

## Understanding Repentance

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*"To appraise things with a heart of love and then to act on the results is an obligation resting upon every Christian in the world. And the more as we see the day approaching."*

A.W. Tozer

## 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

Issue #16 - April 21, 2014

## "How Are The Mighty Fallen In the Midst of The Battle!"

(Second Samuel 1:25)

**Back in the 70's** I received a letter from Jerry Falwell. It was obviously put out by a computer. Somehow the computer program messed up and the insert area that was supposed to make me think it was a personal letter from Falwell.

Rather than beginning with Dear Pastor Kirkland it read, **"Dear Mr. Ritson School."** Several times throughout the letter it referred to me as "Mr. Ritson School" telling me how very important I was to them.

I mentioned that letter on my weekly radio program back then and received a letter from a radio listener telling me that he had also received a letter from Falwell in answer to a letter that he had sent him. In his letter to Falwell he said that he was praying that God would "close that church down."

Falwell answered him, obviously using a computer mass mailing program, saying he appreciated the fact that the man was praying for him and said he hoped that God would answer his prayer real soon. After that of course they were asking for money.

### Compromise

**We live in an age of compromise.**

Politicians compromise to secure votes. Police compromise to avoid riots. Preachers compromise to get people to come to church and they compromise to get people to stay. In my lifetime I have seen Billy Graham, Jack Van Impe and Jerry Falwell compromise. Now, sadly to say, there is an alarming list of *influential fundamentalists* that are compromising.

Paul the Apostle states in Galatians 1:6,

*"I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel."*

In recent years *fundamental* leaders who have a major influence have dared to preach "another gospel" that includes simply praying a little forgiveness prayer minus repentance in order to get to Heaven. This is what Peter called a "damnable heresy" (Second Peter 2:1). When we promote a gospel that rejects repentance we promote a "damnable heresy."

*"And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep" (Romans 13:11).*

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**This week I received a computer generated letter from Pastor John Wilkerson** of the First Baptist Church in Hammond, Indiana. The letter began by thanking me for my *"kindness and prayers for this new season of ministry here at First Baptist Church in Hammond, and Hyles-Anderson College."*

**My kindness?** Actually I have been writing articles for a long time exposing the hypocrisy and immorality that has been covered up for about forty years at First Baptist Church in Hammond, Indiana.

**Wilkerson said that I have lent tremendous strength and encouragement to them** and he continued *"we praise God for you."* I was invited to their Homecoming Conference in October. The theme of their conference is **"To Please Him."** If they want to please the Lord maybe having a conference dealing with what the Lord said in Matthew chapter eighteen concerning church discipline would be a good place to start.

There was no discipline at First Baptist when the former pastor's son was knowingly immoral or when his son's wife posed for a pornographic magazine and was featured in an advertisement for group sex. First Baptist of Hammond, with the help of fundamental influential leaders have covered up immorality at First Baptist for many years.

**Jack Hyles said,**

*"On...occasions deacons have committed what we call 'gross sin.' I called those deacons in. If they admitted what they were accused of doing, I suggested that they resign the deacon board. I did not 'blab' it around! Those deacons have lovely families who do not need to bear the stigma of their daddy's sin, just because some preacher thought he was supposed to blab everybody's sin in front of the whole church. That is the way I handle it. I am not going to get up and broadcast everybody's sins. I am not going to call my deacons together and reveal why that man resigned." (Jack Hyles on Justice - Hyles-Anderson Publishers, 1992 pg. 53, 54).*

So, according to Hyles, what Jesus said about church discipline is simply *"blabbing in public."*

There has been many times that immorality was covered up at First Baptist and church discipline was ignored.

Wilkerson then said in his letter that he was pleased they had some seasoned servants of God from across the country that have agreed to come and speak at the conference this year. He said *"the hand of God upon these men is very evident."*

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## Beware of Pragmatism

Pragmatism is a philosophy that determines truth by what appears to be successful rather than by the Word of God.



The white horse rider with his worldly philosophies has been galloping through our churches in recent days. That rider with his philosophies of compromise are destroying what were once fundamental churches.

*"The time is come that judgment (discernment) must begin at the house of God."*  
(First Peter 4:17)

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For This Important Article

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The speakers Wilkerson mentioned in his letter are Dr. Clarence Sexton from Powell, Tennessee; Doctor Jack Treiber from Santa Clara, California; and Doctor Paul Chappell from Lancaster, California.

**Are we to assume that the hand of God is upon someone because they have a crowd?** Does not the Billy Graham Association have a crowd? Are we to assume that the hand of God is upon Rick Warren because he draws a crowd? Is it evident that the hand of God is upon Joel Osteen and his crowd?

