholics, who were already stuck in the mud of subjectivism, welcomed the movement heralding its validity and authenticity.

Where I live, one can sometimes see Indians waving their arms to the great spirit in the mountains of New Mexico. New Agers sit on red bluffed rocks in a meditative state attempting to feel, touch, and breathe in the “Great Spirit.”

Charismatics boast of their deep ecstatic experiences. Private prayer groups urge members to let go and feel the “spirit” moving. “Holy laughter” and “neck jerking” is deemed a deep spiritual experience. Sermons are judged by the emotional impact on the audience rather than light shed on the Word of God. Heat, not light, is the measure of spirituality. “Christian” psychologists continue to take counselee’s in and in and in and into their own personal history to find “blame points” to explain deviant behavior.

Once again, the church finds itself in need of deliverance from wretched subjectivism.

Do not misunderstand. We are not against a legitimate Christ-centered experience. We are against placing primacy on the subjective at the expense of the objective. That is, focusing on the experience of man rather than focusing on the experience of the Son of God; emphasizing the intrinsic at the expense of the extrinsic; placing sanctification above justification; focusing on a spirit rather than Christ at Calvary; making the locus of salvation within the human heart instead of within history in the Christ event.

The cure for wretched subjectivism is the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Notice that after Paul chastised the Corinthians for their retreat into subjective experiences of the Spirit and misuse of the gifts, he pointed to the top of the mountain from which they tumbled:

Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you . . . 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 (1 Corinthians 15:3).

Paul led them out of self, out of their wonder-experiences, out of the subjective, and back to the objective gospel -- to the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. The core of gospel truth is not in the worshiper's experience, but in the saving acts of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Likewise, when Jesus sought to deliver Nicodemus from his subjective, legalistic, self-centered, self-occupied Jewish life seeped in wretched subjectivism, the Lord pointed him to an uplifted Serpent (John 3:14).

Invaded by snakes, Moses' congregation was poisoned with subjectivism. When his congregation gazed at snakes, snake-bites, and ancient snake-bite remedies, Moses erected a Christ-symbol in the middle of the camp. All who took their eyes off themselves to gaze at Another were healed.

It is time to lift up the Serpent again.

The Spirit will not speak of himself, but of Christ (John 16:13-14).

When a man is under the influence of the Spirit, he does not gaze at his belly button or his inner wounded child, but upon Christ (2 Corinthians 3:18).

When a man is under the influence of the Spirit, he does not confess his own faithfulness, but the “faithfulness” of Christ (Galatians 2:20).

When a man is under the influence of the Spirit, he does not focus on his own needs, but the needs of others: “love seeketh not her own” (1 Corinthians 13:5).

Conclusion

Wretched subjectivism has many faces: meditation, psychology, tongues, second blessings, penance, legalism, chanting, healing, swooning, holy laughter, spiritual formation, victory over the self-life, deep spirituality, grace in the heart, “Jesus inside me,” and a hundred other masks.

Only the gospel of Christ can deliver victims of subjectivism to something which is completely outside of their own experience.

When the Spirit is at work, the believer’s eyes are led away from self to the person and work of Christ outside of him. The experience of Christ, His doing and dying, become the center of the worshipper’s reflections. Justification, not sanctification, is the spring from which all holiness flows (Romans 5). It is the work of Christ for us, not the work of Christ in us that is the center of the gospel. Faith glories not in subjective experiences but in the objective accomplishments of Christ.

20. Preachers that Don't Bark

Isaiah 56:10

"His watchmen are blind: they are all ignorant, they are all dumb dogs, they cannot bark; sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber."

Jeremiah 23:15 . . . because from the prophets of Jerusalem ungodliness has spread throughout the land.

1 Peter 4:17 For it is time for judgment to begin with the family of God; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God?

Σ - When Satan goes to church danger is near, but pastors don't bark.

You have heard of the saying, "strain at a gnat and swallow a camel." Many people spend their time swatting gnats while the smelly-humped beasts run loose in society.

It would be easy to discuss the challenges America faces economically, or ethically, or philosophically. We have a whole generation that has forsaken God's Law-word and plunged into sexual immorality, hedonism, and blatant materialism. Wickedness and ungodliness abound. Blood from abortion cries out from the ground. Many National leaders are lesbians and homosexuals.

At the root of the problem, however, is not the ACLU or humanists, but silent preachers in our churches — preachers that can't bark and back away from a fight.

Proverbs 25:26 – Like a muddied spring or a polluted well are the righteous (pastors) who give way to the wicked (in government).

America's biggest problem is not with the government or its schools, but with the foolish men who occupy our pulpits. Most of the men who preach on Sundays are not prayer warriors, or Bible scholars, or exegetes, or expositors of the Word of God.

The majority are trained in business or psychology or engineering. Many have adopted the principles of pop psychology as their basis of counseling. The "power of positive thinking," collective consciousness,

and the “think and grow rich” ideologies of our day are at the core of their ministry. They know little of history, law, or reformed theology. Their theme is, “You’re O.K.; I’m O.K.” One Baptist preacher in Dallas preached a sermon on “How to buy the right Christmas present” for your family. They would rather grow numerically than spiritually. Many have the gift of “gab” and can talk for hours in infinite detail about bagatelle without ever having to pick up the Bible.

Oh, Lord, help us!

Perspective of Isaiah

Understand the Term “consent”

Silence is a form of speech. It is an element in a dialogue.

Silence is a means of consent. It means one approves by saying nothing.

Isaiah 56:10 His watchmen are blind: they are all ignorant, they are all dumb dogs, they cannot bark; sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber.

Webster’s New World Dictionary defines “consent” as the act of a recognized authority confirming or ratifying an action; authorized approval or permission.

The legal word for “consent” is the term “sanction.” When a court sanctions a thing it either approves or it disapproves of an action. Are not these pulpiteers guilty of sanctioning immorality, theft, homosexuality, adultery, murder, and fornication when they are silent about the sins of the congregation?

When preachers are silent on abortion, silent on drag queens speaking in public schools, and the unlawful seizures of private property by big government, they are like dumb dogs that do not bark when danger appears.

When was the last time you heard a preacher give a war whoop against the idolatry of statism, or fraud in the tax system, or theft initiated by government agencies? When it comes to sin, we need preachers who are meaner than the Bone Crusher of the WWF.

Silence is also a form of fraud.

“Silence can only be equated with fraud when there is a legal and moral duty to speak or when an inquiry left unanswered would be intentionally misleading. We cannot condone this

shocking conduct... If that is the case we hope our message is clear. This sort of deception will not be tolerated and if this is routine it should be corrected immediately" (U.S. v. Prudden, 424 F.2d. 1021; U.S. v. Tweel, 550 F. 2d. 297, 299, 300 (1977)).

Perspective of Jeremiah

Reading this chapter is like reading an obituary. It is hard to hear the doom and gloom, yet this is a part of God's Word that needs to be preached.

Notice Jeremiah's reaction to these viperous teachers.[1]

Jeremiah 23:9-10 "My heart is broken . . . all my bones tremble, I am like a drunken man overcome by wine."

As Jeremiah looked at these false prophets and their immoral lives, their wickedness, and smooth words, he was shaken to the core. Like a man plastered with wine, Jeremiah teeter-tottered down the street in a daze because of the Lord's "holy words."

Swerving back and forth, he could not make sense of the prophets in his day. Jeremiah had the Word of the Lord and understood that God's hammer of justice was about to fall on the nation and the preachers. Because these false prophets were in dreamland and preaching fictions, they were enemies of God's kingdom.

Q's

Are you troubled by all the flim-flam coming from preachers?

Are you grieved that men ignore and abuse God's Word?

Are you upset that preachers are silent on the removal of the Ten Commandments from the public square? Is your guard rattled when preachers are totally submissive to every law passed by pagan legislators?

Do you stagger like a drunken man when you hear the preachers begging for money while promising you riches and wealth? Is your heart broken that true preachers are ignored, attacked, maligned, and shunned not only by the public, but by other Christians?

Does it make you angry whenever a preacher is portrayed on T.V. as a hypocritical, angry, abusive adulterer that doesn't have the enough sense to know when to come in out of the rain?

If so, it is because you are righteous.

When is the last time you have been accused of being intoxicated with grief over the sins of our nation?

Proverbs 29:2 When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.

The result of false preaching was “the land was full of adultery” – the final stage before the nation was judged (2 Peter 2:14).

Jeremiah 23:10 For the land is full of adulterers; for because of swearing the land mourneth; the pleasant places of the wilderness are dried up, and their course is evil, and their force is not right.

When preachers fail to clearly uphold the Law of God and the call to purity, citizens and priests alike plunge into sensuality.

According to the National Campaign Against Pornography,

“As many as 20 million adults visit cybersex sites each month, according to a study published last year in the Journal Sexual Addiction and Compulsivity.”[2]

“Of those who have visited sexually explicit websites, just over half of the clergy (53 percent) say they have visited the sites in the past year, compared to 44 percent of lay readers. A total of 18 percent of clergy said they visit sexually explicit websites between a couple of times a month and more than once a week.”[3]

When preachers fail to fear the Lord and shun evil even the land cries out against it

“The pastures in the desert are wasted” cried Jeremiah (Jeremiah 23:10).

Sin impacts the land. Have you noticed the inordinate amount of hurricanes and tornadoes and floods that have hit this country?

Munich-Re, the world’s largest re-insurance agency, reports that disaster-related economic losses topped US \$145 billion in 2004, up from \$65 billion in 2003, for about the same number (650) of natural disasters in each year, making 2004 the most expensive year to date.[4]

The Profanity of False Preachers

Jeremiah 23:11 For both prophet and priest are profane; yea, in my house have I found their wickedness, saith the LORD.

The word “profane” means “defiled,” “polluted,” or “corrupt.” Not only did they not expose the wickedness of the nation, they participated in the sins of the people. They did not preach the Word of God or call men to repentance. Preaching their own positive visions and dreams (23:16), they not only profaned His Word but their work and their office. Suffering from terminal moral decay, their hearts were like coffins full of dead bones. Vance Havner use to say,

“When the Lord’s white sheep become dirty gray, the white sheep feel more comfortable.”

Isaiah 8:20 To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

Even in this country, many of the great preachers who represent themselves as men of God do not denounce the sins of our age or the corruption in our government. They have all the hocus pocus of a Reno Magician. They give their opinions on issues, but few declare the mind of God?

We have sired a whole generation of preachers who are sweet, congenial, effeminate men who desire to be church administrators with big churches and big budgets. They have more sweetness than Mother Hubbard. They are giants at building organizations, but pigmies at building the church. They spend countless hours preparing sermons that do not offend people, ruffle feathers, or cause divisions in the organization – sermons that are exclusively prepared to make the congregation laugh and feel good. Jesus had something to say about these preachers in His day.

John 12:43 For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.

Proliferation of Evil by the Preachers

^{NIV} Jeremiah 23:13 “Among the prophets of Samaria I saw this repulsive thing: They prophesied by Baal and led my people Israel astray.

Jeremiah 23:15 Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts concerning the prophets; Behold, I will feed them with wormwood, and make them drink the water of gall: for from the prophets of Jerusalem is profaneness gone forth into all the land.

Notice how profanity started in the pulpits and spread like the Asian flu among the people. The cultural deterioration began with macabre mischief among the preachers. There is no greater sin that God is judging a nation than when he allows pulpits to be filled with sensual, lewd, self-serving clergy.

Are you disturbed by the unending reports of Christian leaders that have compromised the faith? "4,392 priests, or 4 percent of the total number of members of the Catholic clergy between 1950 and 2002, have had allegations [of homosexuality] made against them." [5]

CNN reported the Rev. Ted Haggard of Colorado Springs

"agreed Saturday to resign as leader of the mega church he started in his basement more than 20 years ago after its independent investigative board said he was guilty of 'sexually immoral conduct.'" [6]

Charles Stanley², well-known Southern Baptist pastor and former president of the SBC went through a divorce.

"When the news was announced to the First Baptist Church of Atlanta in May, the newly divorced pastor received a standing ovation from the congregation." [7]

"The wife of Ned Graham, son of Billy Graham, divorced him on the basis of "infidelity, domestic violence, and drug and alcohol abuse." [8]

"Divorce among Contemporary "Christian" artists is rampant. Just a few of the divorced or separated CCM musicians are Sandi Patty, Deniece Williams, Sheila Walsh, John Talbot, Randy Stonehill, Larry Norman, Tom Howard, Ralph Carmichael, Steve Archer, Amy Grant and Gary Chapman." [9]

A 1988 survey of nearly 1000 Protestant clergy by Leadership Magazine found that

"12 percent admitted to sexual intercourse outside of

² To be fair, Charles Stanley had an odious, rebellious wife and his divorce was with the counsel of his leadership . . . something that deserves commendation! He was no immoral or unfaithful! Not all divorce is bad. It is sad. But, sometimes there is no other way to produce peace.

marriage, and that 23 percent had done something sexually inappropriate with someone other than their spouse. The researchers also interviewed nearly 1000 subscribers to Christianity Today who were not pastors. They found the numbers were nearly double: 45 percent indicated having done something sexually inappropriate, and 23 percent having extramarital intercourse.”[10]

Prosecution

Jeremiah 23:14 I have seen also in the prophets of Jerusalem an horrible thing: they commit adultery, and walk in lies: they strengthen also the hands of evildoers, that none doth return from his wickedness: they are all of them unto me as Sodom, and the inhabitants thereof as Gomorrah.

Like a District Attorney, God lays out his indictment against the false prophets: They “prophesied by Baal,” “led my people astray,” and “committed adultery.”

In verse twelve, God prosecutes the false prophets promising to them three judgments: Instability, banishment, and disaster. Their deeds are “repulsive” (23:13) and they lead God’s people “astray” (23:13). Because of their tolerance of evil, the “hands of the evildoers” were empowered to commit more wickedness. The false prophets had stirred a potage of toenails, frog legs, and spider webs, and God was going to sprinkle them with the dust of death.

The Proclamation

Jeremiah 23:16 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, Hearken not unto the words of the prophets that prophesy unto you: they make you vain: they speak a vision of their own heart, and not out of the mouth of the LORD.

God commands his people to “hearken not to these prophets.” God don’t like ugly and He ain’t crazy about pretty. You would think that the people of God would stomp out of the crowd and refuse to listen to fantasies. Not only were the false prophets a thorn to the nation, but also the people in the crowd loved their thistle tea.

Like Dead Sea Christians, they tolerated any craziness that floated down the Jordan River.

Jeremiah's preaching was too negative, too accusatory, and too intolerant of the people's behavior. The people did not want to hear about judgment; they wanted to hear about acceptance . . . love . . . and permissiveness.

They did not want to hear that they were sinners; they wanted to hear that they were normal. They did not want to hear that God was angry at their country; they wanted to hear how God loved their nation.

They did not want to hear about God's wrath; they wanted to hear about God's love.

They did not want to hear about repentance; they wanted to hear about forgiveness. And, the prophets were happy to tell the people what they wanted to hear.

Have you ever noticed how gullible people are and how they love to listen to lies? Tabloids with titles like, "I was Abducted by an Alien," or "900 Pound Woman Gives Birth to a 600 Pound Baby," or "Walking Mummy Kills 56 Men" or "What Car Would Jesus Buy" are bought and read every day.

Congregations are a part of the problem in that they are not careful to pick godly, Christ-honoring men to lead them.

Last year a talented pastor divorced his wife — a wife who was totally committed to the marriage. He resigned his church, but three months later was hired by another Baptist church as the interim pastor.

Pastors ought to be above reproach and preach the true Word of God. Their lives ought to match the message. This does not mean they are sinless, but they should sin less than other people. It does not mean they are free of conflict or trials. Peter and Paul and all the apostles were embroiled in controversy and had been arrested, indicted, and jailed by civil authorities. Though misunderstood and criticized, they were men of integrity. Would Peter or Paul qualify to be pastors in today's American church?

Among Bible believing churches, there is the opposite problem in that churches are looking for pastors with lots of tinsel and gloss. Being above reproach does not mean that a pastor should have more sugar than the fairy godmother.

During a boring football game, John Madden asked the cameraman to turn the camera on a football player sitting on a bench. Focusing on the unsoiled field goal kicker, Madden would say,

“What is he doing there? Look at his white uniform! He’s not a football player. Real football players are dirty from head to toe; their uniforms are full of grass and mud and bloodstains. He’s too clean to be a real football player.”

While churches should be looking for men of integrity, churches are often searching for unsoiled, unstained, unscarred, uncriticized, unattacked pastors with white gloves and a white suit. What they need are pastors that have been to the front lines where they have been grabbed, squeezed, and slammed to the mat in the fury of the competition; pastors that have faced the King Kong of conflict and the snarls of a Canadian wolf. In John Madden terms, if the pastor ain’t got no mud on his uniform, he ain’t no real pastor. The only pastors who have white uniforms are those who have learned the razzle-dazzle and the art of doing the jitterbug behind the pulpit.

“No Scar”? by Amy Charmichael

“Hast thou no scar?

No hidden scar on foot, or side, or hand?

I hear thee sung as mighty in the land;

I hear them hail thy bright, ascendant star.

Hast thou no scar?

Hast thou no wound?

Yet I was wounded by the archers; spent,

Leaned Me against a tree to die; and rent

By ravening beasts that compassed Me, I swooned.

Hast thou no wound?

No wound? No scar?

Yet, as the Master shall the servant be,

And pierced are the feet that follow Me.

But thine are whole; can he have followed far

Who has no wound nor scar”?

A Prayer:

Lord Jesus, thank you for my scars . . . which remind me of your scars. Mine are so small, yet they hurt so. Yours are so incomprehensible to me. Let no one hail me as mighty or bright, since it is only by your power that I do anything well. Lord, I want you only as my Master; remind me of this when I face a new trial, that I might embrace the wound and treasure the scar. Thank you that I am whole for now. Thank you that my wholeness will not remain so as I travel through life, being conformed into your image (Author unknown).

Churches should stop looking for pastors that have the wisdom of Solomon, the good looks of Carry Grant, the humor of Bob Hope, the singing skills of Frank Sinatra, the genius of Albert Einstein, and the oratory skills of Demosthenes. But they do!

Churches are looking for caretakers, not pew shakers.

They prefer pastors that play patty cake instead of those that wrestle, tassel, and tussle with demons and devils on the wrestling mat of life. Preaching a smooth cross is easier to handle than preaching the old rugged cross. Teaching Christians to always obey the government is easier than teaching them when to disobey civil rulers.

