



A
Ministry
of:

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A DEADLY DELUSION!

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Many in our day are deceived! They think that they have eternal life, when in reality they have no such thing. There is an easy “*believism*” which has affected many Fundamentalists. Much evangelism simply deals with the decision to go to heaven and never gets down to the issues we find in the Word of God. Thank God, if saved in reality, we are going to Heaven, but is that all there is too it? A.W.Tozer said, “*Any evangelism which by appeal to common interests...seeks to establish common ground where the sinner can feel at home is as false as the altars of Baal ever were. Every effort to smooth out the road for men to take away guilt and the embarrassment is worse than wasted; it is evil and dangerous to the souls of men.*” I do not believe that I am nit-picking. Of course, everybody wants to go to heaven! But is that the appeal we find in the Word of God? Before Felix, Paul “**Reasoned of righteousness, temperance (self control), and judgment to come.**” He also said that he preached the Word of God in such a way that men would “**Repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance.**” ~*Acts 26:20*. I think you would find few if any invitations in the Scriptures which simply give an invitation for sinners to go to Heaven. God is interested in righteousness! There is little wonder we have many decisions which don’t seem to change lives. They don’t stick. They are gone almost as quickly as they “*got saved.*” The problem is they weren’t saved, but now they think they are. How are you ever going to truly convert them after you have led them to believe a simple vote for Christ is all that it takes to get your name in Heaven?

There is another problem we need to face, and that is the matter of compromise in order to win people to Christ. It is heard everywhere today; times have changed and the Church must change if she is to have any influence with men. If they want twenty minute sermons give them twenty minute sermons. If they want plenty of jokes...if they want movies...if they want to discuss...whatever they want, give it to them. Sinners will come to be entertained, coddled, and even for teaching if the preacher is clever enough. But how are they going to be saved if they do not repent of their sins? How are they going to repent if this vital message of salvation is left out? Times may have changed but men and the truth have not! They are still sinners as they were in our Lord’s day and there is still no way to be saved without repentance and faith in the Gospel of Christ. The Word says God calls “**upon men all everywhere to repent!**” It says, “**Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.**” We may think we are helping God out, but we are not. He doesn’t need any help! We often say, “*What’s wrong with So-and-So? He received the Lord but he doesn’t come to Church much, doesn’t read the Bible, never witnesses to his friends and relatives, doesn’t give to the Lord’s work.*” The problem probably is he was led to believe that which was very easy and also very false; that you can go to heaven without repentance and a fundamental change in your life! It is not for the Church to change, but the world! When some refined church people were getting upset by Billy Sunday’s preaching on sin and repentance, one of the participating preachers said to him: “*Billy, you are rubbing the fur the wrong way.*” Sunday replied, “*Then, let the cats turn around.*” We have no right to alter or soften our Lord’s message. Let’s preach the truth and let God save sinners. Ed. We first printed this almost 20 years ago. The problem has not gotten any better, in fact, it is worse than ever! Be not deceived – God says REPENT!