



"Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. For certain persons have crept in unnoticed, those who were long beforehand marked out for this condemnation, ungodly persons who turn the grace of our God into licentiousness and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ."



Have you ever wondered why you might receive a letter or perhaps a timely visit out of the blue from the Jehovah's Witnesses, right about the time you are celebrating the birth of a newborn baby, grieving a death in the family or coping with a recent divorce? It's possible that Mormon missionaries might drop by about that same time as well. In most cases it's no coincidence. Death notices, obituaries, new baby announcements and public notice of finalized divorces are a convenience for them as they plan their itinerary each week. You may even bump into them at the waiting rooms of hospitals, doctor's offices or in funeral homes. Chances are you will at least find their tracts or magazines near by. Like turkey buzzards and vultures they are always circling and waiting for an opportunity to drop in unannounced. So be on guard but don't be hateful. They are only obeying what their leaders have told them to do. At the same time don't be deceived by thinking they are Christians as they claim to be. The Jehovah's Witnesses and the Mormons (Later-day Saints) are two major non-Christian cults who teach that Jesus Christ was only a man and one of many gods. They adamantly reject the one true God of Christianity – God the Father, God the Son and God The Holy Spirit – The "Holy Trinity."

All non-Christian cults reject the Deity of Jesus Christ and the person and work of God The Holy Spirit. They are called non-Christian cults because they claim to be "Christian," but in fact they worship a false Christ and different gods. Our readers of The Humbleheart Messenger are familiar with the many articles that describe who these false cults are and also what makes Christianity separate from all other world religions. These articles and other information are

available on our website and in ongoing topics for future articles. However, I need to pick up where we left off in our last issue of The Humbleheart Messenger with the article entitled, "The Way Through Foggy Religion."

The Way Through Foggy Religion

Continued...

If you recall I was writing how people are falling away from the Christian faith by turning away from the Word of God and caving into worldly philosophies. This includes the weaving in or acceptance of the theory of human evolution within their Church doctrines or position statements. It's been going on for several years. However, it has become much more evident and far-reaching as mainline Churches are involved in moving further away from the authority of Scripture. This is what the Bible calls the "apostasy."

In 2 Thessalonians 2:1-3 we read, "*Now we request you, brethren, with regard to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and our gathering together to Him, that you may not be quickly shaken from your composure or be disturbed either by a spirit or a message or a letter as if from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come. Let no one in any way deceive you, for it will not come unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction...*"

Charles Ryrie notes on this passage that apostasy is "an aggressive and climactic revolt against God that will prepare the way for the appearance of the man of sin (see 1 Tim. 4:1-5; 2 Tim. 3:1-5)."

In the end the "man of sin" or "son of destruction" we know ultimately refers to a person called the antichrist. Obviously we are not at that stage this moment in history. However, John wrote the following passage of Scripture that sheds light on the fact that the "spirit" of the antichrist continues to be at work in the world. "*Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God; and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God; and this is the spirit of the antichrist, of which you have heard that it is coming, and now it is already in the world. (1 John 4:1-3)*

So why do I mention the antichrist in relation to foggy religion? I believe it is related to a similar phrase that Jesus said in Matthew 24:8 describing the end times preceding His return, *"But all these things are merely the beginning of birth pangs."* It gives us the idea that among many other signs apostasy will progressively intensify before Jesus returns. So we should not be surprised to see what's happening. God has revealed these things to us in advance through Scripture.

Non-Christian cults usually have roots in some type of Christian Church, but have decided to follow other gods, false prophets and false Christs. They turned away from God's Word and essential Christian doctrines. In some cases they have written their own Bibles or produced other documents as their authoritative writings. They became other religions unto themselves.

When we partake of communion as Christians we are reminded by Apostle Paul, *"You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons."* (1 Corinthians 10:21) This is serious and not to be taken lightly. 1 Corinthians 11:27-31 warns that we should not partake in an unworthy manner. So we are faced with having to make a clear choice similar to Elijah's challenge in 1 Kings 18:21 – *"And Elijah came near to all the people and said, 'How long will you hesitate between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him, But the people did not answer him a word."* The people were seeking a way to receive the benefits of both, because of their fear of persecution from the Baal worshippers who lived among them, but at the same time bring a sacrifice to the altar of God. They thought they could appease Baal. They did not accept and obey God's Word spoken through His Prophet Elijah. Israel learned that day exactly who God is!

What makes us think we can somehow escape the coming judgment of God when we open our Churches to false teachers and doctrines of demons? Have you noticed the religious political hot spots across our nation and how they seem to pop up and down almost like a weather forecast? It usually catches more attention around the time of national elections. They are called social issues or special interest. Most candidates are weary from the outset of their campaigns knowing they must be prepared to give an answer reflecting their positions on issues like abortion, euthanasia, same sex marriage (homosexuality & gay rights) evolution, creation, their own faith and views primarily on Christianity, Islam and Judaism. If you pay attention it becomes evident that the overwhelming majority of these politicians haven't the foggiest idea what they are talking about concerning religious teachings and convictions. The pens, microphones and cameras are always rolling. If one should be brave enough to attempt quoting a passage or even one verse from the Bible it could mean political suicide. Today one name can spark a firestorm all across the

nation. The name "Jesus Christ." That's because He is the only way through foggy religion. While He stood before Pontius Pilot at the end of His earthly ministry He made it very clear that His Kingdom is not of this world. (John 18:36) It was the religious leaders, lawyers and politicians at that time that would not be satisfied until Jesus was nailed to the cross. They were even more enraged when He rose up from the dead three days later. The Scriptures were fulfilled just as God had promised. God continues fulfilling His Word and we can count on Him until the end of time. In Matthew 16:18b Jesus said, *"...I will build My Church and the gates of Hades (Hell) shall not overpower it."*

The persecution of Christians continues around the world today. It comes in many forms, but rarely is it ever reported in the news. Here in America the ramparts of the Church are being stormed. Some are leaving the gate cracked open by allowing certain things to come in like worldly politicians hoping to avoid being a target of persecution. Others are reinforcing the gate to shut out the enemy. Rather than appear as beleaguered Christians we need to stand strong in our faith and in the power of the name Jesus. (Acts 4:7)

To date 12,690 members of clergy from many denominations across our country have signed what is called the "Clergy Letter Project" to endorse the theory of human evolution as scientific fact and completely compatible with the teachings of Christianity. At least three mainline denominational churches have signed the letter not only to endorse evolution as scientific fact, but to also keep the teaching of Creation out of the public school curriculum. Go online and do a search by typing in The Clergy Letter Project to see if your denomination and/or Pastor have signed. You will also find that thousands of congregations across our country will be celebrating the sixth annual "Evolution Weekend" February 11th, 12th & 13th which includes Darwin's birthday.

I have been involved with challenging the founder of the Clergy Letter Project along with other ministries for the past two years. We have tried to have serious dialog with several Pastors and Church leaders. It has become clear that within most congregations they have no idea what their own denomination's leadership has done. Most Pastors are also unaware of the Clergy Letter Project. Of all the Pastors I know on a close and personal level, not one of them would agree with the Clergy Letter Project and all that it stands for. So don't act in haste! We are all Christian brothers and sisters needing to love and look out for one another. (1 Timothy 4:6)

We ask for your prayers for all concerned in hopes that Jesus Christ will be glorified and hearts turned back to the authority of Scripture. □

MARANATHA!

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