The Apostle Paul would not qualify for any pastorate in America because he spent time in jail and was chased out of many cities for being too controversial. He wasn't pretty. He wasn't a great orator. His reputation was not spotless. He did not dress in a white robe. He was dirty and soiled from wrestling with necrophiliacs near the gates of hell. What kind of resume could Paul write that would satisfy a church today?

This is not to say that there are no Biblical standards for pastors. Paul met all the standards of a pastor, but his Christian uniform was not white. It was stained with blood and mud from proclaiming the gospel to hostile crowds.

In conclusion, just as the problems in Jeremiah's day were the result of corrupt prophets, the problems in our day are the result of weak, impotent, lewd pastors in the pulpit. Too many pastors live a false life and preach a false gospel—a sweet gospel with no cross to carry. Others live a double life. Billy Weber at SBC Prestonwood Baptist Church and Conservative Baptist Jack Hyles from Hammond Indiana come to mind. Even those who do preach the true gospel have been weak in extending it into jurisdictions outside the church walls. They are fiery in the pulpit

but frozen in the public square. When opposed, their legs turn to jelly, their fingers turn to paste, and their tongue turns thick with fear.

So, what are the solutions?

First, if pastors are the number one problem in American, they also have the potential to be the number one solution in America.

Pastors must determine to be God's man and to preach His Word truthfully. Repentance may be in order. Pastors must be delivered from the fear of men and trust God to protect their ministry and their message.

The fear of being fired or making people angry keeps so many from teaching the truth.

Second, Churches must free pastors to preach the truth and encourage them to advance the non-politically correct gospel to the front lines where the world is launching its attack against truth. "Sermonettes for Christianettes" is not going to "turn the world upside down" (Acts 17:1-7).

[1] Jeremiah reacts to three deportments (23:9-12): (a) the deportment of the prophets, (b) the deportment of the holy God and the announcement of His judgment which was already causing a drought in the land, and (c) the deportment of wickedness among the people of his day, especially the wickedness of the priests and prophets.

[2] See Christianity Today, "Tangled in the Worst Web," March 5, 2001

[3] Internet Resource: <http://www.thencsp.com/pornfacts.htm>.

[4] NASA: Earth's Observatory: "Government study on Rising cost of Natural disasters," (earthobservatory.nasa.gov).

[5] The National Catholic Weekly, (AmericanMagazine.org; and, Kevin Cullen, Boston Globe Staff) 2/28/2004.

[6] "Church Forces out Haggard for 'sexually immoral conduct'," (Online Resource: CNN.Com., November 4, 2006).

[7] Fundamental Baptists Information Service, "Divorce is Rampant Among Christians Leaders," (Online Resource: [Way of Life.org](http://WayofLife.org). 2001).

[8] Ibid.

[9] Ibid

[10] Kerby Anderson, "Adultery," Leadership, (Online Resource: leaderu.com/orgs/probe/docs/adultery.html, 2001).

21. Satan Promotes Fornication

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Σ - When Satan goes to church he vitiates virginity and urges young people to commit the deadly sin of fornication.

Q: Is it not true that the sin of fornication has engulfed young people in America because of moral apostasy of American churches?

Catholics distinguish between mortal (grave) sins and venial (pardonable) sins.

In Catholic sophia, a "mortal" sin is an act that seriously threatens one's relationship to God; whereas, a venial sin is something that is so commonly human it is more easily understandable and forgivable.

If there is an argument for distinguishing between mortal sins and venial sins, this passage supports the Catholic argument.

In 1 Corinthians 6:18, the apostle distinguishes between the deadly sin of fornication and other sins common to man:

18 "Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body."

Ellicott references the seriousness and solemnness of the sin of fornication in the litany, "From fornication, and all other deadly sin, good Lord, deliver us."

"fornication" is a general term that blankets all sensual sins related to human sexuality; that is, the misuse of one's body, mind, and soul.

Let's take a serious look at this passage and see if we can understand the Apostle's argument on the deadly sin of fornication.

12 All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.

Free men that are not bound by the conscience of other men. They are responsible to their own knowledge of God's law: "What is that to me, follow thou me" – Jesus.

God's law is absolute. Where He has spoken, men are obligated to obey. Where there is no law, men are generally free to do what duty demands.

But, just because people are free to do a thing does not mean it is prudent, expedient, or wise to do so. Freedom has limitations. There is no such thing as absolute freedom. Freedom is the fruit of responsible living. Paul chose not to engage in certain lawful activities because it might hinder his service to Christ" "others may, I cannot!" (Leonard Ravenhill).

There is all the difference in the world between eating things sacrificed to idols (1 Corinthians 8:4) (a matter of expediency), and the committing fornication (a deadly sin).

13 Meats for the belly, and the belly for meats: but God shall destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord; and the Lord for the body.

Paul is setting up a contrast between matters of necessity like eating certain foods, and fleshly indulgences -- absolute prohibitions like fornication.

One's choice of foods is permissible, fornication is inadmissible. The former is consensual; the latter is banned. Real law is an expression of the will of a supreme Sovereign. It does not involve one's consent. Law is duty! No man is bound by statutory decrees, but all men are bound by prohibitions in the common law like "do not commit adultery . . . and do not steal."

Obligations arise out of contracts (consensual parties) or out of operation of law; i.e., mandatory obligations to a Sovereign designed to prevent injury to a person or to property.

Fornication is **not** an American right; it is sin that injures both parties.

The word "fornication" comes from the word "porneia," illicit sexual acts other than marriage. The word "pornography" comes from "porneia" which refers to the "publications of pimps and whores."

Lawful matters are to be decided upon the highest principles of pragmatism and expediency; but, fornication is an unlawful act, and therefore the question of its pragmatism and expediency does not surface in the pilgrim's journey on earth.

Paul explains the purpose of the body by negating any thought that the body is for sexual pleasure with consenting adults.

The body is not like can of coke where you consume the beverage and throw the can away.

The purpose of the body is to house the Spirit of God . . . to be His temple . . . to be His "home base" from which He accomplishes His holy purpose on earth.

14 And God hath both raised up the Lord, and will also raise up us by his own power.

The plural pronoun "us" encompasses the spirits, souls, and bodies of righteous men. God saves the whole man and not just his soul.

In verse 19, the body is identified as "the temple of the Holy Spirit." Since this is so, we dare not scribble *porneia-graffitii* on the holy temple using stalk-leaves from the Poisonous Tree.

God made the stomach for food and food for the stomach. Both will be destroyed by death.

But, God's intends to save the whole man including his outer and inner man. For the "body" is equivalent to the "us" in this passage.

15 Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? shall I then take the members of Christ, and make them the members of an harlot? God forbid.

"Know ye not" contains a slight rebuke considering there were Corinthians who were ignorant of the fact their bodies are joined to Christ.

Though there is no right for using the body to commit fornication, Paul confronts the insane reasoning that it is possible to take the member-body away from Christ and make it a member-body of a prostitute through an act of fornication.

The double act of "taking the body away" from Christ and joining God's temple with a harlot is not plausible or credible.

Likewise, the mind is for Christ and it is wrong to take it and join it with carnal pleasures.

The exclamation-prohibition, "God forbid!" (me genoito) is in the Optative Mood meaning, "it is impossible!!"

There is no way under heaven a man or woman can commit fornication and be a true Christian in fact. God forbid!

What a rebuke to the lax, indulgent, permissive professing Christians!

16 What? know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? for two, saith he, shall be one flesh.

We have here another reason to flee fornication. There is no such thing as casual sex. A sex act binds and unites. "know ye not" is an assertion that Paul's statement is true, correct, certain, and not misleading.

Conjugation means "oneness" with a whore – a reprehensible thought for the God-seeker! There is NO SUCH THING as a "Christian" fornicator any more than there is such a thing as a "Christian" prostitute (6:9).

17 But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.

By being "joined unto the Lord" in one spirit does NOT MEAN we are married to Christ in a spiritual sense as some nuns propose.

The union here is a spiritual one. Our union with Christ is intimate but mystical. We may be united in faith, in ambition, and in purpose but not "married" to Him. Paul intensifies the argument against any degradation of the body by an act of fornication.

18 Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body.

There are few things more heretical than the fallacy that Christians are at liberty to choose their own law order.

Is there anything clearer than God's solemn command: "flee fornication?"

Flight, not fight, is the ONLY remedy for avoiding this deadly sin (See Joseph in Genesis 39).

What egregious sin fornication must be!

"without the body" means some sins profane the outer court of the temple without touching the holy place within the heart. Fornication defiles the inner sanctuary; that is, fornication injures the core of one's soul . . . his naos . . . his holy of holies . . . the very covenant on which his relationship to God is supposed to be founded.

"sinneth against his own body": The "body" in this passage is enlarged to include the whole man: spirit, soul, and body. Paul claims the body is the Temple of the Holy Spirit with a "naos" (inner sacred altar) that includes a meeting place where God meets with man! When one commits fornication, he commits a deadly sin that injures the whole man.

Other sins may only profane the outer courts of the temple; the sin of fornication defiles the very holy of holies within God's body-temple.

Thus, fornication is different from common sins in that it damages the whole man, poisons faith, and sullies the conscience.

Ellicott observed, fornication "hardens a' within, and petrifies the feelings."

It is the man that sins, not the flesh; fornication corrupts the whole man, not just the human body.

Matthew 15:15-20 But Peter said to him, "Explain the parable to us." 16 And he said, "Are you also still without understanding? 17 Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth passes into the stomach and is expelled. 18 But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a person. 19 For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. 20 **These are what defile a person.** But to eat with unwashed hands does not defile anyone."

Fornication is a mortal, deadly sin. No one can commit this sin without thunder erupting from Mount Sinai because of his trespass against the King's law-order.

Thus, we have the solemn order, "Flee fornication." This is not an option . . . or choice. It is a command.

19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

"Do you not know" is a rebuke of ignorance.

Our bodies do not belong to government, governors, legislators, to the whims of social engineers, or the desires of a seductress.

We are owned by Another; that is, Christ has all rights over our bodies.

While in a political sense, we are sovereigns over our body; in a spiritual and legal sense, our bodies are not our own; the body is private property belonging to our Lord and Savior.

That is, we act as his stewards over our bodies. We care for our bodies as ones who must give account on how one pilots his own vessel.

Paul gives two reasons we do not have absolute rights over our own bodies: (1) our bodies are inhabited by the Holy Spirit; and (2) we have been bought and purchased by the blood of Christ.

20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

Christians have been bought and are therefore owned by Another. Paul emphasizes you are not your own; i.e., you do not have absolute rights over your body! Your body is governed by God's rules!

The price of this purchase is the precious "blood of Christ," the currency of the spirit world (81:18-20).

Because we are not our own, we have a duty to glorify God in our whole being all the time.

Fornication, tattooing our body, and masking our face shames the Savior.

What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

Application A: During 2020 and 2021, Governors ordered residents of the State to wear masks. Many Christians errantly thinking they are government property complied.

What are Christians supposed to do? Are they to cover the temple of God? What does the Bible say?

Answer: Expedience may require one to wear a mask if he is in a dust storm or works in a factory with flying fragments of steel.

Christianity is the only religion in the world that doesn't use masks in a worship service. Christians are prohibited from doing so because men are made in the image of God. Not only is there no command to wear a mask, in many places masks are strictly forbidden. Lepers covered their faces. Condemned criminals like Haman (Esther) were forced by the government to wear a hood-mask.

Christian men are commanded to not wear masks or head gear in a worship service. Christian women, however, are ordered to wear a veil in church; and, OT women often wore a veil over their face in public as a symbol of modesty (SS 5:7). Christian women wear veils over their head

as a symbolic notice that the congregation is to respect God's law-order (1 Corinthians 11:1-16).

Application B: What about so called "vaccines" which are not vaccines? What does the Bible say? Didn't God create man in his own image? By what authority does a Christian have to accept the offer to inject dangerous, experimental, mRNA, DNA altering drugs into your body? Isn't this a form of suicide?

Answer:

My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not" (Proverbs 1:10).

"For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's" (1 Corinthians 6:20).

(Source: Stockton, [From Corinth to American Churches](https://nikeinsights.famguardian.org/publications/),
<https://nikeinsights.famguardian.org/publications/>)

22. Thoughts of Satan

1 Chronicles 21:1

1 Chronicles 21:1 And **Satan** stood up against Israel, and provoked David to number Israel.

Matthew 16:23 But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, **Satan**: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.

Σ - When Satan goes to church he plants all kinds of delusions in the minds of believers.

As Satan planted a thought in the mind of David to number Israel, he planted an idea in the mind of Peter causing him to think it was his own sanctimonious thought.

When Satan goes to church:

- He makes men think that all truth is Gods truth.
- That the confession of faith is the same thing as Biblical faith.
- That rules and principles are legalistic.
- That equality is a predominate, fundamental value in the Bible.
- That people have the right to choose their own values and own law order.
- That all religions have value and should receive equal protection from the State.
- That the Bible is old fashion and irrelevant for modern times.
- That women are equal to men in their abilities, status, and duties.
- That if men loves their wives more there will be no more problems in their marriages.
- That men must have Jesus in their heart to be saved.
- That if there is a conflict in marriage, it is the man's fault.
- That a good marriage is a democratic partnership.
- That a woman has a right to abortion.

- That a woman should submit to her husband only if he is good Christian man (1 Peter 3).
- That sex in marriage is the wife's choice; otherwise, men are abusing their spouse (1 Corinthians 7).
- That women have a right to talk and be heard in church.
- That it is the job of parents to be friends with their children.
- That a Bible-based church will not have financial problems.
- That a good man will never get angry.
- That a good man is congenial and agreeable most of the time.
- That if a person has taught Sunday School he is qualified to preach.
- That women should be allowed to be pastors and elders.
- That spirituality means a person is deeply subjective.
- That there are many ways to heaven.
- That many Christians have the gift of prophecy and that their statements are equal to or equivalent to the prophets.
- That a true church must have the permission of the State to exist.
- That United States is a country and that Christians should love this country.
- That God requires Christian to submit to government regardless of its character.
- That people of faith will always have health and wealth.
- That preachers need a license to preach.
- That women on the Supreme Court or a church board is a good idea.
- That voting in a church to adopt or reject a matter is Christian.
- That all opinions are equal, but some are more equal than others.

23. Purge Out the Leaven

1 Corinthians 5:7-12

Σ - Satan loves a compromising church that does not demand holiness from its members; that promotes inclusivity for church growth; and serves sweet, honey-roasted, passion pecks for Sunday sermons.

Just as a healthy family disciplines erring children, so a healthy church practices discipline.

7 Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:

The metaphor "leaven" is employed to communicate the infectiousness of sin. Holiness is not contagious, but sin contaminates everyone who tolerates it. Discipline is necessary so the whole church can be healthy and unleavened.

8 Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Paul presents this young church with "a very deep and penetrating view of what the Christian life is, how it is sustained, and what it demands" (MacLaren).

"the feast" refers to the Lord's Supper (a.k.a. communion, Eucharist, breaking of bread) which the Lord instituted the night before He was betrayed to replace the Passover Meal. The Passover was merely a shadow of the cross where His body was broken and His blood was shed for our sins.

It is a feast because the symbols of the bread and the wine invoke reflection of God's breathtaking banquet at the table of salvation provided by the death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ (Exodus 12: Luke 22:7-38).

"let us keep the feast" (a present, active, volitive subjunctive): The Apostle exhorts the Corinthians to join the whole Christian community world-wide to remember Christ and His accomplishments at Calvary, but to do so without leaven – a metaphor for sin.

Most likely Paul was thinking of the Hebrew tradition of women performing spring house cleaning while carefully going through the cupboards removing every fragment of leaven before the Passover Meal - a marvelous shadow-picture of sanctification in the Christian life -- a walk which requires all believers to be holy and to eliminate traces of leaven in their own heart and mind.

The "old Leaven" is a symbol of the sinner's old life and habits of sin. Believers, in their walk with God, are required to forsake all vestiges of the Adamic life in order to please Him.

"neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness." The term "malice" refers to mens rea or evil intentions -- the secret motivations of the mind and heart. Wickedness refers to the conduct of habitual practicing sin during this pilgrimage on earth.

Positively, believers are ordered to keep the feast with "the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth;" that is, to replace the leaven of malice and wickedness with sincerity and truth.

Because the shadows of the Passover were fulfilled in the Christ-event, God has granted to Christians the authority to make all of life a festival - a gala whereby believers put off the old man and put on the new man; to remove the grave clothes of selfishness and to wear the regalia of righteousness that feature the beauty of holiness -- the golden attributes of love. Believers don't have to be dirty. They can live clean every day.

9 I wrote unto you in an epistle not to company with fornicators:

Apparently, Paul wrote a previous letter to the Corinthians which has not been preserved. One of the major purposes of that letter was to communicate to the church to separate themselves from sin and to avoid companions with defiling habits.

The word "company" (sunanamignusthai) has to do with close friendship and association. Obviously, Paul is NOT ordering the Christians to withdraw from all sinners or they "must needs go out of the world." Rather, he orders the saints to remain an "arm's length" from sinners practicing the sins in verse 10; and, to disassociate from so-called "brethren" trapped in one of these behaviors.

Step Five: Some holy man / pastor / elder in the church needs to admonish the flock to disassociate and separate themselves (in a social sense) from

unrepentant people engaged in any of the sinful behaviors described in this chapter.

Step Six: Excommunicate the erring member from the church and the privileges of church membership. This is done in love for the good of the "black sheep" in order to bring him to repentance; and, for the good of the church that other members might not be infected by the same sins. This final step is a public step that must be executed in a way that honors Christ and protects the privacy rights of the transgressor; that is, make your words brief, accurate, and honorable.

Consider developing church discipline policies before they have to be executed, and then consign the duties of church discipline to a mature, ruling elder who knows how to discipline members for the glory of God with a view of protecting privacy rights of the transgressor.

10 Yet not altogether with the fornicators of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or with idolaters; for then must ye needs go out of the world.

The apostle limits his order in his previous statement (letter).

Disassociation from transgressors in the world is not totally possible, but it is possible to disconnect socially from transgressing Christian brothers.

