

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 3 - July 2013

The Difference Between “The Church” And “The Movement”

A Redundant Question - “When Did The Church Start”???

There are few things in the Scripture that have been more misunderstood than the subject of “the church.” For example, we ask the question, when did the church start? What church are we talking about? Are we talking about the church at Jerusalem, or the church at Ephesus, or the church at Sarnia? To ask when the church started is to assume there is a universal church.

A Redundant Phrase - “The Rapture of The Church”

The rapture of “the church” is also a redundant statement because it also suggests there is a universal church. We would be more correct to talk about the rapture of the Christian.

The Difference Between “The Church” And “The Movement.”

When we refer to the difference between the church and the movement we are referring to the difference between God’s local churches, the only kind of church in the Scripture, and our manmade “movement” that has absolutely no Scriptural grounds to exist.



Our manmade, fundamental independent Baptist movement is in a mess; however, that does not mean our local churches need to follow the compromising leaders of our movement down into the swamp of apostasy. [Read More...](#)

When A Good Friend Compromises

Peter and Paul were very good friends. Paul once stayed at Peter’s home for fifteen days (Galatians 2:9). Truth demands that “pillars” like Peter, (Galatians 2:9) friend or not, are to be publicly confronted when they promote false doctrine that will lead others astray. We read in Galatians 2:13, Peter’s actions caused others to “...dissembled (act hypocritically) likewise with him; insomuch that Barnabas also was carried away with their dissimulation.” ...Continued Pg.2.

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END TIME ISSUES

“ This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.”
It is important to understand that this verse refers to what will be happening within our churches.

Church Members
• “Lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God...”
• “Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof...”

“For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God...”

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Welcome To The INVISIBLE Church



The so-called invisible church heresy has been a major tool in the hands of Satan to promote the apostasy of our day.

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When A Good Friend Compromises - continued

Dissimulation is translated “*hypocrisy*” five times in our King James Bible. In verse fourteen, Paul rebuked Peter “*before them all,*” and in so doing Paul did not cause disunity, Peter had already done that.

Peter’s Response When Publicly Rebuked

When Paul, under the direction of the Holy Spirit publicly exposed Peter for leading people astray, Peter would obviously respond in one way or another to his rebuke. How did he respond?

In Peter’s final recorded words in Second Peter 3:15 he referred to Paul as “*our beloved brother Paul*” and made reference to “*the wisdom given unto him.*” Prior to that, at the council meeting at Jerusalem recorded in Acts chapter fifteen Peter defended Paul in their discussion concerning the very thing Paul had publicly confronted him about. The Bible says, “*Only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom*” (Proverbs 13:10).

Dealing With Present Day Issues

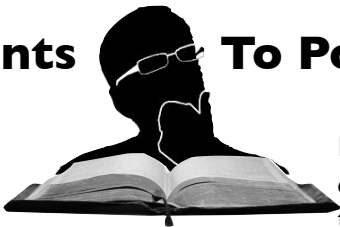
We have some leaders today who are running under the banner of fundamentalism who are leading people astray. They may be good friends; however, they need to be rebuked before all. How should our friends in the ministry respond when scripturally rebuked?

God has raised up a ministry for such a time as this, called, “*Way of Life*” under the direction of David Cloud who faithfully takes this unpleasant responsibility of exposing compromisers in our *movement*. He is a very frank outspoken man of God. (Like the Bible says we all should be.) He has printed many facts concerning the compromises of some fundamental leaders in our *movement*. Brother Cloud receives much verbal abuse, from people who call themselves fundamentalists.

Some Kind of Lunatic?

One recent response Brother Cloud received said he needed to, “*stop this hating of people*” and he was referred to as “*some kind of lunatic.*” If Brother Cloud was exposing someone who wasn’t in our “*movement*” he would be admired for telling the truth; however to expose someone in our “*movement*” is to be “*some kind of lunatic.*” **The writer of that statement sounds like someone who loves to hate people who don’t love.**

Points To Ponder



No Change - No Salvation

First Corinthians 5:17 says, “*Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*” One has to wonder what part of that verse is too difficult to understand?

If a person is not changed, that person is not saved. The genuinely saved person will act upon new principles, live by new rules and they will travel with new people because they have a new heart. “*For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works*” (Ephesians 2:10). Christians are the workmanship of God, created in Christ. God does not create any half-baked Christians who have to be coaxed into doing the work of God. God’s creations are “*them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit*” (Romans 12:1). It is plain and it is simple. No change? No salvation!



Fighting Discouragement In The Small Church



The dictionary says **fighting** is, “An action, with a goal of gaining the victory over an adversary.” Many servants of the Lord in the Bible got discouraged. We will look at the who, what, when, where, and why of their discouragement in this series. We can wallow in our discouragement or we can take action against our adversary. Peter said, “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour” (First Peter 5:8).

