

"THE WORDS OF THE LORD ARE PURE WORDS, LIKE SILVER TRIED IN A FURNACE OF EARTH, PURIFIED SEVEN TIMES.

YOU SHALL KEEP THEM, O LORD, YOU SHALL PRESERVE THEM FROM THIS GENERATION FOREVER." (PSALM 12: 6 & 7)

OAK HILL MINISTRIES.ORG ■ 2115 GRAEFENBURG ROAD ■ LAWRENCEBURG, KY 40342
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“HYBRID CHRISTIANITY” *(A FALSE HOPE FOR THE MANY)* **PART TWO**

Today, “Hybrid Christianity” – a form or type of religion that calls itself Christianity, but was not derived from JESUS CHRIST, and is not in harmony with the full counsel of the sacred and holy scriptures, is the norm rather than the exception. What we call “the Church” today is totally foreign to the first century Ecclesia (the called out ones or true Church). There is simply no comparison between the two, None whatsoever. An honest study of the historical record proves the validity of this statement. (a good place to start is with Frank Viola’s writings – *Rethinking The Wineskin, Who is Your Covering?* and *Pagan Christianity*. Order info at www.ptmin.org)

Most of us are far too lazy to take the time to search out truth, even though the record is available to each of us. We would much prefer to follow the line of least resistance and just believe what ever we have been taught, even though we may have been taught something that is not in harmony with FATHER’S word. After all, man’s heart is naturally inclined to agree with itself. This tendency to have confidence in “self” is nothing new. From our beginning we have been prone to follow a thought pattern or course of action that seemed right, but in the end, only death awaited.

**“There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.”
(Proverbs 14:12)**

This propensity of mankind to follow human reasoning, rather than to obey God, was first exposed in the Garden of Eden when Eve listened to the spirit of deception. That spirit took God’s word, twisted it in such a way that “self” would reason that disobedience to God was the right or good thing to do. Death was the result, and you and I are still suffering the consequences today. (Genesis 3:1-24)

It is one thing to act out of ignorance, but quite another to have heard, and act in opposition to what has been heard. To the former there is the hope of mercy as Paul discovered –

“Although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man; but I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in unbelief.” (1 Timothy 1:13)

To the latter there awaits only death as Ananias discovered (see Acts 5: 1-5) – unless God, in His sovereignty, sends His judgment, which results in true repentance. This spiritual principal is clearly recorded in 2 Chronicles 7: 13 & 14. Listen –

“When I shut up heaven and there is no rain, or command the locusts to devour the land, or send pestilence among My people, if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

Please note carefully in 2 Chronicles verse 13 that It is God who sends His judgment in the form of drought, pests and pestilence which is by definition “a destructive infectious swiftly spreading disease.” The devil did not send the judgment, as the hybrid Christian would loudly declare. NO! God sent it! Why? In an effort to get His people to repent so that He could heal them. The judgment of God is sent to His people out of His love and care for them. He does not desire that they should perish eternally, due to their rebellion. However, perish they will if they die in their open defiance of His holy word.

This spiritual principal strikes a holy fear in the hearts of those who are truly born again. That fear causes us to cry out “Oh God have mercy on me. I have failed to heed Your word. I have listened to my own wicked heart. I have believed the lying prophets and teachers who tickled my ears and enticed my flesh to rebel against You. Please, Father, grant me the grace to flee spiritual Babylon and separate myself wholly unto You. Grant me the grace to cry – yes and amen to every word that You have spoken to man. Father, have mercy on me!”

In contrast to the re-born of God, the hybrid Christian, confident of his good standing before God, filled with religious pride and under the control of pharisaical religious spirits, will thank God that he is not like that one who cries out for mercy. He will, with a smile on the face, boast of his confidence in God’s grace, Even though the grace of which he boasts is carried in a heart that loves not, fears not, and turns away from the word of God. This hybrid Christian that looks, sounds and acts so religious has heard the truth, but chosen the lie. Of this sort God would say;

“For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them. But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: A dog returns to his own vomit, and a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire.” (2 Peter 2: 21& 22)

As stated earlier in this message, the place that the Word of God takes in one’s heart, is the determining factor between the real and the counterfeit. God creates the real or true, and His enemy creates the counterfeit, which is designed to deceive. Please remember that Father has warned all of us that our greatest enemy in these days in which we live is deception (see Matthew 24:4,5,11 & 24 – 2 Timothy 3:13 and 2 Corinthians 11: 3 & 4).

Dear reader, I cannot over stress the importance of our heart’s attitude toward Father’s word. We cannot live this present life, as Father desires that we live it, apart from

every word that proceeds from His mouth. JESUS made this spiritual principal clear when He stated the following:

“It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.” (Matthew 4:4)

Not only can we not live life here on earth in harmony with God apart from His word, but also we cannot expect our souls to be saved apart from the living word of God. This is clear from His word as delivered through the pen of James – listen:

“Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.” (James 1:21)

Every truly “born again” saint has had a love for the entirety of God’s word implanted into their heart confirming His word as recorded in Hebrews 8:10 and Jeremiah 31:33. JESUS qualified those who loved Him as those who loved and kept His word (See John 14: 23 & 24). The writer of the 119th Psalm understood this spiritual truth and expressed it in an eloquent and easily understood way. All of us would do well to soak in Psalm 119 until it was committed to memory and became the foundation of our thought patterns.