Paul is NOT calling the Christians at Corinth to separate from weak brethren, struggling brethren, imperfect brethren, erring brethren, or people with peccadillos, but from unrepentant brethren engaged in any of the following mortal-sins:

Fornication (pornos) includes any forbidden sexual act: casual sex with the opposite sex, prostitution, rape, adultery, homosexuality, lesbianism, transvestitism, crossdressing, lewdness, and possibly porn addiction. (Note: pornography is an in-your-face public nuisance, but a self-confessed porn enthusiast may need prayer and accountability more than he / she needs church discipline).

Covetousness (pleonektais = over reachers) is not referring to "desires" or "thoughts" but to specific conduct: stealing, extortion, burglary, larceny, robbery, vandalism, fraud, pickpocketing, filching, pilfering, and any act that deprives another of his property or the value of his property.

Extortion (harpax) is the practice of obtaining something, especially money, through force or threats: blackmail, intimidation, coercion, duress, bullying, and generally menacing a victim.

(Warning: extortioners and the covetous people dress nicely and often engage in the practice of slander to deflect people's attention away from themselves to another.)

Idolatry (idololatrais) includes taking pay for obscene acts, engaging in commercial schemes, fraud, practicing rites associated with the cults, practicing pop psychology, worshipping the Zodiac or fake science, addiction to pornography, hoarding as a pack rat, obtaining tattoos, addiction to drugs or alcohol, obsession with vanity, politics, health, or other cultural fads.

Again, Paul's concern is not with peccadillos, bad manners, or foibles but with transgressions of God's law by adult members of the church. Disobedience by children are in the jurisdiction of the family and should be handled by the family where reason and righteousness prevails.

11 But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat.

Paul repeats himself. He is not ordering people to disassociate from all transgressors, but ONLY from professing believers who habitually violate God's law.

Railing (loidoros) includes gossip, blasphemy, slander, defamation, libel, smears, aspersions, calumny, muckraking and any other malicious conduct that murders the reputation of a man.

Note: Telling the truth about another when the truth needs to be told, howbeit unflattering is not railing. There is an appropriate place and time to tell the ugly truth about a transgressor. But, reckless, casual, informal muckraking is not acceptable.

A drunkard (methusos) includes any addiction to alcohol, food, drugs, soft drinks, food, or other substances that control the man causing him to be a danger to himself and others: alcoholics, gluttons, crackheads, etc.

12 For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within?

The "I" is Paul and those who are likewise committed to Christ. Since the church ONLY has in personam jurisdiction over church members and subject-matter jurisdiction over the conduct-actions of its members, Paul limits the discipline of excommunication and disassociation to those

“members” of a church fellowship. This social-judicial authority does not extend past the church doors into the community.

13 But them that are without God judgeth. Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person.

Paul adopts the formalities of a judge and pronounces the sentence to have these habitual sinners expelled from the church. The adverb "without" (exo) refers to members of society that are outside the jurisdiction of the ecclesia.

As to the sins of those without, it is God's job to deal with them as He's sees fit; that is, it is none of the church's business what they do or don't do. But sinning members within the fellowship of the local body are within the jurisdiction of church law, and those "wicked persons" must be "put away" (exairo) and driven out of the assembly.

Therefore, let us keep the feast with unleaven bread.

(Source: Stockton, "From Corinth to American Churches")

24. The Rapture of the Wicked

Matthew 13:30

Σ - When Satan goes to church you almost never hear a message about the rapture of the wicked.

Matthew 13:30 "Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them"

The word "rapture" is not used in the Bible just like the word "trinity" is not found in Scripture. But, the concept is there.

The word "rapture" is a theological construct originating with Darby and Scofield taken from 1 Thessalonian 4:17.

1 Thessalonians 4:17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up (harpazo) together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

The word "caught up" is a translation of the Greek word *harpazo* which means "to catch up," "to seize," or "to gather." The Latin Vulgate translates the Greek ἀρπαγησόμεθα as *rapiemur* meaning "we will be caught up" or "we will be taken away" from the Latin verb *rapio* meaning "to catch up" or "take away".

It is translated in Matthew 11:12 to "take by force" and in Matthew 12:29 as "spoil." In both cases the word *harpazo* means "to lay hold off, plunder, seize."

Matthew 11:12 And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force (harpazo)

Matthew 12:29 Or else how can one enter into a strong man's house, and spoil (harpazo) his goods, except he first bind the strong man? and then he will spoil his house.

The modern dispensational theory of the rapture began with a woman named Margaret McDonald, a self-styled prophetess. She shared it with a roman Catholic priest and eventually was picked up by John Nelson

Darby and popularized by C.I. Scofield . . . and Dallas Theological Seminary.

After Darby and Scofield, theologians referred to this "seizing" as "the rapture" which developed a meaning all to its own -- a catching away of believers into the sky never to see earth again. Thus, dispensationalists seized the word "harpazo" and developed into an eschatological doctrine never intended by its usage in 1 Thessalonians 4. [Yes, the Lord will come and gather His people to himself.]

The great hope of believers is not "pie in the sky when we die" or "a rocket thrust into the arms of Jesus" or "sitting on a cloud plucking harps and singing 'Kumbaya', my Lord . . ." but, that the meek shall inherit the earth (Psalm 37:11; Mathew 5:5).

So, if we take the word "harpazo" and free it from its modern theological construct, we can investigate the rapture (seizing) of the wicked for judgment. Consider the following texts:

Note how the wicked are caught and taken to judgment in Psalm 37:

Psalm 37:17 For the arms of the wicked shall be broken: but the LORD upholdeth the righteous.

Psalm 37:20 But the wicked shall perish, and the enemies of the LORD shall be as the fat of lambs: they shall consume; into smoke shall they consume away.

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.

Here the seed of the wicked are seized and killed -- abortion comes to mind.

Psalm 37:34 Wait on the LORD, and keep his way, and he shall exalt thee to inherit the land: when the wicked are cut off, thou shalt see it.

Note how the Lord arrests and judges (seizes, raptures) the wicked in these texts:

Psalm 58:10 The righteous shall rejoice when he seeth the vengeance: he shall wash his feet in the blood of the wicked.

Psalm 68:2 As smoke is driven away, so drive them away: as

wax melteth before the fire, so let the wicked perish (vanish) at the presence of God.

Psalm 129:4 The LORD is righteous: he hath cut asunder the cords of the wicked.

Psalm 145:20 The LORD preserveth all them that love him: but all the wicked will he destroy.

Proverbs 10:30 The righteous shall never be removed (from the earth): but the wicked shall not inhabit the earth.

The earth is for the righteous, not the wicked; earth, not heaven is the destiny of the righteous.

Proverbs 11:31 Behold, the righteous shall be recompensed in the earth: much more the wicked and the sinner.

Note the rapture of the Wicked in Matthew 8:12

Matthew 8:12 But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

The "children of the kingdom" refers to false Jews with a nominal knowledge of God kingdom.

"cast out" (ekballo) means to be "driven out, cast out, with a notion of violence . . . expelled" - this text demonstrates how the wicked will be seized by force and banished from the kingdom -- the rapture of the wicked to experience "weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Note the rapture of the wicked in Matthew 13.

Matthew 13:30 Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

"Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them" refers to the rapture or seizing of the wicked for judgment. The Greek word for "gather" (sunauxano) means "to collect, seize, or collect."

" but gather the wheat into my barn" refers to the rapture of the saints or the gathering of believers into his barn -- a metaphor for the kingdom of God or life on earth without the wicked.

Note the rapture of the wicked in Matthew 24.

38 For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark,

39 And knew not until the flood came, and took (seize, lift up, elevate) them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

40 Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken (taken up to judgment), and the other left.

41 Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one taken up to judgment, and the other left.

Notice that in Noah's day the wicked were taken to judgment to die in the flood, and that Noah was lifted up on the waters and then returned to a new heavens and a new earth totally different than the pre-flood terrarium environment to carry out God's will.

Matthew 24 is our Lord's prediction about the destruction of Jerusalem and not one block on the temple to be left standing -- an event which happened in 70 A.D. Here the Lord address two men; one taken, the other left.

Who is the one taken? Answer: the one taken is the wicked. He is taken away to judgment just like the wicked in Noah's day. We call this the rapture of the wicked.

The rapture of the wicked is alluded to in Luke 13.

27 But he shall say, I tell you, I know you not whence ye are; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity.

28 There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out.

The verb "depart" (aphistemi) is an aorist imperative -- a judicial sentence by the "Master of the house" whereby the wicked are taken by force and thrust out of the kingdom to experience weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Note the rapture of the wicked in John 5:29 -- "And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation."

The word "resurrection" is a sister term for rapture. It means "to raise up;" i.e., God will raise the unbelieving dead by force to experience everlasting damnation.

Note the rapture of the wicked in 1 Thessalonian 5: "the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night" to seize the wicked and to execute them.

Note how the rapture of the wicked is alluded to in 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9

7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels,

8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:

9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;

2 Thessalonians 2:8 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

Paul addresses what will happen to the wicked first; that is, the Second Coming of Christ is about our Lord coming to rapture the wicked and to punish them . . . and to punish the lawless one(s) with the brightness of His coming. In chapter two verse one Paul mentions the believers being gathered unto Him.

Note the rapture of the wicked in Revelation 20:

"The Lord so cometh as a thief in the night" . . . "there was found no place for them" on earth, and " and they were judged every man according to their works . . . And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire." This is the seizing of the wicked so the righteous can inherit the new heavens and the new earth.

The Scripture promotes multiple dualities: two roads, two foundation -- rock and sand, two kingdoms, two kinds of people - wheat and tares, and two destinies - saved and lost.

The next two great events in history are salvation for the righteous and a judgment of wrath for the wicked; or, the gathers of the saints into the kingdom of God, and the rapture of the wicked for judgment.

See John Weaver, Rapture of the Wicked

25. Beware of Odious Women

Genesis 3:16

A Warning About the Odious Woman

Σ - When Satan goes to church marriages experience role reversals: The woman takes the lead in the family, and the man takes the role of a wife by submitting to her demands in order to maintain peace in the family.

Many pastors teach men should love their wives and if they do, the wife will be a good spouse; and, if your marriage is in trouble, the man is to blame because he did not love his wife enough; that marriage is a democratic partnership where the couple must work out their spats on the principles of equity.

Such teaching is arsenic in the milk. The first principle of a successful marriage is the submission of the wife. A man cannot lead without a follower.

Genesis is the foundation stone of the Bible. It is also the grounds for theology, anthropology, cosmology, sociology, law and family. Built on this foundation, and you are off to a good start in life. But, you will be rejected by the worldly wise.

The following is a theological, anthropological study on the desire of women.

Genesis 3:16 Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.

The woman is Eve. The Hebrew word for man is *ish* and the Hebrew word for woman is *ishshah*. There are only two genders of mankind (anthopos): *ish* and *ishshah*, male and female, man and woman.

In the home, the man is the king and the woman is the queen . . . and a true king treats the queen very well because the queen is his *ishshah yapha* or "beautiful woman." But, this does not mean she gets "to rule the roost."

God announced his judgment on Eve for luring her husband into sinning against God and for her failure to maintain a subordinate role to her husband.

The words “sorrow” (itstsabon / etseb) refers to the labor / pain of child birth and the work of giving birth to children. The English use exclamation points, dark letters, italics, and underlined terms to emphasize the importance of a word or phrase in a sentence. Using the term “sorrow” twice is the Spirit’s way of emphasizing a truth; that is, double usage of a word is God’s exclamation point (!) in Hebrew.

The phrase “thy desire shall be to thy husband” should be translated, “Thy desire shall be to rule over your husband.”

The word “desire” means “craving, longing, or hunger.” In Genesis 4:7 the verbal construction refers to sin’s desire to rule over Cain.

Consider this truth: Just as a woman cannot prevent the pains of child birth coming upon her, she can’t prevent the urge to control her husband.

Everything within a woman craves dominion over man. Her desire to conquer, command, control, criticize, and dominate a man is a Herculean force within every woman. If left unchecked, the women will destroy her man, marriage, and every organization of which she is part.

For this reason Scripture warns men, “It is better to live in a corner of a roof than in a house shared with a contentious woman.” (Proverbs 21:9). That is, beware living with a woman who is a “man-straighter.”

Moreover, for this reason the Scripture forbids a woman to pastor or teach men in church (1 Timothy 3:12ff). We don’t need man-straighter women teaching from the pulpit. We need women who are “self-straighters.”

This means the God-fearing woman must diligently seek the Lord God and surrender to His law-order. While a woman can’t eradicate this impulse burning like a five alarm fire from within, she can resist it, fight it, and control it; that is, she must be filled with the Spirit , control her tongue (James 3:8), and speak with wisdom (Proverbs 31:26).

1 Peter 3:6 Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord:
whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not
afraid with any amazement.

Moreover, women have no authority in Scripture to lead her marriage, the church, or a nation. Every woman doing so is in rebellion against God.

Do not hear what is not being said. This order does not forbid a woman from advising her husband or attempting to persuade him regarding a decision that must be made in the affairs of marriage. It simply means she can't resort to manipulation and extortion to fulfill her passions. Every good man listens to the love of his life knowing he must make decisions that are good for the family.

For men this means the man must recognize the women's desire and not surrender to an eruption of this trait in marriage as Adam did with Eve. Secondly, the man must accept responsibility to lead his wife righteously and lovingly. Irresponsibility and bad decisions only fuel the flame of conflict. Giving in to the desires of an aggressive wife and not accepting responsibility for leadership are two sins the man must avoid.

The Remedy: The phrase "he shall rule over thee" is the practical remedy for the usurpation of woman over the man.

The first commandment for women in marriage is "to submit to her husband," that is to accept the role of a subordinate to her authority in marriage (Ephesians 5:24) and to honor her head. This includes, but is not limited to wearing a head covering (the symbol of authority) on her head in church as a symbol she understands God's law-order (1 Corinthians 11:1-16).

The underlying reason for this law-order is an inherent weakness at work within all women:

"And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression." (1 Timothy 2:14).

The problem with deception is the deceived does not know they are deceived. The proneness of women to deception is **not** what women want to hear, but they must. Modern clap trap by feminists expose the deception and the full scale war against mankind. No, this is not male chauvinism at work here. This is what the Word of God teaches.

Moreover, this demands means that a God-fearing man must accept responsibility to lead and care for his wife. Following God's law-order in marriage requires diligence from both the husband and the wife.

Control your desires or your desires will control you.

Proverbs 30:21-23

30:21-23 For three things the earth is disquieted, and for four which it cannot bear: For a servant when he reigneth; and a fool when he is filled with meat For an odious woman when she is married; and an handmaid that is heir to her mistress.

In describing the odious woman, the original text contains four words.

The word “married” is the Hebrew word *baal* which means “married” or “to be ruled over” by a husband. It is translated “a man’s wife” in Genesis 20:3.

In English the word “odious” refers to something repulsive.

In Hebrew, the word “odious” (sane; saw-nay’) means “hateful.” It is used of men who hate God and their fellow man (Genesis 37:4; Exodus 20:5). Thus, the odious woman is a bitter, resentful woman that hates God, His law-order, and men. Beware of “man-straighters!” No man can live with a critic trying to bend him to their will. Adjectives like proud, insolent, and witchy come to mind.

Notice, Solomon is not talking about the unmarried, single woman with bad character. He addresses the married woman. There is something about marriage (authority) which detonates her nuclear impudence.

Notice the effect. Because the odious woman has a tonnage of hate “the earth is disquieted” and “cannot bear” her.

Look at verse 21: The Hebrew word “disquieted” means “to tremble, quake, rage, quiver, be agitated or to quiver.”

No man can live with a critical man-straighter!

Notice the enlarged effect. Not only can a husband not live with an odious wife, no one on earth can live with her either. The world trembles and quakes because of her. Family courts are overrun with cases involving odious women.

Solomon warned his son: Beware of the odious woman who is filled with hate and whose tongue is set on fire by hell. Neither you nor anyone else can live with a woman that hates God and his law-order.

In contrast to odious women, Solomon pens his masterpiece on God-fearing women in chapter 31. Christian women having the mind of Christ are beautiful, wonderful people to be around. So wonderful is the godly wife, men will go to war and die for them.

Finally, consider the earthly hell created by the feminist movement that manufactures odious woman who hate God, hate men, and hate the Ten Commandments. If the earth cannot endure the odious woman, what kind of insanity has gripped society to elect odious women to the office of prime minister, governor, or congress?

26. Satan Ordains Female Pastors

1 Timothy 2:12

"But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence."

Σ - When Satan goes to church there may a beautiful, shapely female pastor preaching from the pulpit; that is, when Satan goes to church odious women come to power.

In June, 2019 Thomas McDaniels, the smiling liberal at Fox News stated it is time in American for the church to abandon the Bible's teaching about church leadership and for the church in America to start ordaining women to preach in order to appeal to radical feminism.

See his article at Fox News: "Thomas McDaniels: In #MeToo era, it's time for women to become preachers."

I sent out this McDaniels article to an email list, and received this response from Charles Hallam.

Charles Hallam, a genuine Christian with an extraordinary hunger for Scripture, saw right through the liberal flim-flam of Thomas McDaniels, Fox News Journalist.

Charles is proof you don't need a Ph.D. in Greek and Hebrew to understand the basics of Biblical doctrine. You just need to read the Scripture discerningly and to believe what it says.

McDaniels: If we explore Biblical text for the answers, it is evident in both the Old and New Testaments that God chose and activated both men and women to ministry.

Charles: What ministry? Preaching? Teaching? Show me the Scripture(s)! Is 1 Tim 2:12 is only for Jewish churches ????????

Timothy was the pastor of the church at Ephesus. It was in northern Turkey and it was a Gentile church.

Some say the issue of women being silent in the New Testament church has been difficult to interpret. Really? Any one who can read would reference 1 Timothy 2:12 as a reason to support the silence of women in the church.

That's because the Bible straightly charges women to remain silent. STOP twisting God's Word around, to make it fit your agenda. The Bible means what it says.

However, we must interpret this command as it pertains to the culture of the Jewish church, rather than for the church in our times.

Bull! Culture and society change, GOD DOES NOT!!

McDaniels: The perspective that a woman cannot speak in the church is not consistent with other parts of the scriptures.

Charles: What other parts? Should be thrown out of the Bible because it doesn't fit your liberal agenda?

If the central premise from scripture is that a woman should be silent in the church, then why does the scripture address if a woman should teach or preach at all? It doesn't.

Since when & where has God "called" a woman to preach"?

In our times, it is evident that God uses women in extraordinary ways in both sacred and secular organizations.