Jack Schaap, former pastor of First Baptist in Hammond, is listed in the 2008 report at (<http://www.sermoncentral.com/articleb.asp?article=Top-100-Largest-Churches>) as being in the top twenty of their list of the largest and fastest growing churches in America. Are we to consider that because he was listed in this group that it was obvious that the hand of God was upon a child molester who is now in prison?

**I am not suggesting** that Sexton, Treiber, or Chappell are in the same category as Graham, Warren, Osteen or Schaap. I am saying a crowd sitting in a building, with ninety percent of them doing nothing for God, is not evidence that the hand of God is upon anyone. The Pope always gets a crowd, is that evidence that God's hand is upon him?

First Baptist Church of Hammond has been the laughingstock of TV news broadcasts, magazines, newspapers, and even late-night TV shows. If the desire of First Baptist is to please Him, it would be a good thing to begin by *cleaning up* rather than *covering up* the mess that has existed there for many, many years.

**The fact is when we blatantly disobey the Word of God we will lose our young people.** When we have influential men like Sexton, Treiber, and Chappell supporting this mess we face a serious problem. It is time to wake up and it is time to speak up. **Silence always gives consent!**



Do You See  
A Problem?



No, I Don't See  
Any Problem



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### Second Thessalonians 3:6

*"Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us."*

### Second Thessalonians 3:14,15

*"And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed. Yet count him not as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother."*



**"Get A Hair Cut!!!"**

## **Irony Isn't It?**

Those who wouldn't support evangelicalism because they might have hair touching their ears or their collar will support fundamentalism regardless of how many Scriptures are violated.

### **The Difference Between "The Church" And "The Movement"**

**[Click Here](#) ...for this timely and important message.**

Well Lord, we know  
what Your Word says  
but we have found a  
better way.



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**Take a stand pastor or lose your young people to the influence of those who are supporting Laodicean Fundamentalism.**

### **A Greater Problem Than The Immorality Coverup**

When Jack Hyles was the pastor of First Baptist he wrote a book called "The Enemies of Soul Winning." In this cesspool of heresy, perverting God's plan of salvation, Hyles blatantly disagreed with "those who say we have to repent in order to be saved."

Hyles created his own definition of the word repent. It mattered not that Jesus, Peter, Paul, and thousands of our forefathers in the past two-thousand years said repentance is necessary to salvation.

Hyles, obsessed with having a large amount of people in a building listening to him preach, took it upon himself to change God's plan of salvation.

**It mattered not that Christ said...**

**Luke 13:3,**

*"I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."*

**Luke 13:5,**

*"I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."*

**Matthew 9:13,**

*"I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."*

**Luke 24:47,**

*"And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations."*

**It mattered not that there can be no forgiveness without repentance.**

Jesus said...

**Luke 17:3,**

*"If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him."*

**Luke 17:4,**

*"And if he trespass against thee seven times in a day, and seven times in a day turn again to thee, saying, I repent; thou shalt forgive him."*

**It mattered not that Peter said...**

**Acts 2:38,**

*"Repent, and be baptized every one of you."*

**Acts 3:19,**

*"Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out."*

**Acts 11:18,**

*"God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life."*

**Second Peter 3:9,**

*"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise...but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."*

**It mattered not that Paul said...**

**Second Corinthians 7:10,**

*"For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation."*

**Romans 2:4,**

*"The goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance."*

**Acts 17:30,**

*"God...commandeth all men every where to repent."*

**Just Pray A Prayer Like The Catholics Do**

Hyles' distorted plan of salvation consisted of simply praying a prayer like the Catholics do; however, God is no respecter of persons. If a little forgiveness prayer won't get a Catholic saved, it won't get one saved though he calls himself a fundamental Baptist.

Jesus said, **"I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish"** (Luke 13:3). Surely, there will be an outcry from pastors who know they are to rebuke those who teach contrary to the doctrines we have received.

**What about the Sword of the Lord?**

Surely, they would stand against this heresy. They not only did not stand against Hyles polluted plan of salvation, but under the direction of Curtis Hutson, they promoted it. Hutson supported his buddy, Hyles, by writing a booklet he called "Repentance, What Does The Bible Say?"

Hutson even had the gall to take out any references to repentance in the hymnbook they sold.

One example is the 1989 edition of their "Soul Stirring Songs & Hymns"- "The Old Account Was Settled." The song as written by F.M. Graham says, "O sinner seek the Lord, Repent of all your sin, For thus He hath commanded, if you would enter in."

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Hutson changed it to line up with the Hyles heresy. The new edition of "Soul Stirring Songs & Hymns reads:" "O sinner trust the Lord, Be cleansed (**repentance** is removed) of all your sin, For thus He hath provided, (**commanded** is removed) If you would enter in."