In contrast to the “born again” saint, the hybrid Christian is quite comfortable and confident of his or her good standing before God regardless of their heart’s attitude toward His word. They are convinced that a “heart attitude” that loves God’s word and desires to obey that word is not a prerequisite to salvation. Whenever obedience to God’s word is taught, the hybrid hears legalism rising in their heart, rather than a “yes” and “amen”. True, there is a spirit of legalism that manifests itself when obedience is taught out of a heart that loves not God. However, when obedience is taught in love, the heart that loves God more than self always receives it with a yes and amen.

Again, in contrast to the truly born again saint, who believes God according to His word above all others, including himself, the hybrid only believes God’s word as it agrees with his or her unconverted heart. In fact, the hybrid Christian will believe a pastor, priest, Pope, Bible study leader or TV evangelist before they will believe God. Of these, Solomon said:

**“There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.”
(Proverbs 14:12)**

and

“The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, - - - .” (Proverbs 12:15)

and

**“The simple believes every word, But the prudent considers well his steps.”
(Proverbs 14:15)**

and

**“Every way of a man is right in his own eyes, But the Lord weighs the hearts.”
(Proverbs 21:2)**

I will now bring this Part of our message to a conclusion with a few more examples of glaring contrasts between the true believer, according to Biblical definition, and the false or hybrid believer, also by Biblical definition.

The true believers focus is on JESUS and Him alone. The true believer is passionate in his love for JESUS and in his desire to obey Him above all others who would place themselves between them and the One they love. (John 14: 21 & 23) The true believer would never think of separating JESUS from His word. They love God and His word as one. (John 1: 1 & 14) They believe that God has said what He meant to say to man, and that He will do exactly as He said He would do according to His word and not according to what man thinks He should do. (Psalm 89:34) These traits mark the true believer that is best described by God, Himself, as He spoke through Isaiah –

“But on this one I will look: On him who is poor and of a contrite spirit, And who trembles at My word.” (Isaiah 66:2)

The true believer both loves and fears God. They have but one agenda and that is to show their Father their love by simply obeying Him. When they fall short in their desire to obey Him fully, and they do, they are grieved of spirit, humble themselves and ask His forgiveness. Being confident that they are forgiven (1 John 1:9), they once again set their will to obey their heavenly Father.

The hybrid Christian on the other hand is similar to the true believer only on the surface. The hybrid openly declares a belief in JESUS and expresses a strong confidence of their salvation. The fact that even the demons of hell believe in JESUS (James 2:19) and tremble, does not cause them any concern what so ever. In fact, the hybrid Christian has absolutely no fear of God in their heart. (Psalm 36:1) They view God as a loving, harmless, gift giving sugar daddy, that no longer cares if His children desire to obey Him or not. The fact that this fleshly view of God is nowhere to be found as a mark of the saved in holy writ, again makes no difference. Religious pride has so overwhelmed the hybrid that spiritual blindness and deafness has rendered them as not teachable (Matthew 13: 13-15).

Obeying God, in all things of life, is not a priority with the hybrid Christian. The doctrine of obedience is no longer relevant to the hybrid. Grace now covers everything from unbelief to out and out rebellion. Defying God’s word and openly mocking Him becomes a way of life, and unbelief comes to full maturity. All the while, God’s word declares:

“And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him.” (Hebrews 5:9)

“Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.” (Galatians 6:7)

There is another glaring difference between the true believer and the hybrid. While the true believer reveals a heart that is wholly focused on JESUS and on His Father’s word, the hybrid reveals a heart that is focused on something other than Jesus. More often than not, this “other thing” is a denomination, a church, a pastor or teacher, a favorite doctrine or their own ministry. Of course, the hybrid will freely use the name of Jesus as a stamp of approval

for their position. The hybrid is quickly offended should anyone speak negatively toward their “other thing” that controls their heart. At the very least they will break fellowship with the one who exposes their spiritual adultery. At worst, they will physically attack you, and even kill you in extreme cases. Naturally, the hybrid will do all in the name of Jesus. Of this behavior, Jesus said:

“These people draw near to Me with their mouth, And honor Me with their lips, But their heart is far from ME. And in vain they worship ME. Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.” (Matthew 15: 8 & 9)

Dear saints, the stakes could not be higher. The appointed hour of death for each of us looms ahead. God is serious about His word and His command to obey it. Heaven and hell await our arrival and regardless of what some lying spirit says, there is no in-between place where the rebellious can take refuge. Beware of the spirits of organized religion. Beware of the spirit of religious pride. God has declared that when all is said and done, many will fail to enter into heaven. Only a few will actually find their way. (see Matthew 7: 13 & 14) Always remember –

**“There is no wisdom or understanding or counsel against the Lord.”
(Proverbs 21:30)**

**“If you say, “Surely we did not know this,” Does not He who weighs the hearts consider it? He who keeps your soul, does He not Know it? And will He not render to each man according to his deeds?”
(Proverbs 24:12)**

**“Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter:
Fear God and keep His Commandments, For this is man’s all. For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, Whether good or evil.”
(Ecclesiastes 12: 13 & 14)**

**“For we Know Him who said, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord,
And again, “The Lord will judge His people.” It is a fearful thing
to fall into the hands of the living God.” (Hebrews 10: 30 & 31)**

May God grant us the grace to escape the many-numbered fold of the hybrid and be counted among the few that are wholly separated unto Him!

Your Brother in Christ,

Tom