Our times should bear no difference than any other NT era. Last I heard was "come out from among them and be ye SEPARATE saith the Lord and touch not the unclean thing"

The Fox News author seems to be saying, "It's about time in Amerika that men turn into effeminate women, become emasculated, and turn God's law order on its head." This is SATANIC, not godly!

Here's a better plan: It's time a woman started acting like God meant her to act and most oppression will go away on it's own just like slavery in t h e US would have disappeared without a war.

Who is this Thomas McDaniels clown?

Oh, that more Christians had the discernment of Charles Hallam!

27. Satan Uses Congressmen to Tell the Church What to Do

Proverbs 29:12

If a ruler listens to falsehood, all his officials will be wicked.

Σ - When Satan goes to church people comply with the policies of an antichrist government and bow to its congressional prophets.



“Florida Sen. Marco Rubio (R) addressed conservative Christian leaders Friday at the Rediscovering God in America Renewal Project event in Orlando, Breitbart News reported. In his speech, Rubio challenged pastors to focus on loving those in the LGBT community instead of spending all their time condemning behavior they find objectionable.” <http://www.theblaze.com/stories/2016/08/15/rubio-challenges-christian-leaders-to-extend-the-love-of-christ-to-lgbt-neighbors/>

Q: Since when did ultra-busy Marco Rubio become an expert on Theology and the Bible?

My question is, “Why isn’t Marco Rubio, a representative of the government, condemning what God has proscribed in Leviticus 20 and Romans 1?”

Since the Constitution forbids Congress from making a law establishing a religion, it also forbids Congressmen from lecturing churchmen about religion! Isn’t this correct?

Since Congressmen believe in the de facto doctrine of separation of church and state, these politicians need to zip the lip and keep their opinions about the church to themselves.

Why are Christian leaders tolerating a love lecture from a politician about how to behave morally?

What could “Christian leaders” possibly learn about golden morals and truth from a man of power? Jesus didn’t call anyone in Herod’s court to be his disciple . . . and, he doesn’t call members of Congress to be his disciples either.

Why aren't "Christian leaders" rebuking Marco Rubio about his ethical compromise in tolerating the sin of Sodomy? Why aren't they calling him to repent deeply for his godless policies and toleration of bribes in the form of campaign contributions?

Why aren't "Christian leaders" calling Marco Rubio to surrender to God's law order and to come down hard on perverts? Paul says the Sodomites are "worthy of death" not love," that "those who practice such things deserve to die" (Romans 1:32). Isn't the government in place to punish evildoers? Why is a legislator calling Christians to love queers and be less condemning? Aren't their souls in danger of hell fire (1 Corinthians 6:9, 10)?

Faggots need to be warned of God's impending doom on them, not coddled and promoted to positions of power?

Love is not a cure all! Sometimes, justice is the answer. The government is in place to punish evildoers and to purge them from society.

What would Isaiah do if Marco Rubio had challenged him to be more loving to the LGBTQ community about whom the "anger of the Lord burned" (Isaiah 5:25)?

Therefore is the anger of the LORD kindled against his people, and he hath stretched forth his hand against them, and hath smitten them: and the hills did tremble, and their carcasses *were* torn in the midst of the streets. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand *is* stretched out still.

What would Jeremiah have said if Marco Rubio had challenged him to be more loving towards Israel's adulterers (Jeremiah 3:9; 5:7; 7:9)?

The church has nothing to learn about law and love from the Marco Rubios of the world, but Marco Rubio could use much instruction on God's law and how it should be applied by politicians.

Rubio wants peace on his terms, but our Lord said He came not to bring peace, but division. Peace must be on Christ's terms wherein He demands total repentance by the LGBT community.

Luke 12:51 Suppose ye that I am come to give **peace** on earth? I tell you, Nay; but rather **division**:

28. Satan Uses Government to Tell the Church What to Do

Acts 4:18

“And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus.”

When Satan goes to church he moves the church to forsake the headship of Christ and to become a non-prophet, 501 c 3 government approved religious organization.

Pastor Greg Dixon is the father of the Unregistered Baptist Church Movement (UBC).

Though he suffered greatly at the hands of the government, Pastor Dixon is one of the greatest men of his time — Great because he did not back down or fold when he was attacked by the Herculean Federal Government and their army of thugs.

His battle with the Federal Government is the most important of our time:

“This is the most significant church case in the history of America,” says the elder Dixon, “because this is the first time a government agency has ever moved against the Lord’s church.”

The Indianapolis Baptist Temple’s tax feud with the Internal Revenue Service dates to the mid-1980s, when the church decided to act like a free church run by freemen and to stop yielding to Federal control and Washington’s tyrannical tax policies that violate the First Amendment.

Pastor Dixon fought against the same political ideology that motivated the South to secede from Lincoln’s policies which sought the total subjection of the total man to total government.

On February 13, 2001 U.S. Marshals wheeled the elder Dixon and seven church members out of the Indianapolis Baptist Church building on stretchers and seized the property — **a day of shame and infamy for the United States.**

Here is why the Federal Government seized Indianapolis Baptist Church. A miscreant female administrator in a territorial court operating de facto

under the title, “U.S. District Judge Sarah Evans Baker” over reached her authority and ordered U.S. Marshals to seize private church property in the “sovereign” state of Indiana.

The depraved woman argued that the state “church” (not a 501 c3 non-profit charity) was under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government and was not endowed by the Lord Jesus Christ with unalienable rights, but that it was a subject of Congress and the object of federal taxes:

“While Defendant, of course, has the right to be a New Testament Church, it does not have the right to foreclose the government from taxing it,” Baker wrote in U.S. v. Indianapolis Baptist Temple (June 29, 1999).

To this judicial administrator, even Jesus must be subject to the Federal Government: “Give unto Caesar what belongs to Caesar because everything belongs to Caesar.”

The judge refused to grant Indianapolis Temple the status of church under Christ, but insisted the church was subject to god Congress, a taxpayer, and a government employer. So much for the 10th Amendment! Moreover, the miscreant administrator claimed that the Federal Government owned the property and the church building and all church offerings.

Pastor Greg Dixon claimed the church was a New Testament church operating under the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ and that it was not an “employer” as such legalese is applied to government corporations, 26 U.S.C. 3401)d). The strategy of government is to make all men serfs but to call them freemen; to call all men government “employees;” and, to insist that all men are a legal “persons,” “individuals,” “corporations,” and “taxpayers” subject to the will of CONgress.

“A true New Testament Church is not an employer nor does it have employees. Neither is it a taxpayer. Those who serve the church are ministers exercising their gifts by the Holy Spirit. They receive love gifts, not wages” (Dixon).

Pastor Greg Dixon insisted on the following: (Note: the statements infra are direct quotes, inferences, and citations from, about, or by Pastor Dixon)

-that Jesus is Lord and that all men are called to surrender to His authority — even governments.

-that if the IRS codes and definitions are applied to the church then an official government "church" would be created ""that must totally surrender the sovereignty of the Lord's church to the IRS."

– "The Czar of Religion (cults) in Washington, D.C., will replace the Lord Jesus Christ as the Head of His church," Dixon continues in a statement issued last year shortly after Baker's ruling.

– the church is created, defined, and ruled God and His Son, Jesus, but the Federal Government disagreed saying the "fellowship" was a charity and could only exist by the permission of the State and if it paid taxes.

-Baptist School teachers are self-employed ministers, rather than employees of a religious charity.

-"The Indianapolis Baptist Temple receives no benefits from the state, including federal identification numbers, tax exemption, school vouchers or financial subsidies." (Quoted by his son). Following the Supreme Court ruling in *Hale v. Hinkle*, Dixon concluded the church receives nothing from the State and "In return, the Indianapolis Baptist Temple owes absolutely nothing to the state."

-Pastor Greg Dixon notes that churches are not required by law to register as nonprofit organizations. His son commented noting the difference between a church and a religious organization, "Christ is head of one; the IRS is head of the other."

-The church has a right to exist without permission from the State. "Congress shall make no law establishing religion nor prohibit the free exercise thereof."

-"We have a very serious constitutional issue here," he says. "The crux is that the government is not in the position to regulate church ministries."

-We are a church with a worship time, fellowship, offertory, sermon, and altar calls. We look an act like a church and not a charity organization.

-IBT claimed that the people who were paid to work in the office and sweep the floors were not employees, but rather "ministers" who were paid "cash love gifts only."

-Incorporated churches, in seeking validation from the government, is a sin against God.

-We need a confession and renunciation of the sin of submitting to the state (1980's).

-Tax issues cloud the fact that the church is doing God's work.

-I am not against government; I'm against bad government.

-“The genius of the First Amendment is this type of free speech is allowed,” he says. “You don't need to have Big Brother managing their spiritual lives” (Professor Pierard).

-Dixon said, “They'll have to bodily remove us from the building,” he said. “We're going to be here. We're going to take our stand. We're going to practice our faith. And if the federal government is so tyrannical as to shut down a 50-year-old church, then we're in awfully sad condition in this country.”

-Contrary to the claims of the government, the press and Judge Barker, the real issue in this case is not taxation. The issue is the right of a Church to exercise and practice its faith in the sovereignty of the Church under the Lord Jesus Christ in America today without government interference or control.

-The central tenet of the faith of the Church is the absolute sovereignty of the Church under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. This teaching requires the complete separation of the New Testament Church from the State.

-a New Testament Church founded pursuant to the scriptures of the Holy Bible upon the sovereign rock of Jesus Christ as His body for which He is the head in all things. The Church is an organism, called lovingly in the scriptures, the “Bride of Christ”. The Church founded by Jesus Christ belongs to Him. He purchased it with His blood on Calvary's cross. It is His, and we as members of His Church are admonished to keep it Holy, and to render the things of God only unto Him.

– If Indianapolis Baptist Temple, which is a body of believers placed into the body by the Lord Jesus Christ, were to pay a tax or comply with the employer tax regulations of the federal government, or surrender the property of the Church to the Marshal on November 14, 2000, the Church would be recognizing a sovereign, i.e. government, over the Church which would be greater than the Lord Jesus Christ.

-This issue is not new. It is the same issue for which the Apostles, disciples and members of the first century churches died. Suffice it to say, the problem Indianapolis Baptist Temple is facing today is the identical problem that its predecessor New Testament Churches faced in Rome in

the first Century A.D. immediately after the crucifixion of the Lord Jesus Christ.

-New Testament Churches faced thereafter throughout the world for centuries as they were hunted down, persecuted and martyred for not obeying the edicts, ordinances and laws of organized state established churches and of the nations.

-We have gone full circle: from persecution to liberty, now back from liberty to persecution.

-The only church recognized as a lawful church in America is a state-established church that has been organized under the laws and traditions of Man.

– The government now controls all churches in America by classifying them as public charities through tax laws which give benefits to “public charities”, etc.

. The government now demands absolute loyalty and obedience of all churches to its laws and public policies.

-The government does not recognize the existence of a church in America that is not structured as a tax exempt public charity.

-Under the laws today, Indianapolis Baptist Temple cannot exist because Indianapolis Baptist Temple is not formed or structured as a human organization called a public charity founded under the teachings and traditions of man.

-Indianapolis Baptist Temple has rejected government subsidies and is standing in the gap. Indianapolis Baptist Temple is fighting for the freedom of all Americans to worship their God in accordance to the dictates of their conscience without fear of government intervention.

-Indianapolis Baptist Temple will not bow to demands that they reject God!!!

-The Indianapolis Baptist Temple stopped withholding federal income and Social Security taxes from its employees' paychecks in 1984, arguing that the congregation is governed only by God's law and thus not subject to any form of taxation.

– Dixon also believes taxing a church is a violation of the First Amendment separation of church and state, and he refused to register for tax-exempt status.

-“To have the IRS come in and seize the church’s property, that is an extraordinary event unparalleled in American history,” Hammar has said.

-The principal goal of unregistered churches is to avoid 501(c)3 incorporation, which is the normal status for charities and religious groups, because they see accepting that status as caving in to secular demands that interfere with religion.

-To unregistered churches, obeying these laws “would be a sin under the religious convictions of the Church respecting the sovereignty of the Lordship of Jesus Christ as the head of the Church in all things.”

-Maintaining that “this school represents our right to exercise our religion,” and that “the state is in violation of God’s law,”

“Every church in America should have its own militia.”

-By promoting a “theology of Christian resistance” to earthly government, the UBF also has attracted extremists of many stripes, from those advocating hatred of the government, homosexuals and abortion providers, to a number of hard-core racists and anti-Semites.

– During the recent standoff at IBT, current pastor Greg Dixon, Jr., renounced violence and asked some of IBT’s more extremist supporters to leave, calling them “blowhards.”

“Liberty has strange bedfellows,” the younger Dixon told a reporter about these connections. “If your only friends are those that you agree 100 percent with, you’re not going to have many friends.”

-Romans 13 – First, unlimited submission to government is not practical.

For a philosophy to be a valid philosophy, it must be consistent. As a result, it does not make practical sense to blindly obey a tyrant like Adolph Hitler or deem a law such as abortion-on-demand a legitimate law just because one’s government says it is public policy.

Second, it is not historical.

Our founding fathers recognized and understood tyranny and despotism. They perceived the ultimate end of the king’s actions. Thus, they besought George III to relent in his persecutions and implored him to uphold his covenant agreement.

Good government is ordained by God implying that bad governments are not of God and need to be resisted by righteous men.

Government officials are to be good ministers who represent God.

We the people must obey good and godly laws.

As we relate Romans 13 to America, our Constitution is the higher power – not the IRS tax code.

Good government is not to be feared.

In America, we are to pay honor and custom and constitutional taxes to whom it is due.

Government is to protect the righteous and punish the wicked

-churches getting their sanction from God should never lower themselves to contract with the state for privileges of existence, the IRS Code even provides churches that fit certain guidelines with an automatic exemption.

-The bottom line is that 501(c)(3) churches either filed for their tax-exempt status out of ignorance or they are for-profit businesses operating in commerce with a government exemption. In either case, 501(c)(3) churches are misguided.

Pastor Dixon died at 87 years old having fought the good fight. The Indy Star had this to say about him:

“The Rev. Greg J. Dixon, founder of the Indianapolis Baptist Temple that held out for 92 days before federal authorities seized their south-side property in a 2001 tax dispute, died Sunday in Indianapolis. He was 87.

Dixon served from 1955 to 1996 as lead pastor of Indianapolis Baptist Temple, a church that sat alongside Garfield Park in the 2700 block of South East Street until it was taken by U.S. Marshals in 2001.

A leader in the conservative “free church” movement, Dixon strongly believed that government holds no authority over the church.”

Post script:

Churches need not apply to be a “tax exempt organization” because they are already tax exempt by the laws of nature, and the laws of nature’s

God; that is, because they are not something created by the State, they have no duty to the State.

Only State creations like corporations have a duty to pay taxes.

Steve Nestor, IRS Senior Officer, has pondered:

“I am not the only IRS employee who’s wondered why churches go to the government and seek permission to be exempted from a tax they didn’t owe to begin with, and to seek a tax deductible status that they’ve always had anyway. Many of us have marveled at how church leaders want to be regulated and controlled by an agency of government that most Americans have prayed would just get out of their lives. Churches are in an amazingly unique position, but they don’t seem to know or appreciate the implications of what it would mean to be free of government control.”

If you give up your freedom in Christ and apply to be a 501 (c) 3 government organization,

The State becomes the creator of the state religious organization which in turn unwittingly rejects the Creator of the Church. The State is the sole authority and sovereign head over your church—NOT Jesus Christ. Your church is subject to the laws of the State which limits its powers. If there is a conflict between the laws of God and the laws of the State, the State will demand their laws prevail. Your 501 (c) 3 organization has no constitutionally protected rights. It only has privileges given by the State. Your church, when incorporated is transformed from the living body of Christ into an artificial person . . . a dead corporation . . . an entity that only exist in the world of Your church becomes a franchise created for the benefit of the public.

“A 501(c)(3) corporation, being an artificial person, is not considered a person under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution (religious liberty clause) or under the Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution (protection against self-incrimination clause). Therefore, an incorporated church has NO First or Fifth Amendment rights. In the case Johnson vs. Goodyear, 127 Cal.4 (1899): ‘A corporation, being an artificial person, only has rights within the meaning of the due process and equal protection clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution and similar

provisions of State constitutions and within the meaning of state statutes.'" [i.e. Your 501(c)(3) church has no constitutional rights.]

The Scripture pleads with churches to

"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers (Congress): . . . come out from among them (the UNITED STATES INC) and be ye separate (from government) saith the Lord and touch not the unclean thing (State Franchises); and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty." -2 Corinthians 6:14-18

The Spirit calls, will you follow?

29. Satan Urges Churches to Submit to Anti-Christ Governments

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.

Σ - When Satan goes to church he tricks the church into thinking the people must obey all state and federal government policies, rules, statutes because all authorities are ordained of God . . . even the tyrannical governments.

The fundamental premise of this work is that Jesus Christ is Lord, the King of the Nations, and the Prince of the Rulers of the Earth. The man who lives by His law does his neighbor no harm and is a threat to no man (Jeremiah 10:7; Romans 13:8; Revelation 1:5).

There are few more destructive doctrines than the ethos Christians have many masters with a duty to obey multiple law-orders.

The gospel is the good news that God reigns (Psalm 97), and that His rule has entered history in and through His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ (Mark 1:14-15). This gospel “turned the world” right side up by teaching another king, King Jesus (Acts 17:6-7).

But, in recent times, the gospel of the kingdom of God has been clouded by theological balderdash and Christians calling for obedience to overreaching police states. The fetters shackling believers is the misapplication of Romans 13.

Are we Americans required to obey the orders of every cop, administrator, mayor, governor, legislature, and government worker?

Open Letter To Men of the Book

If Jesus Christ is Lord, it is not possible or desirable to always obey a secular government

Dear Pastor,

How do you interpret and apply Romans 13 during America's cultural revolution?

Because Romans 13 has been misinterpreted and misapplied, this letter challenges the presumption that it is always the duty of Christians to obey secular rulers, bad laws, and Sodomite policies.

We are living in the midst of a Cultural Revolution and pastors are using this passage to pound Christians into submitting to the most liberal, apostate legislation in United States history.

As a result of preaching no-risk sermons on Romans 13, pastors are unwittingly producing a lollypop, chocolate-coated, antiseptic Christianity that lacks the vigor to oppose the iron rod of apostasy and brassy promotion of the Godless, humanistic State.

Inoffensive Pastors must give up Mango-peach, honey-coated cereals and start eating Iron-man Wheaties from God's Word.