Paul knew about discouragement. He said, “For we would not, brethren, have you ignorant of our trouble which came to us in Asia, that we were pressed out of measure, above strength, insomuch that we despaired even of life.” (Second Corinthians 1:8). Paul got the victory, and said, “We should not trust in ourselves, but in God...Who delivered us...” (vs. 9,10).

Paul commanded the pastor at Ephesus to, “Fight the good fight...before many witnesses” (First Timothy 6:2). Paul also said, “Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us” (Hebrews 12:1). Paul made a decision and then was able to say, “so fight I, not as one that beateth the air” (First Corinthians 9:26).

Paul was able to end his life on earth saying, “I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith” (Second Timothy 4:7). The first step in fighting discouragement is to set a goal of having victory over your adversary. David was so discouraged that one day he “wept until he had no more power to weep.” How did he get the victory? He “encouraged himself in the Lord.” There is the starting place in winning the battle of discouragement. Read the account in First Samuel chapter 30.

Signs of The Times

“What shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world? (Matthew 24:3)

“But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. 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, And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.”
(Matthew 24:38,39)

“They called upon the name of the Lord...” (Genesis 4:26)

People were very religious.

“and the flood came, and destroyed them all.” (Luke 17:27)

Religion is the devil’s great weapon today.





The Importance of A Right Attitude

The dictionary says an attitude is "a mental position assumed for a specific purpose." Our attitude always determines our actions. For example, a good attitude about Scriptural commands will result in Scriptural actions and a bad attitude about Scriptural commands will result in ignoring the commands of Scripture. Proverbs 23:7 says, "For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he." Let us not be thinking like the cat in the picture above.

Attitude About Ourselves

Our attitudes about ourselves affect every other relationship in our life. When the most attractive and popular Christian students were asked if they were satisfied with their basic appearance, over ninety-five percent replied that they were not! In further discussions with them, it was discovered that they had inwardly reasoned that if what they saw in the mirror was an example of God's love and creativity for them, they couldn't really trust Him with their future.

What Is Behind The Attitude of Self-rejection?

As children, we begin to notice that we are different from people around us. We may get teased about our abilities or lack of abilities. If a child is academically slower than others, he may be teased for being dumb. If he is smarter than others, he may be called a nerd. The result is varying degrees of self-rejection.

Evidences of Self-rejection

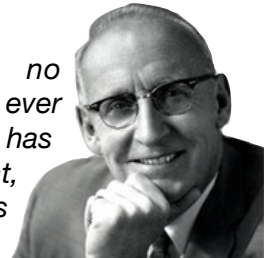
If a young person faces self-rejection concerning physical features, it is usually evidenced by an over attention to clothes and fads to take the attention away from what the person is rejecting. Keep in mind that over ninety-five percent of the most attractive and popular Christian students in the survey mentioned above, were not satisfied with their physical appearance. In Matthew 6:28 Jesus put the dissatisfaction with the physical and the clothing in the same verses when He said, "Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? And why take ye thought for raiment?"

Inability To Trust God

It is an obvious conclusion that if we reject God's design in making us we will have a problem trusting the

Alan Redpath Said,

"There is no circumstance, no trouble, no testing, that can ever touch me until, first of all, it has gone past God and past Christ, right through to me. If it has come that far, it has come with a great purpose, which I may not understand at the moment. But as I refuse to become panicky, as I lift up my eyes to Him and accept it as coming from the throne of God for some great purpose of blessing to my own heart."



.....
 Designer. Ephesians 2:10 says, "we are His workmanship." Our attitude should be that of the Psalmist when he said, "I will praise thee for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvelous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well" (Psalm 139:14).

Difficulty In Loving Others

Matthew 19:19 says, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." We are to love our neighbor as we do ourselves, however, if we are not happy with the way God made us, how can we love others like ourselves?

Complaints about unchangeable physical features, abilities, etc. are indications of self-rejection. Isaiah 45:9 says, "Woe unto him that striveth with his Maker!...Shall the clay say to him that fashioneth it, What makest thou?" Romans 9: 20 says, "Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus?" Desiring to be different in areas that cannot be changed is a clear evidence of self-rejection.

A Scriptural attitude will be evidenced in a Scriptural prayer. Psalm 139:16 says, "I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made." God never intended for our outward flesh to be a gauge for our contentment. First Samuel 16:7 says, "man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart." Genuine happiness is based on inward qualities not outward appearance.

We also need to realize that God's reputation is at stake with what we do with what He has given us. Second Corinthians 4:10 says "that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body."