



"I am so tired of weak Christianity."



"My business is not to speak smooth things."



"We are going down hill at breakneck speed."

# Lifting Up The STANDARD

"When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him" (Isaiah 59:19).



Challenging And Encouraging God's Remnant To Remain Faithful

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## Why Didn't They Get Involved?

**The year was 1878.** Thomas Edison patented the phonograph, Sir John A MacDonald was Prime Minister of Canada, and the Niagara Bible Conference was drafting their fourteen point creed for what was later to be considered the beginning of what we call fundamentalism.

**Three of God's most influential men** were noticeably absent from the meetings when our *fundamental movement* was being organized. We would do well to ask ourselves, why?

### C. H. Spurgeon Was Not Involved

Spurgeon was the most famous preacher in the world at that time. Within a few years of the organizing of fundamentalism, in March of 1887, Spurgeon published the first of his articles entitled "**The Down Grade,**" in his monthly magazine, The Sword and the Trowel. Spurgeon said, "**We are going down hill at breakneck speed.**"



C.H. Spurgeon

### "A little plain-speaking"

In his third article on the subject Spurgeon wrote,

*"A little plain-speaking would do a world of good just now. These gentlemen desire to be let alone. It is time that somebody should spring*

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## Human Reasoning?

**Matthew 16:7,**

"They reasoned among themselves."

**Matthew 21:25,**

"They reasoned with themselves."

**Mark 2:8,**

"They reasoned within themselves."

**Mark 8:16,**

"They reasoned among themselves."

**Mark 11:31,**

"They reasoned with themselves."

**Luke 20:5,**

"They reasoned with themselves."

**Luke 20:14,**

"They reasoned among themselves."

**Luke 9:46,**

"There arose a reasoning among them."

## Jesus Said

**Matthew 16:8,**

"Why reason ye among yourselves."

**John 16:13,**

"When He, the Spirit of truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth."

**Luke 12:56,**

"How is it that ye do not discern this time?"



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his rattle, and call attention to the way in which God is being robbed of his glory, and man of his hope."

**Spurgeon continued,**

"It now becomes a serious question how far those who abide by the faith once delivered to the saints should fraternize with those who have turned aside to another gospel. Christian love has its claims, and divisions are to be shunned as grievous evils; but how far are we justified in being in confederacy with those who are departing from the truth?"

**What was Spurgeon doing?** All the trends at that time were toward unification, harmony, amalgamation, and brotherhood; however, letters began pouring in to confirm Spurgeon's worst accusations.

**Spurgeon wrote,**

"According to the best of our ability we sounded an alarm in Zion concerning the growing evils of the times, and we have received abundant proof that it was none too soon. Letters from all quarters declare that the case of the church at this present is even worse than we thought it to be. It seems that, instead of being guilty of exaggeration, we should have been justified in the production of a far more terrible picture. This fact causes us real sorrow. Had we been convicted of misstatement we would have recanted with sincerely penitent confessions, and we should have been glad to have had our fears removed. It is no joy to us to bring accusations; it is no pleasure to our heart to seem to be in antagonism with so many."

**"I Must Withdraw"**

**On October 28, 1887,** Spurgeon wrote to Samuel Harris Booth, General Secretary of the Baptist Union:

"DEAR FRIEND,—I beg to intimate to you, as the secretary of the Baptist Union, that I must withdraw from that society. I do this with the utmost regret; but I have no choice. The reasons are set forth in *The Sword and the Trowel* for November, and I trust you will excuse my repeating them here. I beg you not to send anyone to me to ask for reconsideration. I fear I have considered too long already; certainly every hour of the day impresses upon me the conviction that I am moving none too soon."

*I wish also to add that no personal pique or ill-will has in the least degree operated upon me. I have personally received more respect than I desired. It is on the highest ground alone that I take this step, and you know that I have long delayed it because I hoped for better things.—Yours always heartily,*

**C. H. Spurgeon**

**Close Friends Turned Against Him**

The Down-Grade Controversy was a constant grief to Spurgeon until his death on January 31, 1892. Close friends, including some of the students

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**God Wrote  
Nine Letters  
Specifically To  
Pastors**

**First Timothy 1:2,**

"Unto Timothy"

**Second Timothy 1:2,**

"To Timothy"

**Titus 1:4,**

"To Titus"

**Revelation 2:1,**

"Unto the angel (Pastor) of the church of Ephesus write."

**Revelation 2:8,**

"And unto the angel (Pastor) of the church in Smyrna write."

**Revelation 2:12,**

"And unto the angel (Pastor) of the church in Pergomas write."

**Revelation 2:18,**

"And unto the angel (Pastor) of the church in Thyatira write."

**Revelation 3:1,**

"And unto the angel (Pastor) of the church in Sardis write."

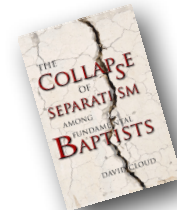
**Revelation 3:7,**

"And to the angel (Pastor) of the church in Philadelphia write."

**Revelation 3:14,**

"And unto the angel (Pastor) of the church of the Laodiceans write."

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from his college, turned against him. But Spurgeon declared to the end that he did not regret the stand he had taken.