Consider the following:

Romans 13 does **not** control the primary response of Christians to government. Rather, Romans 13 must submit to the whole of Scripture . . . and, the whole of Scripture does **not** teach total submission of the total man to total government!

We had a righteous war over this already. The South rightly resisted the tyranny of Northern Aggression once, and it's time the Biblical South rise again.

If Jesus Christ is Lord, it is not possible or desirable to always obey the State.

Obedience to Christ sometimes demands resistance to the rebel government officials. The Hebrew mid-wives and Daniel's three friends come to mind.

Pay attention to the word "except" (ei me) in verse one.

The kind of government to which God calls Christians to respect and submit is one ordained of God. But, not all government regimes are ordained of God.

J.B. Phillips agreed and translated this verse as follows:

"Everyone ought to obey civil authorities, for all legitimate authority is derived from God's authority."

Modern squeaky clean, idealistic pastors are teaching that Romans 13 demands the total submission of the total man to total government regardless of its character.

By their dogmatism on submission they seem to be implying that Christians are to submit to the likes of a King George and Mao Tse Tung.

The government to which Christians owe their allegiance for conscience sake **must** give countenance to the authority of Christ and supremacy of His Word—that allegiance is due to a State just because it exists irrespective of its moral character is like serving coffee creamer as the main course at a birthday party.

Q: Why are these utopian preachers teaching their flocks to always obey the government, but are strangely silent in calling the State to always obey the Lord Jesus Christ?

To call Christians to obey a Godless, secular, humanistic rebellious State, and not call the secular officials to obey Jesus Christ is apostasy.

Didn't John the Baptist confront King Herod with his disobedience to the law of marriage. Why didn't pastors call President Obama et al. to repent of Sodomy, same-sex-marriage, acceptance of illegal immigration, and adoption of transgender bathroom politics (SCOTUS June 27, 2015)?

Not only do individuals have a responsibility to be a Christian, governments have a duty to be thoroughly Christian and to "seek first the kingdom and His righteousness" (Matthew 6:33). Isn't this correct?

Isn't the resistance that God condemns in verse 2 condemning resistance by rebels to God's law-order—an order that expresses itself through a God-ordained government that upholds the common law?

Wouldn't the opposite also be true; that God calls obedient Christians to resist a rebel, tyrannical State that is hostile to God's law-order? If not, then you must be teaching Christians to submit to the totalitarian regimes like Stalin, Pol Pot, or Mao Tse Tung, or Gaylord Barak Obama?

"God-ordained" rulers are not a terror to good works but to evil says Paul (13:3). But, what is a Christian supposed to do if a regime begins to punish those who do good, and reward those who do evil? Fake president Biden and his drug-sex addicted son Hunter come to mind.

Q's

Is God calling Christians to support abortion, same-sex-marriages, communist revolutionaries in the Democratic Party, and male gender-bender inclinations to shower with the girls in a women's dressing room? This would be insanity. It is confusion, and you know where confusion comes from (1 Corinthians 14:33).

Should Christian obey a government that punishes Christian Chaplains that pray in Jesus name or preach against Sodomy; that fires Christian teachers who bring a Bible to school or bow their heads to give thanks at lunch; or, fines Christian bakers for refusing to use their skills to bake a special order cake for two lesbians who want to get "married;" or a Supreme Court that redefines marriage to include same-sex couples?

Is God calling Christians to obey government leaders that exempt themselves from their own laws but are radically punitive in their application to private citizens? "Hillary for Prison" posters come to mind.

Is God calling Christians, in the name of "HEALTH," to submit to experimental blood clot jabs that are known to cause heart attacks and kill people?

Because the government breaks the law and denies it, the government is not your friend –Judge Napolitano, Constitutional Chaos, p. ix.

You, dear pastor, are challenged to revisit Romans 13 and compare your interpretation and application with the whole of Scripture; too help Christians be salt and not sugar; light and not darkness; right and not wrong.

"Who through faith . . . wrought righteousness" – Hebrew 11:33.

Not only can individuals sin against God, governments can and do sin against God. The difference being that when a government sins, it has a Herculean impact on millions of people.

*When injustice becomes law, resistance becomes duty!

Pastors err when they think that all regimes are worthy of respect and obedience.

The shot heard around the world came from those under the Biblical training of Pastor Jonas Clark. When the Brits ordered the Concord

Patriots to throw down their weapons, they answered with fire and thunder.

If government cannot be resisted, then government has become a god in the minds of pastors.

“If we say that we will always obey the State, the State becomes our God”[1] (Pastor Erwin Lutzer).

You are hereby challenged.

May you possess with the saints of old a song in the heart and a double-edge sword in your right hand (Psalm 149:6).

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30. Sick Swedish Church Bows to the State

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.

Σ - When Satan goes to church there is gender confusion and a reversal of male-female roles.

The Church of Sweden to stop clergy calling God 'he' or 'the Lord' in bid to crack down on gendered language.

(The Telegraph – November 2017)

The Church of Sweden has become a servant of the State's agenda which pushes the church to accept female priests and non-gender binding pronouns.

Instead of standing up to the State and ordering them to stay in their pig-pen (jurisdiction), intimidated church leaders, eager to please man, are seriously considering how to conform the church to the feminist world.

A fruit of the Poisonous Tree, Feminism and political wokeness has so infected the church in Sweden, one wonders how long it can call itself "Christian."

"The Church of Sweden is encouraging its clergy to use the gender-neutral term "God" instead of referring to the deity as "he" or "the Lord".

The decision was made on Thursday, wrapping up an eight-day meeting of the church's 251-member decision-making body. The decision will take effect on May 20 during Pentecost.

It is the latest move by the national Evangelical Lutheran church to modernize its 31-year-old handbook setting out how services should be conducted.

The decision to update the book of worship gives priests new options on how to refer to God during their services.

Instead of priests referring to the traditional liturgy, "Father, son and Holy Ghost" they refer to the gender-neutral phrase "in the name of God and the Holy Trinity". Other gender-neutral options are available for other parts of the Church of Sweden liturgy"

True Christians believe in the verbal, plenary inspiration of Scripture (2 Timothy 3:16) inspired by God. The Spirit used masculine and feminine pronouns accurately so we would know the truth and not be blown of course by psycho-intellectual movements (Colossians 2:8).

Priests have no authority from God to manipulate the Biblical text or interpret it through the lenses of the Feminist Movement or to exclude titles like "the Lord Jesus Christ" because it offends fickle, butch-women.

Christ was a man, circumcised the eighth day, who died for sinners.

"There is one Mediator between God and man, the MAN Christ Jesus" (1 Timothy 2:5)

Men (andros) are exhorted to pray; and, women are forbidden to have authority over men in the church (2 Timothy 2).

The Church of Sweden would do well to remember the warning of the Apostle:

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

31. Convenient Betrayal of Christ

1 Thessalonians 2:3

"The apostasia comes first"

Σ - When Satan goes to church he leads the people away from the faith, away from Christ, and away from the gospel.

We are living in a day and age of apostasy where many are betraying Christ in record numbers.

Apostasy means to "revolt." It comes from two Greek words "apo" meaning "from" and "histasthai" meaning "to stand."

It is similar to the concept of rebellion . . . but in the Bible rebellion is always against God and never against man; that is, rebellion is against God's law and not man's law. It is possible, even desirable, to refuse to comply with some government statute and be in good standing with the Lord. But, how can a man be in right with God when he is in compliance with State policy opposed to the law of the LORD God?

Apostasy is the refusal "to stand" under the authority of Christ; to go over to the enemy and "to stand" under the command of another captain.

When Christians lack the conviction to confront government officials for their lawless legislation and then "stand under" the command of government, they commit apostasy; that is, when men won't stand against the authoritarianism of government, government has become their god.

Betrayal means "to deliver or expose to an enemy by treachery or disloyalty" and "to be unfaithful in guarding . . . or fulfilling a trust" (Dictionary.com).

The Free Dictionary.com defines betrayal as "to give aid to an enemy . . ."

When Christians do not resist the State's Godless statutes that support abortion, Sodomite unions, and other abominations, they do exactly what the government wants; and therefore, give comfort to their rebel Government officials. In so doing they betray their Commander and Chief, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Professing Christians will not betray Christ directly, but if it comes down to obeying God they cannot see, or complying with the government they can see, they will do what the government wants every single time.

Rather than give grief to public officials, the silent church provides government officials comfort by not protesting their lawless policies—a protest that should come in the form of a tax revolt -- a refusal to pay taxes to a government in rebellion against the Lord Jesus Christ.

Matt Trehwella, pastor of Mercy Seat Christian Church in Milwaukee, Wisc. and author of “The Doctrine of the Lesser Magistrate,” correctly informed Christian News Network that Christians should never place man’s decrees above God’s law.

“This is a huge problem that Christians have in America as they separate their Christianity from their politics,” the pastor and author stated. “It makes it convenient for them to betray Christ, even in office.”

Christians betray Christ when they remain silent or speak kindly to elected officials who are passing legislation contrary to God’s law order—bills that protect abortionists; bills that rob families of their wealth by taxation; bills that promote and protect Sodomy and lesbianism and transvestism and illegal immigration.

While it is wrong to slander a good man; it is just as wrong to refuse to tell the ugly truth about an evil man.

Q: How do you express love and devotion to Christ?

Ans: By being belligerent and hostile to government rebels!!

Government is not God! When Christians are not bellicose and contentious with Godless politicians, they give comfort to the enemies of Christ. If government is a god in the minds of Christians, they will remain silent, compliant sycophants to State officials and their tacky media bootlickers.

Here is an example of whimpy Christianity in action.

ChristianNews.net posted February 22, 2015 the following:

Alabama’s Sunday School Teacher Governor: I Will Obey ‘Gay Marriage’ Ruling Gov Robert Bentley.

MONTGOMERY, Ala. – The governor of Alabama, who also

serves as a deacon and Sunday school teacher at First Baptist Church Tuscaloosa, says that he will obey the recent federal court ruling striking down the state's Sanctity of Marriage Act as being unconstitutional.

Gov. Robert Bentley told Politico on Friday while attending a meeting of the National Governor's Association in Washington, D.C. that he believes he must obey the courts even if he disagrees with them personally.

Apostasy! Governor Robert Bentley committed treason to the Lord Jesus Christ, went over to the enemy camp, and stood under the command of the lawless, antichrist federal government.

When Jesus is Lord of a man's life, it is not possible to always obey any government . . . especially CONgress and its rebels against God's law-order.

32. Statism in the Church

Daniel 3:4-6

“The herald proclaimed aloud, “You are commanded, O peoples, nations, and languages, that when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, bagpipe, and every kind of music, you are to fall down and worship the golden image that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up. And whoever does not fall down and worship shall immediately be cast into a burning fiery furnace.”

Σ- When Satan goes to church the people practice statism: “I pledge allegiance to the United States” (corporation).

The problem of Statism is not just secular. The America church is entrenched in Statism.

Statism is the belief that government is a god, and should always be obeyed.

Christians will never confess openly that government is god. But, actions speak louder than words. When Christians pay their tithe to the government and punctiliously obeys every statute and code spilling out of State legislatures and CONgress, government is god.

Total obedience to the State is statism.

Christians profess to follow Christ, and then do whatever the government wants them to do.

Individuals that take a government issued SSN number, go to government schools, fill out State forms, pledge allegiance to the flag, tithe 30 % of their income to the federal government, engage in elections of statist politicians, submit their social security number upon request, and participate in government sponsored programs to accrue wealth appear to be Statists. Why is it we see no sword clashing between Christian’s professed duty to God and their practical loyalty to the State? Their motto is “God and Country,” but practically it is “Country then God.”

This behavior is more than simply obeying properly enacted statutes, it is the belief that government should be obeyed at all times, and that it is morally wrong to resist government control over the lives and incomes of its citizens.

The average American Christian loses no sleep about giving 30% or even 50% of his gross income to the government and only 2.5% of his net income to God. After all, it's the law!

Nonsense! It is not law! It is theft under color of law. Would Isaiah, Jeremiah, and John the Baptist have surrendered to legal plunder (Jer. 1:4ff)?

Incorporation: When a group of people in a local church surrender their Biblical authority to civil magistrates, do they still have a church under the headship of Christ or do they have a "religious organization" under the State? The majority of God's people see no problem with church incorporation or legally installing the IRS as the legal head of the "church" organization.

They offer no objection to the demand that the believer bow to the image of the State as long as they can "preach the gospel." But, which gospel? Which part of the true gospel is irrelevant to politics? Why won't pastors claim their authority under Matthew 28:19, 20 and preach obedience to King Jesus; that God calls the government to submit to His King?

Stand up, the court is now in session: Americans do not bow to their gods, they "stand up" for them. Standing, not bowing is the way we show honor and worship. We stand when the Word of God is read, or when a judge ascends the bench in the courtroom, or the national anthem is played, or the pledge of allegiance is cited. Don't be fooled, standing up is a form of worship.

The percentage of Shadracks, Mechachs, and Abednigos is low in America. The civil authorities get away with legal plunder under color of law. Those that resist are labeled as "illegal protestors" or disgruntled "taxpayers." Fellow Christians simply do not understand what all the fuss is about. They join hands with the State in their condemnation of "protestors" and assist the State in the confiscation of their freedom and property. Because government is god, patriot Christians cannot expect their brethren **not** to betray them.

Christians are totally compliant even to the most ridiculous laws passed by its legislatures. But, we must ask, "If Shadrack, Meshack, and Abednego had bowed to the image, would Nebuchadnezzar have respected the Hebrew faith?" It was their refusal to bow that impressed the king and caused him to acknowledge the sovereignty of YHWH over human affairs.

“Since when have we Americans been expected to bow submissively to authority and speak with awe and reverence to those who represent us? The constitutional theory is that we the people are the sovereigns, the state and federal officials only our agents. We who have the final word can speak softly or angrily. We can seek to challenge and annoy, as we need not stay docile and quiet.” —Justice William O. Douglas, dissenting, *Colten v. Kentucky*, 407 U.S. 104 (1972)

In America, the government is more than happy to offer “protection” and licenses to the church to operate a ministry. It simply demands the “tax exempt” candidate church to recognize the State’s authority as head over the “religious organization” and to fill out government issued forms each year. Church traitors, usually CPA’s, lawyers, and business men, see no conflict between the Headship of Christ (a Biblical view) and the authority of the IRS over State controlled religious organizations (the legal reality). Government recognition of the church is kind of a status symbol. It has the appearance of propriety. While the issue of incorporation has not yet developed to its logical conclusion, how long will it be before churches are required to line up with “public policy?”[1]

God created three institutions. The family is the institution of education; the church is the institution of grace; and the State is the institution of justice. The State is a legitimate institution but when it claims to be supreme and sovereign, it sets itself up as god.

Pastors in early America were called the “Black Robed Regiment.” These bold preachers wore black robes as a symbol they were representing God and standing in His place to preach the Word of God. The fiery prophets assailed the sins of King George. British soldiers burned churches to discourage preaching against England.

Today, power has passed from the preachers to the judiciary and the only one wearing a black robe is the judge.

Today, we do not fear pastors, we fear judges. It used to be that when men went to court they stood when the Bible was brought into the courtroom.

Today, the Bible is not brought into the courtroom and men stand when the judge ascends the bench. Why should anyone stand for a judge? Is he not just a public servant?

Pastors gave up their high and lofty calling to judge the sins of America a long time ago. They exchanged the glory of their status as ministers of God in order to receive economic benefits as a State “employee” [i] and “taxpayer.” Pastors had a choice between being God’s prophet or a non-profit organization. Most, however, chose to be a not-for-profit, non-prophet organization.

The most potent weapon the State has is the force of law. George Washington said, “Government is not reason, it is not eloquence, it is force. Like fire it is a dangerous servant and fearful master.” But, might does not make right. We must stand for truth even if others deny it.

“If we become a people who are willing to give up our money and our freedom in exchange for rhetoric and promises, then nothing can save us.” — Thomas Sowell, American economist.

Benjamin Frankly said, “They who would sacrifice essential liberty for temporary safety deserves neither.”

Do you remember George Orwell’s “Animal Farm?” Napoleon and Snowball, two pigs, try to organize all the other animals against the farmer. **The first rule** was, “All animals are equal.” After the farmer was disposed of, Napoleon and Snowball moved into the house. The other animals were jealous and went to read the first rule. Napoleon and Snowball had already amended it to read: “All animals are equal, but some are more equal than others.” The problem with Statism is that it never yields its power back to the citizens. It continues to grow in power and control and tyranny.

“The problem with politics isn’t the money; it’s the power.” — Harry Browne

“The problem isn’t the abuse of power; it’s the power to abuse.” — Michael Cloud

“When People fear their government, there is tyranny. When government fears the People, there is liberty.” -- Thomas Jefferson

So, what does God want the Church to do?

First, submit to God (James 4:7). Be a people who will **not** bow to every idolatrous whim of the State. This does not mean that we want men who are against the institution of government. Shadrack, Meshack, and Abendigo did **not** resist King Nebuchadnezzar, but they did resist His evil

law. They understood the king crossed the line, and they would not give their homage to the State.

Second, hold government officials accountable. Government is supposed to be a servant. Do you want to make civil rulers angry? Simply call an official a “public servant.”

Government officials exempt themselves from the laws it requires others to keep. In New Mexico, for example, a Washington Post reporter, traveling with Governor Richardson on the way to a political function, noted that the governor ordered his driver to go faster when they were already in excess of 100 mph.[ii] We must continually remind our civil authorities they have a duty to not only obey the laws of God, but their own laws. The State is not divine.

“Many, if not most, will scoff at the idea that America could ever fall to totalitarian rule—and there is a sense in which even I find it incredible America will come to such a hideous end: I continue to hope a majority of Americans will eventually wake up, open their eyes, see the growing monster approaching us, reverse course and set America in a new direction of expanding freedom. But as matters stand now, they do not see what is coming and as long as they do not, we will continue to inch our way towards totalitarianism—and this is not some awful fate to be suffered by generations to follow in some distant future.” (Fulton Huxtable. Fatal Blindness.)

Third, confess and practice the sovereignty of God. Government will never find its place at God’s footstool, until Christians confess the Lordship of Jesus Christ and His rule upon His throne. We will either honor God as sovereign or we will obey government as master.

“As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord” (Joshua).

For the kingdom is the LORD’S: and he is the governor among the nations (Psalm 22:28).