It has been about twenty-five years since Hyles promoted his new plan of salvation. There have been a few voices, but they have been maligned as troublemakers who are causing division.

### **Second Thessalonians 3:6,**

*"Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us."*

If we are going to accept the heresy that says repentance is not necessary for salvation, we are rejecting the Word of God.

### **Second Peter 2:1,**

*"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."*

### **Christians Preaching Heresy**

Peter, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, warned us that "false teachers" would be "among" us." He said they would "bring in damnable heresies." A damnable heresy is a heresy that will damn a soul to an eternity in Hell. We are also told that these promoters of damnable heresies would "even deny the Lord that bought them." The Greek word translated "bought" is agorazo. It has been translated "redeemed" three times. It is very obvious that this verse is talking about Christians promoting this "damnable heresy."

### **"We Or An Angel" or "If Any Man"**

Under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, Paul said, "Though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, if any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed" (Galatians 1:8,9).

It is interesting to note that Jesus repeated Himself twice in the same breath when He said "except ye repent ye shall all likewise perish" and Paul repeated himself twice in the same breath when he said, "if any

man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed"

## **Accursed Is Not Hell**

According to Strong's Concordance, the Greek word translated "accursed" is "anathema." It has nothing to do with going to Hell. It was an Old Testament type of publicly exposing those who were doctrinally wrong by having their names "hung upon the walls or columns of the temple, or put in some other conspicuous place."

### **Christians Preaching Damnable Heresy?**

Yes, again, the Bible warns us that Christians would be promoting a "damnable heresy" in the last days.

### **Second Peter 2:1 says,**

*"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 (redeemed) them."*

Peter's final words warned us about the "destruction" we would face in our local churches in the last days. In Second Peter 3:16, Peter warned us about those who would, "wrest, (turn away from the expected course) unto their own destruction." A destruction is the process of causing so much damage to something that it no longer exists or cannot be repaired.

### **We Need To Face The Facts**

What we call fundamentalism is now promoting a "damnable heresy." Our fundamental churches, like Catholic churches, are filling pews with people who are led to believe that if they just say a little forgiveness prayer they will go to Heaven when they die.

### **Jesus said,**

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

And so Brother Wilkerson please tell your computer I cannot attend your conference.

Because...

### **Hebrews 11:6 says,**

*"Without faith (**sound doctrine**) it is impossible to please Him."*





## The Issue of Influence

An Influence is the ability or power to have an effect on the behavior of someone. Today we have many large ministries running under the banner of fundamentalism that are influencing people around the world. Does God expect us to remain silent when someone under the banner of fundamentalism promotes the damnable heresy that repentance is not necessary for salvation?

David was one of God's very special people. His name occurs 1139 times in the Bible. God referred to David as "a man after mine own heart" (Acts 13:22). However, when David became immoral God did not cover it up. We read "And the LORD sent Nathan unto David" (Second Samuel 12:1). Nathan confronted David about his sin and God had it written in the Bible for all to see. **As wicked as immorality is, it is not as wicked as changing God's plan of salvation.**

God also exposed the failures of Adam and Eve, Noah, Samson, Moses, Abraham, Aaron, Eli, Lot, Isaac, Jacob, the twelve sons of Israel and others.

**Jesus commanded** His followers to "judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment" (John 7:24). Jesus asked "Yea, and why even of yourselves judge ye not what is right?" (Luke 12:57).

Paul said "Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us" (Second Thessalonians 3:6).

How are "the brethren" going to do that if they don't know who it is that "walketh disorderly"?

Paul, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit said, "And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed" (Second Thessalonians 3:14). How are Christians going to "note that man" if that man is not exposed? To note something or someone is "to remark upon something, in order to draw someone's attention to it."

### **First Peter 4:17,**

*"For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God."*

The Christians Peter was writing to were not being warned about an impending judgment of God. That would be totally out of context with the preceding chapters. They were Christians whose faith was on trial and they needed to make some serious judgments concerning their circumstances. They needed to come to proper conclusions and make decisions.

It was in this context that Peter said, "*judgment must begin at the house of God.*" Peter was telling these godly Christians that the people who made up their local church needed to correctly judge what was going on at that time. They needed to "judge righteous judgment" (John 7:24).

It is time for us to answer the question Jesus asked "why even of yourselves judge ye not what is right?" (Luke 12:57).

## Silence Gives Consent



We cannot afford to be silent when the plan of salvation is corrupted.

**C. H. Spurgeon said,**  
"Silence gives consent. He who refrains from defending the right is himself an accomplice in the wrong."



C. H. Spurgeon

"The reason why men do not look to the Church today is that she has destroyed her own influence by compromise."

(G. Campbell Morgan)