



DO WE HAVE TO HAVE CONTROVERSEY?

May 2013

Seventy or more years ago Dr. Harry Ironside said, "Objection is often raised - even by some sound in the faith - regarding the exposing of error... The teaching of our Blessed Lord and the writings of the apostles are made up of this ministry - namely, showing the satanic origin and unsettling results of the propagation of erroneous systems....The apostle Paul predicted, **'That after my departing grievous wolves will enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise...'** My own observation is that these 'grievous wolves' alone and in packs, are not sparing even the most favored flocks." Without a doubt, most of the problem today comes from those within the fold, as there is not that much trouble which comes from those outside the walls. I have lived to see many once strong Fundamental churches destroyed or reduced to feebleness and I cannot think of one that was so reduced from forces on the outside. We wonder what Dr. Ironside would say if he could see the condition within Fundamental churches today. As long as there is a devil, there will be the need to **"fight the good fight of faith."** Unfortunately, most of God's people seem to be getting along pretty good in this world and they do not want to be disturbed. It appears many are sleeping the sleep of death!

God said that the watchmen of Israel, the spiritual leaders, were blind; they could not see the enemy approaching. Also, they were like **"dumb dogs that cannot bark."** ~Isaiah 56:9,10. What good is a dumb dog when a thief is coming under the cover of darkness? Calvin said, "A dog barks when his master is attacked. I would be a coward if I saw God's truth attacked and yet remained silent without giving a sound." If there were no enemies, if no one was perverting God's message, if the enemy was not within the camp, we would not need to raise an alarm and warn the people of their danger. We are living in a day when the enemy has come in like a flood. God said when he does, I'll raise up a standard against him! (Isaiah 59:19). The enemy is literally scaling the walls; in fact, he is already inside the city. Yet there are many who say let's not get excited, let's not get people all worked up. We must give everyone the benefit of the doubt. I tell you, God's people better get worked up before it's too late! The walls of separation are almost in total disrepair; the very foundation of our faith, the Word of God, is attacked and supplanted by counterfeits promoted by professed fundamentalists; worldliness abounds in the house of God. Yet, we have many who say, "Let's not be alarmists; maybe things will eventually straighten themselves out!" Whose side are these people on? God has said we must **"Earnestly contend for the faith."** If we don't, we are going to lose it! Then, it will be too late! Paul said, **"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."** Not many Fundamentalists can say that today! Most of God's people act like they are on a cruise ship to the Caribbean rather than on a battleship heading into the fray. What about you? Will you fight the good fight? God says, **"And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light."** ~Romans 13:11,12.

FAMILY BIBLE CONFERENCE

JULY 7 – 12, 2013

SEVERAL SPEAKERS
MORNING & EVENING
FELLOWSHIP TIME
SPECIAL MUSIC



Sunday: 9:30, 10:45 & 6:00

Mon.-Fri: 10:00, 11:00, 7:00

Refreshments under the tent - 10:45

THEME:

**“IT IS HIGH TIME TO
WAKE OUT OF SLEEP!”**

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LOVE CHRIST BUT LOVE NOT THE CHURCH!

This is a common cry from some, even some who profess to be saved. Vance Havner said, “We are hearing today about those who like Christ but they do not like the Church. But **“Christ loved the church and gave Himself for it.”** How can we like the Head but not the Body, the Groom but not the Bride?” There are a lot of willful souls running around (and often they somehow get into the church) who just don’t want to be obligated or subject themselves to any authority. They have the attitude: Nobody is going to tell me what to believe. Nobody is going to tell me I am supposed to tithe. Nobody is going to tell me what to wear. These people know nothing about the Lordship of Christ and one wonders if they know anything about salvation! To come to Christ is to obey Christ and that means to obey the Word of God – His Word! Hebrews 5:9: **“And being made perfect, He became the Author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey Him.”** There are too many professing Christians running around acting as though salvation is freedom to do your own thing!