Finally, preach that Christ is “the way, the truth, and the life” (John 14:6). All religions are not the same. In some religions, men love their neighbors; in other religions they eat their neighbors. There is only one true religion and that is the religion of Jesus Christ. While other religions may find asylum in this republic, it does not mean that they deserve the

same honor and protection as Christianity. The gospel is relevant to all of politics because the infinite, personal, triune Spirit is the one who instituted government. We must not be afraid of quoting Scripture and requesting politicians conduct their affairs mindful of His Word and the limitation God placed on government.

There is simply no room for the Koran in American public life, not only because it is not true, but because it has made no historical contribution to our culture. No culture has survived multiculturalism. Every culture that has competing religious faiths is splintered and at war. Bosnia, Malaysia, India, the Sudan are examples present day conflict.

“Those people who are not governed by GOD will be ruled by tyrants.” (William Penn)

[1] All municipal governments are de facto corporations without constitutional authority for the creation of corporate municipal governments because the entity does not operate under “law” but under “public policy.” An unconstitutional statute is in reality no law at all. Public policy is not applicable to the People of the American Republic (56 Am Jur 2d. Sec. 35).

[i] Title 26, Section 3401 (c).

[ii] Steven Terrell, “Speeding incident a ‘misunderstanding,” The New Mexican, June 21, 2005.

33. The Crisis of Headship

Who is Your Master: Christ or the State?

Matthew 23:8

“For one is your Master, even Christ,”

Σ - When Satan goes to church, men end up with two masters.

Until the mid-nineteen forties, few churches in America were incorporated with the State. Today, more and more are incorporating at an alarming rate when there is no need to do so.

When a church incorporates, it is no longer GOD’S PROPHET but a NON-PROFIT organization of the state.

The Letter to the Colossians warns against compromising the headship of Christ when it states,

“And this I say, lest any man should beguile you with enticing words . . . 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).

Jesus is not only the Head over all the physical creation, He is head over the church, God’s spiritual creation. It is to follow Christ and Christ alone (Sola Christo).

The Colossians compromised the headship of Christ when they voluntarily submitted to the world’s ordinances (2:20) — thus, the reason for the letter.

Do not hear what is not being said. Paul is not saying Christians should not obey the common law of the state in their individual capacities, but he threw up a red flag when the Colossians surrendered to the “ordinances” (statutes) of the Greek political order.

All law is essentially religious. Government is a religious, theological subject in Scripture. Law represents the values of the god people serve whether it is some pagan deity, some modern cult, or secular humanism.

It is through law that the state gains control of the church – not because the state forces law on the church, but because the church voluntarily surrenders to worldly jurisdictions like Shih Tzu lap dogs.

Psalm 94:20 Shall the throne of iniquity have fellowship with thee, which frameth mischief by a law?

It is hypocritical to say that Jesus is the Head of the church and for the church to follow the “ordinances” of such a corrupt and worldly organization as the IRS.

Biblically speaking, the church owes its existence to God, not the state.

For God has “begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead” (1 Peter 1:3).

A corporation owes its existence to the State. The church has a right to exist and pursue its mission, not because the State gives its permission, but because Christ who has been given “all authority . . . in heaven and on earth.” He orders His people to conduct kingdom business in all the world (Matthew 28:18).

The church, therefore, does not need the permission of the State to engage gospel proclamation and to financially sustain its mission.

It does not need a license from the State to conduct its gospel business. It does not need a permit from the State. It does not need a pseudo stamp of authority to conduct God’s business.

It exists by the highest Authority in the universe. The church is under command of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

For the LORD is our judge, the LORD is our lawgiver, the LORD is our king; he will save us (Isaiah 33:22).

“The churches of America do not exist by the grace of the state; the churches of America are not mere citizens of the state. The churches of America exist apart; they have their own vantage point, their own authority. Religion is its own realm; it makes its own claims. We establish no religion in this country, nor will we ever” (President Reagan at Ecumenical Prayer Breakfast, Dallas, Texas, August 23, 1984).

This view was affirmed by the court in the decision (Schulz v. IRS, Case No. 04-0196-cv),

“...absent an effort to seek enforcement through a federal court, **IRS summonses apply no force to taxpayers**, and no consequence whatever can befall a taxpayer who refuses, ignores, or otherwise does not comply with an IRS summons until that summons is backed by a federal court order. [a taxpayer] **cannot be held in contempt, arrested, detained, or otherwise punished** for refusing to comply with the original IRS summons, no matter the taxpayer’s reasons, or lack of reasons for so complying.” (Schulz v. IRS, Case No. 04-0196-cv), (Emphasis added.)

In conclusion, the church of Jesus Christ is under High Command from Him who is Head over the Church. The church does not need the approval of government to conduct its affairs, receive contributions from its members, or for members to claim charitable deductions given to a church.

When a church becomes a corporation, it creates a crisis of headship – a two-masters theology.

Who is the church going to look to as its head – Christ or the civil government? What are its laws – God’s law or Man-Made law?

“There is not a shadow of right in the general government to intermeddle with religion. This subject is, for the honor of American, perfectly free and unshackled. The government has no jurisdiction over it” (James Madison).

34. Pastors Sell the Church to the IRS for 30 Pieces of Silver

Matthew 27:9

“Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet, saying, And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of him that was valued, whom they of the children of Israel did value;”

Σ - When Satan goes to church antichrists come to power and sell Jesus for 30 pieces of silver.

Neo-paganism sprawls through CONgress.

- 80-90% of Catholic priests are involved in homosexuality (nypost.com). But, same is probably true of Protestants.
- Mega pastors retire with millions of dollars.
- Ranting, radical, cut-throat feminist rule the House of Representatives.
- Sodomites parade their shame in public . . . and the church is silent. The first march erupted in 1970.

Something is wrong! Why?

You know the story of Judas well. This Jew with Messiah as his birthright sold Christ for 30 pieces of silver (Genesis 35:21).

The love of money conquered his heart and he bartered his inheritance in the kingdom of God for junk metal in a Judean black market. Ownership of silver was more important than companionship with the Savior.

Hasn't the modern church become a Judas selling Christ for 30 sterling coins in order to become a government approved 501 c 3 organization?

Haven't individual local churches sold their birthright in order to obtain an alleged "tax break" and the privilege of suing and being sued. Oh, joy!

When churchmen applied to the IRS to become a "tax exempt" organization, they betrayed Christ as Head of the Church by voluntarily appointing the IRS as the legal head of church corporation. In so doing, the church joins a community of organizations that include the church of Satan.

Today's church is more concerned with being in trouble with the IRS than they are in being in trouble with the Lord Jesus Christ; more concerned about pleasing man than pleasing the Son of God.

The current church no longer sees love of money as the root of all evil, but a lack of money as the root of all evil . . . or is it that an abundance of money as the root of all good?

The way to neuter God's Power House is to separate it from Christ by bringing it under the power of the State. Hasn't the church become an enemy of God by becoming a friend of the world (James 4:4)?

"Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God."

It is not only unbiblical for steeple people to submit to the State, it is totally un-American. Our national motto does not say, "In Government we Trust;" it reads, "In God we Trust."

Government plays too big a part in main stream America.

"This is the season of the year when we discover that we owe most of our success to Uncle Sam." – The Wall Street Journal

The IRS! They're like the Mafia, they can take anything they want! – Jerry Seinfeld.

"It's income tax time again, Americans: time to gather up those receipts, get out those tax forms, sharpen up that pencil, and stab yourself in the aorta." – Dave Barry

Repentance is in order:

"Come out from among them, and be ye separate saith the Lord. Touch not the unclean thing (the IRS); and, I will receive you! (1 Corinthians 6:17).

The pleasant promise is, "I will receive you!" But, the promise has a callous condition, "Come out from among them (membership among non-profitable IRS government-approved organizations)."

May the Lord give us grace to repent so that we may be restored to His favor. Amen!

35. Getting the Church Back Under Christ

Revelation 3:20

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock . . ."

Σ - When Satan goes to church the people politely and methodically escort Christ out of the church. Satan is on the inside; and the Lord is on the outside knocking to get in.

How can a church be effective when it is enslaved to the United States, Inc. and its gorilla, the IRS?

While this is not legal advice, consider the following remedy to the legal entrapment created by incorporation.

The problem we are dealing with is that American churches have exchanged the headship of Christ for the headship of the IRS.

THE KEY TO TAKE BACK THIS COUNTRY

The key to take back this country is for the church to start being the church!!

When the church sits under the authority of Christ and receives its marching orders, this country could be turned around in months!!

Acts 17:6-7 And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, 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.

If enough preachers started preaching against the Marxist acts of this government including, abortion, Sodomy, unconstitutional taxation, and the ultra vires acts of governing officials, this country could return to Biblical Christianity over night!! The gospel is the power of salvation for all men and all of man's institutions. When politicians feel the heat by on-fiery preachers from burning pulpits, they will see the light!!

But, a church in chains is in no position to preach against the sins of its master. It must take the beam out of its own eye before the church can be in a position to take the beam out of government's eye.

This means, the church has to wake up, clean up, and pick up its Dominion Mandate. It must choose whom it will serve: God or Government! A decision must be made.

May the Lord give grace and wisdom to every pastor who longs to serve Christ faithfully.

36. Why Churches Have So Little Influence on Society

Hosea 6:4

“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee . . .”

Σ - When Satan goes to church he uses false shepherds to make the people ignorant of the Holy Scriptures.

“A study conducted by Lifeway found that while nearly 87 percent of American households possess a Bible, most people who live in these homes (53 percent) barely open the holy book. (April 25, 2017).

A scant 19 percent of Christians say they read the Bible every day, and only 20 percent of those report thinking about biblical truths throughout the day. As a result, Christians may not only be surprised to find lepers in the Bible, they may also be shocked to learn what it teaches about God.

A 2017 Barna Group study (in association with Summit Worldview Ministries) found that only 17 percent of “Christians who consider their faith important and attend church regularly actually have a biblical worldview.”

The study found that 61 percent of church-going Christians held views rooted in New Spirituality, 54 percent resonated with postmodernist views, 36 percent accepted ideas grounded in some form of Marxism, and 29 percent held secularist views.

Another Barna survey found that only 51 percent of senior pastors in Protestant churches held a biblical worldview. Christians (and their leaders), don’t seem to know what the Bible teaches.

An American Culture and Faith Institute Study found that only 58 percent of Christians believe that Satan exists; only 52 percent believe that Jesus Christ lived a sinless life, and only 47 percent believe that “absolute moral truth exists and is found in the scriptures.” Most Christians surveyed also said that it was possible to earn your way into heaven.

None of these positions are biblically sound – Christians, for the most part, are “not good with the Bible.”

This is why Christianity is less influential than ever before in America. Its ambassadors don't know who or what they are representing.” (Source: J. Warner Wallace, Fox News, 4/3/2018)

Matthew 25: 3, 11-12 “They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them . . . Afterward came also the foolish virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us. But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not.”

Luke 6:46 “And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?”

37. Sorcery in the “Church”

Revelation 18:23

“ and the light of a lamp will shine in you no more, and the voice of bridegroom and bride will be heard in you no more, for your merchants were the great ones of the earth, and all nations were deceived by your sorcery.”

Σ - When Satan goes to church the leadership practices sorcery.

Church leaders practice witchcraft and sorcery every Sunday. Here’s how!

The word “sorcery” comes from the Greek word *pharmakeia*. We get the term “pharmacy” from this word. Sorcery involves “**transformation**,” or “**change**” from one thing to another. Terms like “deceit,” “deception,” and “tricks” are associated with Sorcery.

Think of sorcery as a “change from one substance to another” or as a “trick of the mind.”

Sorcery is conducted by the “church treasurer” and “church accountant,” the uncompensated secret government tax agents working for the will of the IRS instead of the will of Christ.

On Sundays, the pastor encourages the congregation to give an “offering” or “gift” as an act of “worship” to the Lord. They are correct and good! Notice the terms pastors use: “offering,” “free-will offering,” “collection,” or “gift.” *But then . . .*

The deacs take the offering to the church sorcerer (“church” treasurer). There in his black dungeon he practices witchcraft, pronounces a spell on the collection plate, and Whala!

The master of black arts “transforms” the “offering” into “income” and “wages” (terms used in the IRC). The “offering” is then converted into a pastor’s “salary” or “wages.” W-4s and W-2s confirm the fact of this sorcery. This hocus pocus legally transforms the pastor into a CEO of a “Company” or “Business.” In the witch’s coven, in a contract, the “church” is born again into a non-profit IRS 501-c-3 religious organization. Want proof? Look up your pastor and “church” on Dunn and Bradstreet. See how they are titled.

Remember, the key word connected with sorcery is “transform.”

A Breakdown of the Sorcery

- A Pastor is unwittingly transformed into a CEO.
- Offerings and gifts are transformed into income.
- God’s church is transformed into a “religious organization,” a “corporation” or “business.” Jesus called it a “den of thieves.”
- Evangelism is transformed into marketing.
- The gospel is transformed into a religious product.
- A gift to the Lord is transformed into a “wage” (IRS legalese).
- The Church treasurer is the head sorcerer, a.k.a. an uncompensated tax collector for the government
- The body of Christ is converted to a dead, fictional, government created corporation
- Christ, the Head of the Church, is replaced by the IRS as the legal head of an organization.

“Double, double, toil and trouble; fire burn, and cauldron bubble . .
.Abracadabra!”

God’s militant churches have been transformed into obsequious, pussy-cat sycophants to the State. And, out of the bubbles of this witch’s brew comes bootlicking pastors, toleration of Sodomites, lesbians, abortionists, militant feminists, Muslim immigration, fornication, adultery, and blackbirds of all sorts.

So there you have it. Sorcery in the church: frog tails, toe nails, and Pelican feathers.

38. Why the World Can't Hate Christians

John 7:7

The world cannot hate you, but it hates me because I testify about it that its works are evil.

Σ - When Satan goes to church, Christians never grow up. In immature churches, Satan promotes tolerance and inclusivism.

During these days of a liberal revolution, Christians feel like the world hates them, but the world does not hate Christians . . . nor the church; it hates Christ and disciples who follow Him closely.

Consider the following:

John 7:6 Jesus said to them, "My time has not yet come, but your time is always here.

The time of the Feast of Tabernacles was near -- in the 3rd year of our Lord's ministry. This was a fall / September national holiday -- a festive occasion that commemorated Israel's sojourn through the wilderness as they traveled from Egypt to the Promised Land (1445-1405 B.C.). Groups of villagers would travel together to Jerusalem and live in tents as they did after their release from Egypt.

One great big Bible camp, it was a time of seeing old friends, meeting family members, and exchanging news. During this time, Jesus' brethren ordered him to go with them to the festival. Their interests were in celebrating the national holiday, but Jesus had more pressing, heavenly concerns weighing on his heart -- in particular, his vicarious suffering and redemptive death during the upcoming Passover season. The words that follow are Jesus' corrective.

John 7:7 The world cannot hate you, but it hates me because I testify about it that its works are evil.

Jesus drew attention to the celebrants that their going to Jerusalem for the festival presented no problem for them. The world had no quarrel with them because they had no witness against it . . . but, for Christ, things were different. They hated him. For Jesus to go to Jerusalem with the throng was a lamb going into a den of wolves.

The "you" in this passage refers to Jesus brethren, family, and associates. The "you" included the twelve who had not yet matured in their faith; that is, the world does not hate Jews, religious people, converts to Christianity, church goers, or even students of Christ. They hate Jesus because He testified that their "works thereof are evil."

But, things changed. In John 15, we have this statement by Jesus to his disciples:

John 15:18 If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you.

The "if" in this text is a first class conditional clause meaning "since the world hates you" or "If the world hates you, and it does hates you . . ."

The "you" refers to the disciples who has followed Christ for three years and who would be testifying for Christ and witnessing against the sins of the nation following the Feast of Pentecost some 50 days after Jesus' death.

The first lesson is that the world does not hate Christians. It hates mature, witnessing believers who confront the sins of national leaders, government, and fellow citizens.

It does not hate nice, compliant, wishy-washy people. It hates discerning ministers that know God's law and expose evil in government officials and ordinary people.

Revelation 12:17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

The second lesson from this text and it is that mature, discerning believers must witness for Christ and testify against evil even though the world does not have the capacity to hear the gospel or rebukes from God's Law-word.

Jeremiah 6:10-11 To whom can I speak and give warning? Who will listen to me? Their ears are closed so they cannot hear. The word of the LORD is offensive to them; they find no pleasure in it. But I am full of the wrath of the LORD, and I cannot hold it in. "Pour it out on the children in the street and on the young men gathered together; both husband and wife will be caught in it, and the old, those weighed down with

years.

Doctrines the World Cannot Tolerate

The world can tolerate many things, but it cannot tolerate the doctrine that Jesus is the only way to God. . . that all other religions are false. . . that Christianity is the only religion that has light . . . that the Christian God is the true God and that all other religions serve a false deity.

That there is only one way to God may be the most hated doctrine contained in the Scripture.

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. (John 14:6).

Acts 4:12 And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

Matthew 7:13 "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it

The world can tolerate religion but it cannot tolerate the doctrine that men can only be saved by Christ's work on the cross . . . and that redemption is by blood . . . (Galatians 6:14).

1 Corinthians 1:18 For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Galatians 6:14 But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

Hebrews 9:22 And by the law almost all things are purged with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

The world can tolerate a message of love and being a "spiritual" person, but they cannot tolerate the truth of God's law and the need to repent.

Matthew 4: 17 From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.

Acts 17:30 30 The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now

he commands all people everywhere to repent,

The world can tolerate old philosophies and new philosophies, but they will not tolerate the doctrine that the Scriptures are true and they must surrender to its authority (2 Timothy 3:15-17).

Psalm 119:151 You are near, O Lord, And all Your commandments are truth.

John 17:17 Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.²

Timothy 3:16 All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;

Gallup Poll: Americans who believe the Bible is the literal Word of God is less than 24% (<https://news.gallup.com/poll/210704/record-few-americans-believe-bible-literal-word-god.aspx>)

The world can tolerate Christian morality but they cannot tolerate the message that they must submit to God's law-order because it is the standard of right and wrong for all men and all of man's institutions.

Because God's morals are rooted in His very character, His character is timeless and eternal. The Ten Commandments and its relevant case law is God's Absolute Demand on his Moral Creatures.

Moreover, God's law is his authority for the conduct of men and government. The law cannot save men, but it is the standard for human conduct. There is all the difference in the world between being saved by law, and being saved to keep the law.

