

What Should Sincere Families Do When Their Pastor Compromises?

There are two basic things a Christian should do when their pastor compromises.

1. Face the Facts.

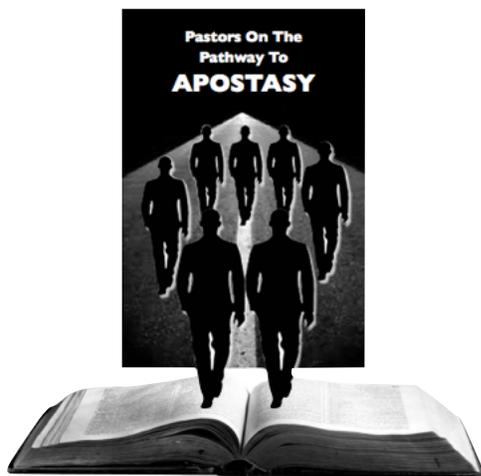
It is very important to determine the truth about things that will have an effect on your family.

2. Face the Future.

It is also important to realize that decisions made, or not made, will also effect the future of your family.

Face The Facts

The fact is, fundamental independent Baptist leaders are compromising. While this is a very serious situation we must realize that the Word of God has warned us about this sad departure from the faith that is taking place now, even in our fundamental churches as we come to the end of the local church age.



The Prophecy Concerning Compromising Pastors

First and Second Timothy gives us very specific information concerning the last days of the local church age.

Second Timothy 3:17 says,

*“That **the man of God** may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”*

Immediately following the reference to “the man of God” we read...

Second Timothy 4:3-5

*“For the time will come when **(1) they** will not endure sound doctrine; but **(2) after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves** teachers, having itching ears; And **(3) they** shall turn away **their** ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.”*

Sound doctrine will keep carnal church members from joining a church; therefore, the compromising pastor will turn away from preaching the whole counsel of God.

The Pastor’s “Own Desires”

The Greek word *epithymia* translated “lusts” in verse three has been translated “desires” three times. Some desires recorded in the Scriptures are spiritual in nature.

In Luke 22:15 Jesus Said,

“With desire I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer.”

In Philippians 1:23 Paul Said,

“For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better.”

In Second Thessalonians 2:17 Paul Said,

“We, brethren...endeavoured the more abundantly to see your face with great desire.”

Some desires recorded in the Scriptures are carnal in nature.

Ephesians 2:3 refers to,

“fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind.”

Second Timothy 4:3-5 is not suggesting that the desires of the compromising pastors of the last days are lustful in our modern day definition of the term. The problem is the desires are “*their own*.”

Many pastors are on the pathway to apostasy because they have a desire to have a crowd more than they desire to follow the directions given to pastors in First and Second Timothy. (Download Our Free Book - GOD'S CHURCH MANUAL - <http://fairhavens.squarespace.com/gods-church-manual/>)

We need to face the fact that many fundamental independent Baptist pastors are compromising and as a result sincere Christians need to respond in a manner that is “*acceptable unto the Lord*” (Ephesians 5:10).

Face The Future

God Wants Us To Know His Will.

Ephesians 5:17

“Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is.”

How George Mueller Determined The Will of God

1. *“I seek at the beginning to get my heart into such a state that it has no will of its own in regard to a given matter. Nine-tenths of the difficulties are overcome when our hearts are ready to do the Lord's will, whatever it may be. When one is truly in this state, it is usually but a little way to the knowledge of what His will is.”*

Concerning dealing with a situation where your pastor is compromising determine if you are willing to do God's will regardless of what it is. The Lord may direct you to do a number of things. For example,

a. Spend a definite time in earnest prayer for your pastor and his family.

b. Meet with your pastor for a time of prayer together.

Muller's Second Point Regarding Prayer

2. *“Having done this, I do not leave the result to feeling or simple impressions. If so, I make myself liable to great delusions.”*

If you are facing a situation where you feel your pastor is compromising you are facing a very emotional situation. This is not a time to make decisions based on feelings. The Bible says the Holy Spirit bears witness with our spirit (Romans 8:16). He does not communicate with our mind or our emotions. We should never make emotional decisions. Be sure the Spirit of God is dealing with your spirit.

Muller's Third Point Regarding Prayer

3. *“I seek the will of the Spirit of God through or in connection with the Word of God. The Spirit and the Word must be combined. If I look to the Spirit alone without the Word, I lay myself open to great delusions also.”*

The Holy Spirit is always in total harmony with the Word of God; therefore, when seeking God's will concerning anything we should be much in prayer and much in the Word.