### **The Soldier Must Defend**

*“Controversy is never a very happy element for the child of God: he would far rather be in communion with his Lord than be engaged in defending the faith, or in attacking error. But the soldier of Christ knows no choice in his Master's commands. He may feel it to be better for him to lie upon the bed of rest than to stand covered with the sweat and dust of battle; but, as a soldier, he has learned to obey, and the rule of his obedience is not his personal comfort, but his Lord's absolute command. The servant of God must endeavour to maintain all the truth which his Master has revealed to him, because, as a Christian soldier, this is part of his duty. But while he does so, he accords to others the liberty which he himself enjoys.”—C. H. S., in address at the Tabernacle, 1861.*



### **D.L. Moody Was Not Involved In The Movement**

Few people in our world had the influence for Christ that D. L. Moody had. Wilbur Chapman said, “I question if this generation has known a man who was more Christlike than D. L. Moody.”

During the same period the participants of the Niagara Bible Conference were drafting their fourteen point creed, Moody was having meetings with thousands of people having to be turned away because so many came to hear him preach. In New York in 1876 over twenty-five thousand attended one of his meetings. Why was Moody not involved in the organizing of our fundamental movement?

Was it because the doctrine of repentance was being rejected? In the late 1800's Moody said,

*“For the last few years I have been a good deal more anxious for a deep and true work in professing converts than I have for great numbers.”*

### **In his message “The results of True Repentance” Moody said,**

*For the last few years I have been a good deal more anxious for a deep and true work in professing converts than I have for great numbers. If a man professes to be converted without realizing the heinousness of his sins, he is likely to be one of those stony ground hearers who don't amount to anything. The first breath of opposition, the first wave of persecution or ridicule, will suck them back into the world again. I believe we are making a woeful mistake in taking so many people into the Church who have never been truly convicted of sin. Sin is just as black in a man's heart to-day as it ever was. I sometimes think it is blacker. For the more light a man has, the greater his responsibility, and therefore the greater need of deep conviction.*

### **A.W. Tozer Warned About Our Common Salvation**



**A.W. Tozer**

*“The crowds-at-any-price mania has taken a firm grip on Christianity and is the motivating power back of a shockingly high percentage of all religious activity.” Tozer continued, “In our eagerness to make converts I am afraid we have lately been guilty of using the technique of modern salesmanship.”*

### **Jude Warned About Our Common Salvation**

#### **Jude 1:3,**

*“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.”*

#### **Jude Did Not Change His Mind**

The Greek word translated “common” in Jude 1:3, is *koinos*. This word was used by the Jews concerning something that was unhallowed, profane or unclean.

In **Mark 7:2**, *koinos* is translated “**defiled**.”

In **Romans 14:14**, it is translated “**unclean**” three times.

In **Hebrews 10:29**, it has been translated “**unholy thing**.”

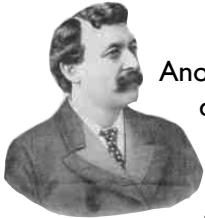
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**At the conclusion of his message Moody said,**

*“Oh, friends, I am so tired of weak Christianity. Let us be out and out for Christ; let us give no uncertain sound.”*

### **Gipsy Smith Was Not Involved In The Fundamental Movement**



Another man who had a great influence for the cause of Christ during the organization of our fundamental movement was Gipsy Smith. Why was he not involved in the movement?

Gipsy Smith was drawing crowds of many thousands when R. A. Torrey, A. C. Dixon, W. B. Riley, Lewis Sperry Shafer, C. I. Scofield and other “*fundamentalists*” were putting together our second five point creed concerning fundamentalism.

Was it because the movement was dumping doctrine for unity? The goal of the movement was, “*to keep the unity.*” Anyone who would suggest anything contrary to their creed would be guilty of, “*sectarian prejudices and denominational bigotry.*” ([Click Here - For a free download of our book “The Failure of Fundamentalism.”](#)) Did Gipsy Smith realize they agreed to reduced the major Bible doctrines concerning the local church and baptism to a “*difference of opinion.*” Did Gipsy Smith understand that the second wave of fundamentalism was organized by a group of compromisers? Perhaps the Gipsy was not involved in the movement because the doctrine of repentance was being dumped by the men in the movement.

### **Gipsy Smith Dealt With The Problem Concerning Repentance In 1905**

**In his message “Repent Ye” Gipsy Smith said,**

*“The Bible, especially the New Testament, is the handbook of repentance. It commands it, it urges it, enforces it, repeats it, drives it in everywhere. Over sixty times repentance is enforced. The great doctrine of repentance occupies a very prominent place in the teaching of JESUS CHRIST and His apostles. All the epistles were written to show men how to do it, because there is no such thing as vital communion, fellowship with GOD, without it.*

*And I want to speak plainly about Bible repentance, and I pray GOD to help me, for I have not anything pleasant to say. It is far easier to congratulate than it is to expostulate. My business is not to speak smooth things, but to say some things that you may resist, fight, get angry with; and you may get angry with me for saying them, but they are here, and it is my business to say, ‘Thus saith the Lord.’ For it is my business to make you see what GOD means when He says, “Repent ye.” ([Click Here For Gipsy Smith’s message “Repent Ye.”](#))*

### **Incentive Salvation?**

In recent years we have adopted the tactics of the business world. We offer an incentive to get people to say yes to our salvation sales pitch.

We offer the incentive of Heaven to all who will pray a prayer. We ask, “*Would you like to know for sure that you will go to Heaven when you die?*” Well, who wouldn’t?

**Jesus never, ever, offered Heaven as an incentive** for people to get saved and neither did His followers.

Heaven is a wonderful by-product of salvation; however, salvation deals with our **repenting** of our sin against God. Man needs to understand that we need to fall on our faces and repent before God, even if there was no Heaven.

**Jesus said,** “*I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish*” (Luke 13:3).

Because it is so important He repeated it.

**Jesus said again,** “*I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish*” (Luke 13:5)



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