Matthew 5:17 "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.

Luke 11:28 But he said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

Romans 2:12-16: "All who sin apart from the law will also perish apart from the law, and all who sin under the law will be judged by the law. For it is not those who hear the law who are righteous in God's sight, but it is those who obey the law who will be declared righteous.

Isaiah 8:20 To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

Romans 8:4 In order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Nevertheless believers must witness for Christ and testify against evil even though the world does not have the capacity to hear the gospel with the hope that "if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth" 2 Timothy 2:5).

39. Remember the Fate of the Apostates

Jude

5 I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not.

Σ - When Satan goes to church, he brings apostates with him to infiltrate the church. These people are not the homeless off the street, but liberals with a college degree.

A key verse in the Book of Jude is found in verse five which speaks of the purpose of the book: "to put in remembrance" what happened to those who apostatized from the faith. Though Jude does not quote the Old Testament, he refers to characters and events in the Tanach at least nine times. He want his readers to recognize apostates, and to go to war against the naysayers.

The doctrinal and moral apostasy exposed by Jude (vv. 4–18) closely parallels that of 2 Peter 2:1–3:4 -- the difference being that Peter predicted the coming of apostates, while Jude identifies their arrival in the first century.

We don't know the date that Jude wrote his book but we presume it was written before the destruction of Jerusalem (63-69 A.D.).

Remember the Faithful

Jude 1:1 Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called:

Jude or Judas (Greek) was one of the four half-brothers of Christ. Chosen by Jesus to be His servant, Jude writes his letter to the saints, those selected to be saved, sanctified, and "kept" (tereo) for eternal salvation by Jesus Christ. The exact recipients of Jude's letter is unknown, but we know it was a community of Christians plagued by apostates.

Jude does not claim to be an "apostle:" rather, he identifies himself as a "doulos" of the Lord, a slave to His will.

2 Mercy unto you, and peace, and love, be multiplied.

The verb "multiplied" is an aorist optative -- a wish by Jude. Mercy, peace, and love are the three choice blessings in all of Scripture. Mercy is the grounds of peace; and love is the fruit of one having peace with God and possessing the peace of God.

Remember to Fight for the Faith

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.

"Beloved" (agapetos) is a strong term of endearment -- an assurance that though this community was infested with false teachers and need "to go to work to clean out the rat's nest," they were very much the object of the Father's love.

"all diligence" (spoude) means "haste." It refers to the intense, urgent, heart-felt desire of Jude to communicate with his readers.

"needful" (anagke) refers to a necessity. Very few things are necessary, but going to war against the apostates took priority over the daily routines of life . . . over all other desires . . . over all other occupations. Jude moved war moved to the top of the priority list.

"to write unto you of the common salvation" appears to be the theme that Jude wanted to address in his epistle, but because this community was infiltrated by apostates, Jude had to adjust his theme to warn them about the dangers of these false teachers and to urge this community to put on their combat gear and go to war against these enemies of the gospel.

"to earnestly contend" (epagonizomai) is a translation of the Greek word "to agonize" which means "to strain every muscle," to "put every effort" into fighting for the faith. "earnestly contend" is opposed to the fat, overweight, casual, complacent, apathetic, nonchalant, lukewarm, lackadaisical attitude so common among "pew sitters" and "TV watchers." Sharpen your swords. Read and study the Scriptures. Arm yourself to fight these aggressive, proud, sensual, self-confident apostates.

War is the will of God for the church (Judges 3:1-3; Ephesians 6:10ff; 2 Corinthians 10:4).

"the faith:" At stake was the truth and foundation of the faith . . . of the gospel . . . and morals of the gospel.

"The faith—i.e., that which is believed by Christians: not the expression of the doctrine, nor the holding of it, but the substance of it." - Ellicott.

"Once for all delivered to the saints" - refers to the perfect, complete revelation of God about the gospel. No change, No addition, No amendment, and No prophecy need be added to it!! -- A contrast to the false prophets with all their creative additions, fanciful insights, and permissive moral practices. The canon is complete. Those claiming to have dreams and visions from God are heretics. Avoid them. Shun them. Rebuke them.

4 For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

"certain men" refers to the apostates called "ungodly" men. Jude is not addressing an apostate church. He is addressing a church with apostate teachers -- a minority of attendees that sought to disfigure the gospel of Christ.

"crept in" (paraeisduno) refers to "something secret;" "to deceptive hidden motives." And, it is this stealthy, insidious invasion of these heretics which constituted the necessity underlying Jude's motivation to write his epistolary. The misinformation, disinformation leavening covertly pushed on the Christians needed to be confronted, exposed, and expunged by soldiers for Christ.

The word "ordained" (prographo) refers to something "written down," "written aforetime" for casting their condemnation; that is, a forecast of what the penalty for this unlawful conduct would be. Literally "written down" or in modern vernacular "written up" like a summons -- a demand for a court appearance containing an indictment, lawful charges, accusations, allegations containing a verifiable claim deserving strong condemnation.

"of old" refers to facts in history -- not to divine purposes. Best not to use this text to support strong Calvinistic leanings.

"condemnation" (krima) refers to a divine decree . . . some act proscribed in law . . . to a judicial decision whereby the judge repudiates a certain type of unlawful behavior.

"this condemnation" refers to a particular degree -- to a category of unlawful acts.

"turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness:" "turning" (metatithemi) - a present active participle means "to change," "to transpose," "to transfer," or "to fall away from." The charge is turning away from the grace of God and remaking it into lasciviousness; that is, modifying it; altering it; amending it; editing it; and, revising it to incorporate "lasciviousness" or "permissiveness." This "turning" or "bending the grace of God" involves two deviations: one moral, the other doctrinal.

(1) The moral deviation: "lasciviousness" (aselgeia) refers "to unbridled lusts," "excess," "licentiousness," "outrageousness," "wantonness," "reckless freedom," and "shamelessness" that are orbits outside normal, decent behavior. "a" negates; "elgeia" means continence; that is, aelgeia refers to "incontinence" or "unbridled lusts" "uncontrolled urges," or to one who is unable to control his passions. [shock videos by Hollywood performers comes to mind,]

(2) The doctrinal deviation: "denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ." The title "God" is not in the text and should be omitted and replaced with the term "Lord" or "Master." The proper translation seems to be, "while denying the only Master and Lord of us, Jesus Christ." The idea here is that the apostates will not have Jesus Christ as their Lord. The heretics seem to be advocating some type of omnism -- that there are many gods and lords while insisting on a belief that there are no absolutes.

Denying the humanity (Gnosticism) or deity of Christ (Arianism) or even his visitation to earth would be included in this heresy.

Remember the Fate of Apostates

5 I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not.

The conjunction "but" (de) shows Jude taking a stand against the apostates. There is no doubt where he stands -- he stands opposed to these false teachers and their false doctrines.

"Remembrance" (hupomimnesko) means "to review and call to mind." Jude calls his readers to reflect on three examples of apostates in the Old Testament:

- The apostate Hebrews that came out of Egypt;
- The apostate angels;
- The apostate cities of Sodom and Gomorrah.

"how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt" -- a reference to the Passover and deliverance at the Red Sea (Exodus 10-14). In using the title "Lord" (kurios) Jude implies that it was "Jesus" who led Israel out of Egypt (v. 4).

"having saved the people" refers to Israel being saved from the wrath of Pharaoh, slavery in Egypt, and drowning at the Red Sea.

'afterward destroyed them that believed not" refers to the many death sentences upon that unbelieving generation involving a myriad of apostate acts -- reference to those who died because of the golden calf and those Hebrews that rebelled and died in the wilderness (Exodus 32; Number 14, Numbers 16). The three main sins of the unbelieving Hebrews were idolatry, complaining, and immorality (1 Corinthians 10).

6 And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.

"And the angels": "The angels which" (plural) refers to all the fallen angels and not merely to a class within these celestial beings.

"which kept not their first estate": The "first estate" (arche) refers to their "first dignity," "created purpose," and standing as created beings. In English the word "estate" refers to "everything of value a person owns."

"but left their own habitation" (oiketerion): "habitation" refers to one's dwelling or place in life.

"Kept not" (tereo): "Kept" is the verb. "not" is the adverb - a reference to the sin of ambition, pride, and rebellion.

[A legal analogy: In law a man is born free with unalienable rights from God. But, as he matures, he is offered privileges from the government changing his status from a free man to a "U.S. citizen," or "officer," or "U.S. person," If accepted, he unwittingly becomes a citizen subject to

Congress; that is, a slave under the jurisdiction of the United States (14th Amendment) -- a lure which is a step down from one's original estate.]

These "angels" have desires and a will. Apparently, they lusted for a higher status . . . or station . . . or rank . . . or role . . . or stature than originally assigned to them by the Lord (their first estate). "they attempted to raise themselves to a higher station than that which God had allotted to them" (Benson).

"hath reserved" (tereo) means "to keep" in a legal sense. [This text has nothing to do with pre-flood immorality.]

"in everlasting chains under darkness:" What kind of a "chain" can bind a spirit-being like an angel? This is a metaphor for "custody," "detention," "imprisonment," "internment," "destiny" and "fate."

"under darkness": "under" (hupo) refers to authority; that is, these beings are under the jurisdiction of darkness. It doesn't mean they can't move or act. Theirs' is a legal, judicial status that is sealed without hope of appeal - a dark, irreversible fate. The Court sentenced has passed; the execution is still pending. They are like inmates on "death row in solitary confinement" waiting "their execution."

"unto the judgment of the great day" refers elsewhere to the day of the Lord . . . a day where the wicked are to depart into everlasting fire -- a fire prepared for the devil and his angels. This is a day of execution -- a day known to fallen angels of which they are terrified.

7 Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

Sodom and Gomorrah were two ancient, libertine cities on the east side of the Jordan River north of the Dead Sea that represent the debauchery and depravity of the ancient Canaanite Civilization during the days of Abraham (Genesis 18-19).

"in like manner" means "likewise:" that is, these city-states rebelled against God's authority just as the unbelieving Hebrews and the angels revolted against God's law-order;" i.e. as there was a judgment of fire determined for the angels, there was a judgment of fire executed on the twin cities.

"in like manner" does **not** refer to the same sin. Jude is not suggesting that angels committed fornication with "the daughters of men" before the flood like the queer cities did after the flood. Jude is not interpreting pre-flood chaos. Such strange speculation is not based on sensible hermeneutic principles.

[Genesis 6 explains why God destroyed all of humanity by a flood. He did not destroy angels, he destroyed all mankind including those "sons of God" (Seth's descendants) who compromised holiness by marrying the godless daughters of Cain.]

"giving themselves over to fornication": The word "fornication" (ek'porneuo) refers to people giving themselves over to unnatural sexual acts -- homosexual acts clearly prohibited under God's law-order (Leviticus 18-20); a serious deviation from natural law.

"going after strange flesh"; the word "strange" (heteros) refers to "other flesh" as in homosexual lust opposed to the man-woman, husband-wife paradigm in Genesis 1:26-28.

"are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire" -- The incinerated cities are an example . . . a type . . . a powerful illustration of the fires of hell that await the disobedient.

Remember the Features of Apostates

8 Likewise also these filthy dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities.

"Likewise" means "in like manner" despite the above judgments to the twin cities.

"filthy" is not in the original text.

"dreamers" (enupniazomai) - a present middle participle refers to sleeping apostates dreaming of eating yum yum drops from the Poisonous Tree.

These dreamers pick three fruits off the Poisonous Tree: defiling the flesh, despise dominions, and speaking evil of dignities

"defile the flesh" -- "defile" means "to dye with another color" or to stain a perfectly good garment -- like raspberry jam on a white dress; that is, they misuse the body by unnatural employments.

"despise dominion" refers to rejecting authority; that is, they loathe, hate, and scorn authority by disparaging God's law-order. Devoid of moral

principles, these people are identified by their lawless, careless, and reckless behavior.

"speak evil of dignities" (glories) -- "speak evil" refers to blasphemy and the deprecation and profanation of God-ordained authorities.

Ellicott believes Jude is addressing angelic authorities. Barnes believes "glories" speak of men of high rank or superiors in earthly authority. Poole believes Jude is speaking of earthly magistrates and governors. Gill believes Jude is addressing men who despise the authority of parents and government officials. The Cambridge Bible agrees with Ellicott. Seriatim, it is not generally known who and what angelic authorities Jude could be referring to.

9 Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.

This may be the most difficult verse in Jude for scholars to explain. Some have disputed the inspiration of Jude and wanted it removed from the Canon based on what appears to be a spurious record regarding the disputation about Moses' body.

Where did Jude obtain his information about this dispute between Michael and Satan? The story is not in Scripture. Did he obtain it by special revelation or from an unknown Jewish apocryphal source?

"Jude, in this account, either adopts it from the apocryphal "assumption of Moses" (as Origen [Concerning Principalities, 3.2] thinks), or else from the ancient tradition on which that work was founded. Jude, as inspired, could distinguish how much of the tradition was true, how much false. We have no such means of distinguishing, and therefore can be sure of no tradition, save that which is in the written word" (Jamieson-Fausset-Brown Bible Commentary).

"Archangel" is singular and not plural. Daniel introduces Michael as one the "chief princes" (Daniel 10:13). "Michael" means "Who is like God?" Paul introduces the role of the archangel in 1 Thessalonians 4:16 where he is distinguished from Christ. Jude calls him by name. According to Revelation 12:7, he is the champion angel leading heaven's war against Satan's attack on Christ. Zechariah (3) introduces us to a similar dispute between the Angel of the Lord and Satan involving the impurity of the post exile priesthood represented by Joshua the High Priest.

The message that death can be defeated and the hope of resurrection had its proof in the pre-diluvian world with Enoch, the 7th from Adam, and the post-diluvian world in the resurrection of Moses (the great lawgiver) where he appeared with Elijah (the first of the prophets) and with Christ on the Mount of Transfiguration.

Apparently, the dispute between Michael and Satan involved the burial place of Moses' body alleging that Satan wanted his body buried in a prominent place so Jews would end up venerating Moses; and, Michael wanted his body buried in a common place, out of sight and out of mind.

Jude utilizes this conflict between Michael and Satan to illustrate that even the highest ranking angel, in a judicial contest, out of reverence to God, did not rail against the spiritual authority of darkness. If angels are careful not to blaspheme spiritual powers, how much more should men refrain from proudly fulminating against legitimate authorities with whom they disagree.

[In American law, no man has a duty to venerate illegitimate regimes and regiments. But, even here men must speak carefully and responsibly.]

10 But these speak evil of those things which they know not: but what they know naturally, as brute beasts, in those things they corrupt themselves.

"But these" (houstos) is used six times in Jude, and each occurrence refers to the apostates.

"speak evil" means to blaspheme, criticize, and proudly denounce.

"those things which they know not" refer to God's law-order and the excellencies of the gospel of which they are willingly ignorant.

"as brute beasts" refers to the nature of the apostates - void of reason, animalistic, and vicious.

"in those things they corrupt themselves" implies going deeper into sin by blaspheming Scripture and therefore sinning against the Lord, even abusing their bodies. Totally without principles, the people behaved like animals devoid of understanding on how to properly employ their own bodies to the glory of God.

11 Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core.

"Woe to them" -- Jude grieves over the fate of these apostates and refers to three examples of wickedness: Cain, Balaam, and Korah.

"for they have gone in the way of Cain" -- Cain was a murderer and these apostates murdered the souls of men with lies and slander by picking fruits from the Poisonous Tree. Cain was not guilty of worshiping a false God, but for the false worship of the true God. Cain discounted the importance of blood sacrifice; and, therefore, discounted the life of Abel.

"ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward" -- running and hurriedness is the way of fools. "greedily" means "to pour out in streams" -- an analogy to wholehearted devotion to "wages;" that is, Balaam used religion as a means of wealth creation. Further, Balaam persuaded the Moabites to seduce the Israelites by inviting them to a religious festival which involved fornication.

"and perished in the gainsaying of Core" -- Korah was a revolutionary seeking political power by blaspheming Moses, by promoting himself, and challenging Moses's authority.

12 These are spots in your feasts of charity, when they feast with you, feeding themselves without fear: clouds they are without water, carried about of winds; trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots;

"these" refers to the infiltrators.

"These are spots" -- "spots" means "rocks." It refers to shoreline rocks that are a hazard to ships -- a metaphor for apostates that damage "fellow-ships."

"rocks" are set in contrast to the "feasts of charity."

"in your feasts of charity" - refers to sacred meals and gatherings of early Christians. Believers build up the church; apostates demolish churches.

"feeding themselves" -- refers to inordinate self-interest, even selfishness; that is, instead of caring for the poorer members of the flock, these parasites fed on the poor members of the flock.

"clouds they are without water" refers to disappointment -- an agricultural analogy referring to hope of rain that clouds represent -- a hope that dries up like clouds without water.

"carried about of winds" - These rock-headed apostates are not only hopeless; they have no anchor, no grounding, no stability. They change their positions based on the intellectual movements of the time.

"trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit," refers to autumn trees (dendra akarpos) like fall apple trees that ought to be filled with fruit but are in reality barren -- another visual metaphor for disappointment.

"twice dead" refers to these apostates being spiritually dead (the first death) and appointed to the Lake of Fire and eternal separation from God (the second death).

"plucked up by the roots" is another vivid metaphor expressing the utter ruin and devastation of these apostates.

13 Raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; wandering stars, to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever.

"Raging waves of the sea," refers to strife, turbulence, agitations, instability, unsteadiness, and weakness of the apostates.

"foaming out their own shame;" -- In Jude's mind these heretics are like the tossing turbulent waves of the sea that vomit out mire, dirt, and the remains of sea life on the shore.

"wandering stars" -- The image in Jude's mind is of "shooting stars" and "comets" that leave their place in the heavens, catching the attention of the viewer for a few seconds, and then disappear into the darkness.

The word "kept" or "reserved" (tereo) is used four times in Jude.

"to whom is reserved (tereo) the blackness of darkness for ever." -- Few words depict more horror than these. "Blackness" -- nothing to see, no place to go, no light, no hope . . . utter despair "for ever."

14 And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,

"Enoch also, the seventh from Adam" is meant to distinguish this Godly man from "Enoch" the son of Cain (Genesis 4:17). The first coming of Christ was revealed to Adam, but the second coming of Christ and the grand conclusion of the Christian age was revealed to Enoch. The early disciples saw Christ in His humble humanity; the last generation will see Him in all His glory with thousands of angels and glorified saints.