Muller's Fourth Point Regarding Prayer

4. *“Next I take into account providential circumstances. These plainly indicate God's will in connection with His Word and Spirit.”*

This step brings the entire Trinity into your search for what is “*acceptable unto the Lord*” (Ephesians 5:10). God the Father is behind the *circumstances*. Christ is referred to as “*the Word*” (John 1:14). And then, the Bible says, the Holy Spirit will guide us “*into all truth*” (John 16:13).

Muller's Fifth Point Regarding Prayer

5. *“I ask God in prayer to reveal His will to me aright.”*

We must get very specific in our prayers concerning God giving us an answer to our prayers. The Bible says, *“And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him”* (First John 5:14,15).

Muller’s Sixth Point Regarding Prayer

6. *“Thus through prayer to God, the study of the Word and reflection, I come to a deliberate judgment according to the best of my ability and knowledge, and if my mind is thus at peace, and continues so after two or three more petitions, I proceed accordingly. In trivial matters and transactions involving most important issues, I have found this method always effective.”*

Our Family Faced The Situation

As church members when our family was young we faced the problem of having no solid church to raise our family in. We used the formula above to determine God’s will and FaithWay Baptist Church and FaithWay Baptist College of Canada are the results of God’s leading.

A Very Important Decision

Do a lot of praying and be sure the pastor is compromising in God’s definition of the term before you take any action, otherwise God will be your adversary.

Here is another practical formula we have always used when trying to determine what to do when we didn’t know what to do. Again, this action must be based in sincere prayer.

Ask:

1. What is the problem?
2. What is the cause of the problem?
3. What are the possible solutions to the problem?
4. What is the best solution to correct the problem?
5. What action do we need to take?

What Was Our Problem?

Our problem was, we had no church in our area that we wanted to raise our family in. Keep in mind at that time independent Baptist churches were few and far between in Canada.

What Was The Cause of Our Problem?

The cause of our problem was compromising pastors. We could not find a pastor that was willing to pay the price of remaining true to the Word of God.

Again, a word of warning! Church members are on very dangerous ground when they conclude the pastor is at fault if he is not. Be very, very careful here, or you may be the reason you lose your family to the world, and you will also be in serious trouble with God.

What Were Our Possible Solutions?

1. We could stay home on Sundays, have a Bible study or listen to a recorded sermon, and pray. The problem with that possible solution was it is not Scriptural. Christ commanded us to be involved in His organized church that includes deacons, baptizing people, church discipline etc. **“even unto the end of the world.”** (Matthew 28:19). The world hasn’t ended yet; therefore, we have no Scriptural grounds to do anything different than Christ commanded.
2. We could find a church and move even if it was thousands of miles away. This seemed to be the best possible solution; however, after traveling thousands of miles looking for a church we found none.

We visited one church on a Sunday morning in time to see a man, with his shirt open exposing his hairy chest, tuning his guitar. We left and arrived at another church in time for the morning service. It was deader than dead. We were not about to sacrifice our children in a dead church or a compromising church. We visited church after church from Ontario to Alberta. We could not find one where we wanted to raise our family.

3. We could start a church.

We came back to Ontario and as previously mentioned we started a church. It is doing well. It is called FaithWay Baptist Church, it is located in Ajax, Ontario. (<http://www.faithway.org/main.html>).

It sounds simple, it is not. A New Testament church must be done according to the Word of God as found in First and Second Timothy, and Titus. Timothy was given specific instructions as was Titus. Titus was instructed to “set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city” (Titus 1:5).

Are House Churches Scriptural?

“Let’s just meet at our house next week”



A Word To The Sincere

Some of the families who are leaving churches are very sincere and some are rebellious. Some are seeking the truth and some are running from the truth. The purpose of this article is to help the **sincere** Christians to determine if they are doing the Scriptural thing.

Beware of the “House Church Movement”

Surveys indicate that about eleven million people are now meeting in house churches in the U.S.A. They have formed a *house church movement*.

The dictionary says a movement is “a group of people working together to advance their shared political, social, or artistic ideas.” It is interesting to note that the dictionary, correctly, does not include a church in the definition of a *movement*.

Many of the problems we face today in fundamentalism stem from the fact that we have a fundamental *movement*. God’s program for today is the local church, not a movement.

Sincere Christians Meeting In A House Is Not A Church

A group of sincere people meeting in a house does not constitute a church. There is a major difference between “the church that is in their house.” (Acts 8:3, Romans 16:5, First Corinthians 16:19, Colossians 4:15; Philemon 1:3) and a group of Christians meeting in a house.

Conclusions

1. Apostasy is a fact we need to face.
2. The future is also a fact sincere Christian families need to face. Your future with your family and your future relationship with your Lord is very important.

Second Corinthians 5:10

“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.”

3. With every choice comes consequences. Make wise decisions.

“Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.”

(Proverbs 3:5,6)