15 To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.

The genitive "ungodly" is used four times. It refers to those who build their house on the sand of false hope and immorality. The apostates are ungodly in nature. Therefore, they do godless things and speak blasphemy against Christ, morality, and law.

In our Lord's first coming, He brought the marvelous first fruits of the kingdom blessings to believers; at His second coming the saints will participate in the full harvest of salvation blessings; and, the wicked will suffer the full fury of His terrible wrath and judgment.

16 These are murmurers, complainers, walking after their own lusts; and their mouth speaketh great swelling words, having men's persons in admiration because of advantage.

"These are murmurers" (guggustes) -- referring to the muttering of doves (murmur); that is, all their undertones complain against Providence and the station assigned to them by the Lord.

"complainers" (mempsimoiros) -- refers to the heat and intensity of their muttering against Providence -- a sin similar to the complaining uttered by unbelieving Israelites in the wilderness.

"walking after their own lusts" -- The source of all this murmuring is germane to the lusts and ambitions of the ungodly.

"and their mouth speaketh great swelling words" -- Possibly, Jude refers to the type of speech whereby the apostates "toot their own horn;" or, Jude refers to their blasphemous speech wherein the apostates railed against Roman-Greek authorities that prohibited the vices that enchanted the these apostates.

"having men's persons in admiration because of advantage" -- The idea here seems to be the apostates only complimented Roman authorities in order to gain favors and obtain benefits from them.

Remember the Forecasts of Christ

17 But, beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ;

In contrast to the luring, bewitching speeches of the apostates, Jude commands his readers to remember the healthy words of the apostles and our Lord Jesus Christ.

18 How that they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts.

"there should be mockers in the last time" -- by using coarse jesting and sarcasm, these "mockers" showed contempt for Christ, the cross, and sacred doctrines contained in the Holy Scriptures .

"who should walk after their own ungodly lusts." -- While these scoffers mocked and shamed holy habits, they venerated their own lusts without restraint.

19 These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit.

"who separate themselves" -- These apostates live apart from the holy traditions of the church and separate themselves from believers under the pretense of seeking greater enlightenment (Benson).

"sensual" refers to the principles of animal life dominated by concerns for comestibles, copulation, and comfort.

"having not the Spirit" -- none of the desires are heavenly because all their desires, interests, and priorities are attached to matters on earth.

Remember to be Faithful

20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

"But" is in contrast to Jude's denunciation of the apostates' hated by God; that is, the following instruction is for the "beloved" -- those loved by the Lord.

Unlike the apostates who only fed themselves, Jude call the beloved to build themselves up in the most holy faith; that is, to be involved in constructing, repairing, and perfecting a godly life in conformity to the holy faith -- to the substance and crux of the revelation of God which involves correct doctrine and holy practices.

This is the only place in the Bible where it instructs Christians to "pray in the Holy Ghost" -- praying in conformity to instructions in Scripture by the energy of the Spirit.

21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

"Keep yourselves in the love of God" -- that is, holding tightly to the love of God revealed through Christ at Calvary. This involves our attention to His love and our love for Him.

"looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life" -- every generation has the hope that the Lord will return in mercy so they can fully experience the full harvest of eternal life -- the main characteristic of the kingdom of God.

"looking for mercy" contains the idea of accepting the Lord's offer of mercy so one can experience life in the kingdom; that is, the "and" (de) plus the imperative in verse 22 gives the participle "looking" an imperative sense.

22 And of some have compassion, making a difference:

"some have compassion" is a present, active imperative meaning to keep on showing mercy to men with the hope this will draw them to the gospel; that is, speak with conviction and kindness with the confidence that some people influenced by the apostates may repent and believe the gospel.

Ellicott understands "making a difference" refers to doubters who have withdrawn from Christian fellowship; that is, Jude expresses hope that those snagged by the apostates may be reclaimed.

23 And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.

"And others save with fear" -- "with fear" is in the wrong place and needs to be removed. Jude's instruction means "try to save" the wobblers and doubters. Some men are in need of profound pity and patience by physicians of the soul.

"pulling them out of the fire (in fear)" -- the idea here is try to save these disputants from the present danger of leaving the faith to the endangerment of their soul. Do it with fear knowing that matters are serious and the stakes are high.

"hating even the garment spotted by the flesh" means these wobblers and doubters are sin-stained creating a danger by infecting them with their doubts and duplicity. Soul-winners must avoid the sins and attitudes of

sick souls. No physician is immune to all the spiritual diseases at work in rebels and skeptics.

Believers must learn to hate sin. People sin because they don't fear sin enough.

Remember the Faithfulness of God

24 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,

Notice the use of the 3rd person. Jude now announces what God is able to do for his readers.

Having seriously denounced the somber fate of the apostates in the drumming sounds of an execution march, Jude transitions to a breakbeat calypso challenging believers to seize divine powers available to them.

"Now unto him that is able" - Can you feel the power, potential, and proficiency of of the Lord God who is able "to keep you from falling"?

"to keep" (tereo) involves thundering canons blasting promises of protection and preservation.

"to keep you from falling" would better be translated "to keep you unfallen" (Ellicott) -- "unfallen" morally and doctrinally.

"and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory" -- God is able to provide protection and power so one can stand blameless before the judgment-seat of Christ.

"faultless" (amomos) means "blameless" or without weakness morally. It is possible to stand in front of pure holiness without fear and trembling.

"with exceeding joy" -- arriving in His presence with extreme joy as opposed to crossing the finish line totally exhausted; that is, there is power available not only to enter heaven's gates, but to finish the course with extreme joy bubbling with confidence -- "O, taste and see that the Lord is good."

25 To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

Though the word "Savior" is used of Christ most of the time, but it can properly be applied to God since He is the author of salvation.

"be glory and majesty" -- all that is good, excellent, and noble belong to God. To speak of goodness is to speak about God, and to speak about God is to entertain what is good in life.

"dominion and power, both now and ever" -- Because God is good and righteous, glorious and majestic, sacrificial and giving, He has a right to have dominion over all things. Oh, that all men might personally confess His Lordship and surrender to His authority now in this life.

40. Lies and More Lies

John 8:44

"You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and has nothing to do with the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies."

Σ - When Satan goes to church, the congregation is introduced to lies and more lies.

"When everything Americans believes is false, then we will have done our job." — William Casey, CIA Dir. 1981.

You've heard lies all your life . . . here are a few of them:

- That the government tells us the truth on all their websites.
- That man is a product of evolution.
- That the earth is billions of years old.
- That the flood is a myth.
- That America was founded on the Judeo-Christian ethic and not the Puritan Ethic.
- The North fought in the Civil War to free slaves, and the South was fighting to preserve the institution of slavery.
- That President Lincoln was the best president in American history.
- That the universe was started by a Big Bang that created a round earth rotating at a 1000 miles per hour on its axis traveling through space at 66,600 mph around a Sun that is traveling through a galaxy at 666,000 mph.
- That man is a product of time plus chance.
- That life was created in some primeval hot water pool when two rocks accidentally bumped hips to create a single cell -- a cell with the complexity of the entire electrical system of the city of Los Angeles -- a cell that could reproduce and evolve into alligators, whales, eagles, and zebras.
- That there are missing links.
- That there is such thing as deep time . . . (things millions of years old).

- That there is such a thing as the "simple cell." The "simple cell" is more complex than a Boeing 747. The principle of irreducible complexity debunks evolution as well as the Second Law of Thermodynamics.
- The Bible is a man-made book with many historical errors.
- The earth is a round spinning globe and not flat.
- The earth is a ball spinning through a galaxy around the sun at 66,600 mph without spinning the ocean's water into outer space by a miracle called gravity.
- The Sun is millions of miles away from the earth.
- There is such a thing as a "global warming" threat to the earth.
- That there is such a thing as "gravity." Up and down, yes; density, yes. But, magnetism toward the center of the earth? Humm?
- The earth is surrounded by an atmosphere (of air and gas) that magically sticks like Velcro around a spinning earth with 2/3 of the earth's surface filled with water.
- That the Federal Reserve is federal and has something in reserve.
- That American FRNs are worth something in gold.
- Hitler initiated a program called the "final solution" which was to exterminate Jews or that Hitler is the most evil man that ever lived.
- Jews were killed in WWII, not because of the destruction of the German infrastructure (roads, bridges, factories) but because of some malevolent plan to kill as many Jews as possible.
- The Nazis murdered, cremated, and buried 6 million Jews.
- That Hitler, not Winston Churchill, started WWII to take over Europe.
- That Dwight D. Eisenhower was a good guy – a model man.
- That the doctrine of "separation of church and state" prevents Christians from speaking up about their world view.
- That abortion is a human right.
- That homosexuality is a human right.
- That we need more women leaders.
- That the Constitution created a "democracy."
- That the Constitution is law for the people.
- That you have to be a BAR attorney to practice law.
- That there is such a thing as outer space and billions of galaxies.
- That the political development of the nation of Israel in 1948 is a fulfillment of prophecy.
- That modern day Jews are descendants of Abraham and are God's chosen people.

- That the CIA and the FBI don't know who murdered President John F. Kennedy.
- In August 1964, the United States entered the Vietnam War after an unprovoked attack in the Gulf of Tonkin.
- That the United States is a peace-loving, Christian nation.
- That NASA landed a man on the moon in 1969.
- That it is possible to travel in space past the Van Allen Belts or that there is even a "Van Allen Belt" -- a firmament, Yes; but, a radiation belt blocking man from entering "an infinite outer space," No!
- That NASA can explore space. NASA created the concept of space, but "space" beyond the firmament does not exist. The concept of "outer space" ends in Antarctica or with the "firmament."
- That the earth is moving through space or even moving. The earth appears fixed.
- That the shelling of the U.S. Liberty is the Mediterranean in 1967 was an accident.
- That women have been pushed down, crushed, and robbed of liberty by men (males).
- That we need more women in Congress and State Legislatures.
- That the United States District Court has jurisdiction in the several 50 states.
- That President Bill Clinton did not have sex with that woman.
- That everyone has to pay the income tax . . . that everyone has to pay their fair share.
- That the Twin Towers came down because untrained Muslims hijacked American airliners and flew them into the NY buildings.
- That Iraq had weapons of mass destruction.
- That Ex-President Obama was born in Hawaii.
- That Corona virus is a worldwide pandemic that will kill millions.
- That wearing a mask will prevent you from catching the flu and spreading the Corona Virus.
- That Corona Vaccine is safe and will protect you from catching the Corona Virus.
- Good people go to heaven.
- That Joe Biden was a duly elected president.
- That there was no election fraud in 2008, 2012, 2016, and 2020.
- That Americans are fundamentally racists.
- That choosing your own gender is a God-given human right.
- That America is a free country and not a communist country.
- That America is the greatest country in the world.

- That Americas southern border is safe and secure.
- That pornography and obscenity are protected speech due to the First Amendment.
- That the U.S. government wants the best for America.
- That there is no censorship of truth on Facebook, Twitter, Utube, and Google.
- That Covid-19 is a virus.
- Masks prevent the spread of Covid-19
- That there is such a thing as a virus the reproduces upon contact.
- The Moderna / Pfizer "vaccines" are a vaccine.
- That Moderna / Pfizer "drug injections" prevent the spread of Covid.
- That Moderna / Pfizer "vaccines" are harmless.
- That God and Magog will be fulfilled when Russia invades modern day Israel.
- That the major problem among teenagers and young people is a lack of self-esteem.
- That a global government is good for mankind.
- There are satellites in space.
- That there is such a thing as "space." There, is however, such a thing as a dome.
- A rocket can travel through space without the resistance of an atmosphere.
- That the earth is globe spinning 25,000 mph traveling around the Sun at 66,000 mph.
- That Antarctica is an island 30,000 miles in circumference at the bottom of a non-wobbling globe.
- That Antarctica has been circumvented by ships.
- That the ice wall around Antarctica existed before the flood.
- That there is such a thing as private property.
- That a corporation has constitutional authority to levy a property tax on private property.
- That you will own nothing and enjoy it in the new world order.
- That the rich are righteous and the poor are depraved sinners.
- That love means men must learn to tolerate evil.

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

41. The Armor of God

Ephesians 6:10-13

Σ - When Satan goes to church he looks for unarmed Christians to harass and spoil.

Paul just completed three chapters regarding Christian duty to the gospel – obligations difficult to fulfill and relationships difficult to maintain -- obligations that Satan attempts to frustrate.

Men need divine strength to live the Christian life fearlessly, faithfully and accurately.

“Spiritual strength and courage are needed for our spiritual warfare and suffering” (Matthew Henry).

10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

“my brethren” is not in the original text. It appears to be an interpolation from Philippians 3:1 (Ellicott).

The imperative “be strong” is not calling upon men to do a war dance and to whomp up power to fight the Devil. The verb is passive with the idea of receiving power that God has provided for the believer – power (dynamite) derived from His strength and might.

11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

“Put on” is a command – an aorist imperative demanding immediate initiation. Unlike verse ten, the command is active and not passive. The believer is called to exercise his will and to equip himself for battle.

The term “armor” comes from the Greek word “panoply” – a reference to the battle dress and weapons of a Roman soldier: tunics, armor, helmets, breastplates, leather and iron arm strips, shields, swords and more.

The armor is made to be worn 24/7, seven days a week including holidays. There is no order to take off one’s armor.

The purpose of this equipment was to enable the soldier to stand at his post and to do his duty.

“Do your duty in all things, like the old Puritan. You cannot do more; you should never wish to do less.” – Robert E. Lee

The “wiles of the Devil” refers to his strategies to frustrate and to defeat the Christian from doing his duty, to hold it together, and joyfully obey the Lord: fears, lies, and pleasures come to mind. Men who are going through an emotion financial or relationship trial are particularly vulnerable to Satan’s strategy to trap them into the sins of sensuality.

12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.

Paul compares the battle to a Greek / Roman wrestling match – a battle unto death.

The second duty of a soldier is that he must know his enemy. The enemy here is literally not “flesh and blood,” but people in flesh and blood that Satan sends in to combat the gospel – men owned by, trained by, and empowered by Satan – open minded men indoctrinated by lies with death in their hearts.

The conjunction “but” (*alla*) is a strong adversative. We do *not* fight the physical properties of men, but we do fight the expression of their ideas placed into their minds by the “god of this world.”

“principalities” (*arche*) may refer to angels that rule in the unseen world above or it may refer to human agents in positions of political power influenced by demonic forces.

“powers” (*exousia*) refers either to angelic authorities or to Satan’s agents in positions of political authority: governors, legislatures, judges, DA’s, cops, CONgress and the like.

“Rulers” (*kosmokrator*) may refer to angels, but more than likely it refers to men in political positions: mayor, governors, and presidents.

“rulers of darkness” may refer to fallen angels or to rulers under the power of evil.

“against spiritual wickedness in high *places*:" the term “spiritual” informs us that our battle is not corporeal or tangible, but that our conflicts are spiritual having to do with ideas, ambitions, sin, emotions, philosophies, and political policies masquerading as truth controlled by the Prince of

Darkness. Remember, Paul was imprisoned and possibly chained to a Roman legionnaire when he penned this chapter.

13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

The term “evil day” is a military metaphor referring an hour of temptation, testing, and resistance – not wholly evil because God uses some of these thing for good (Romans 8:28).

Only God has the right to define “good” and “evil.” When men define good, evil becomes acceptable. When men define evil, good becomes racist, prejudicial, and “ant-Semitic.”

The verb “take” is an aorist imperative implying men should start immediately to engage the battle with the strength of the Lord.

“withstand” (anthe stimuli) means “to resist,” “to oppose,” and “to stand against” the forces of evil:

“Resist the Devil and He will flee from you” – James 4:7. (Bible Hub)

Be strong in the Lord.

42. A Crushed Snake

Romans 16:20

Σ - When Satan goes to a true church where men pray and obey, he will be crushed.

MacLaren titled this verse, "A Crushed Snake" and his thoughts are recorded here.

Romans 16:20: And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.



"There are three other Scriptural sayings which may have been floating in the Apostle's mind when he penned this triumphant assurance. 'Thou shalt bruise his head'; the great first Evangel-we are to be endowed with Christ's power: 'The lion and the adder thou shalt trample under foot'-all the strength that was given to ancient saints is ours; 'Behold! I give you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy'-the charter of the seventy is the perennial gift to the Church." (MacLaren)

"Echoing all these great words, Paul promises the Roman Christians that 'the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly.'

Paul is gazing on all the great things in God which make Him the God of peace, and in them all he sees grounds for the confident hope that His power will be exerted to crush all the sin that breaks His children's peace

...

'The peace of God shall garrison your heart' ?

And her name is Peace, as the poet goes on to tell us. Ah, brethren! if we lived nearer the Lord, we should find it more possible to 'fight the good fight of faith,' and yet to have 'our feet shod with the preparedness of the gospel of peace.'

'The God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet'; and in bruising He will give you His peace to do it, and His peace in doing it, and in still greater measure after doing it. For every struggle of the Christian soul adds something to the subsequent depth of its tranquility. And so the name of the God of peace is our pledge of victory in, and of deepened peace after, our warfare with sin and temptation."

Isaiah 30:15 For thus saith the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel; In (your) returning and rest shall ye be saved; in (your) quietness (rest) and in (your) confidence (trust) shall be your strength: and ye would not.

Rest, Soul, rest. Trust, trust, trust! Revival is possible!

Psalm 85:6

"Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee?"

This is a question.

The word "revive" is made up of two words in Hebrew: turn and live. Will you not turn that we may live? The answer is, "Yes, He will!"

The word "live" is a Piel imperfect verb expressing intense restoration -- an infusion of Divine-life into the tired-souls of the fatigued-captives.

"You" is the subject of the verb "revive." Only God can revive tired men. Revival seldom comes out of planned revival meetings. You can't plan revival, but you can make yourself available to receive it.

The object of the verb "revive" is "us" - the fatigued people of God. Revive is NOT a reference to resurrection, but to restoring the life-power of one who is weak and sick. You can't revive the dead (the unsaved), but you can revive the sick (backsliders).

The adverb "not" moves the *action from probability to certainty*; that is, there is NO way that God is NOT going to revive the quiddity of His people. It is just NOT possible that God will NOT return that His people may possess the joy of life in Christ. The dying do not rejoice, but those recovering do. Remember His mercies, and revival stands in the wings eager to dispense grace.

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