A MAN WHO DIDN’T QUIT! Some wise man once said, “Winners never quit and quitters never win.” Here is a man who, though often defeated, didn’t quit! When Abraham Lincoln was a young man, he ran for the legislature in Illinois and was badly swamped. Next, he entered business and failed, and spent the next seventeen years of his life paying up the debts of a worthless partner. He was in love with a beautiful young woman to whom he was engaged. Then, she died. Later he married a woman who was a constant burden to him. Entering politics again, he ran for Congress and was badly defeated. He then tried to get an appointment in the United States Land Office, but failed. In 1856 he became a candidate for the Vice-Presidency and was once more defeated, by Douglas. Just one failure after another – bad failures; great setbacks. In spite of all this he eventually became one of the most respected men in America’s history; whose memory is honored throughout the world. When you contemplate the effects of a series of setbacks like this, doesn’t it make you feel rather small to become discouraged?

MORE IMPORTANT THAN MONEY! The agent of a powerful and wealthy business house saw a business opportunity where he was sure he could make a great profit for the company. But in order to do so, he would be compelled to disobey implicit instructions which had been given him. He disobeyed orders and carried through a very successful deal by which his employers made a great deal of money. If he obeyed orders, they would have lost money. He had hoped to be commended for his great shrewdness, but contrary to his expectations, he was promptly discharged from their employment. God does not demand of us success, but obedience; it is for us to obey His commandments and He will take care of the results. Proverbs 3:5, 6 says, **“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.”**

SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT!

If you can’t stand to be laughed at, you will not make much of a Christian.

The grace of God will enable you to live straight in a crooked world.

Some people are like wheelbarrows: they have to be pushed all the time and are easily upset.

Following the path of least resistance makes both rivers and men crooked.

Did you ever notice, there aren’t any rules for success that work, unless you do.

NEWS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

CUT OUR MILITARY – GIVE MORE TO MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD!

On March 1, President Obama imposed the Sequester, a budget control act that could dramatically impact our military strength. Already, the Army is planning to cut tens of thousands of soldiers. Yet three days later, on March 4, Secretary of State John Kerry announced \$250 million in new taxpayer aid for Egypt's hostile Muslim Brotherhood government, and our government could give \$1.5 billion more. Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood government has implemented Shariah law, persecutes Christians, breaks its peace treaty with Israel, and obstructs our investigation of the Benghazi terror attacks. Why are we sequestering our military while giving the Muslim Brotherhood an economic stimulus? Now, we are launching a new campaign, demanding that our government cut the Muslim Brotherhood's budget before it cuts our own military. America must cut its budget deficit, but the first cut should be the jihadists. – **ACLJ** (3/7/13). Ed. It is truly amazing what is happening to this country. One wonders just how long it can continue. **“Even so Come, Lord Jesus.”**

THREAT TO FREE SPEECH! On February 19th the *Saudi Gazette* ran a story with the headline “OIC gears up to get denigration of religions criminalized. (Here are the opening words) – “Getting the go-ahead from the Cairo Islamic Summit, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) has been actively trying to get the denigration of Religions recognized as a criminal offense. Next session of the Istanbul Process on Islamophobia will be held in the first of the year and the session will squarely focus on the issue of criminalizing denigration of religions” said Rizwan Saeed Sheikh, director of cultural affairs and the OIC general secretariat and spokesman for the OIC secretary general. Using the fig leaves of “denigration of religions,” it is clear that the OIC is absolutely committed to the imposing a key provision of Sharia law on America and the West. Sharia law prohibits speech that defames, or offends Islam and Muhammad. This is what the OIC is after – a worldwide prohibition on any speech that dare critique or even question Islam. The OIC's current mechanism to accomplish this is the Istanbul Process and UN Resolution 16/18...Many European countries already have so-called hate speech laws. Canada's Supreme Court recently issued a ruling which almost certainly will be used to restrict free speech. -*Act for America* (3/7/13). Ed. This incessant catering to Islam and Sharia law is the ultimate insanity!

RICK WARREN ON OPRAH WINFREY SHOW!

On February 24, Rick Warren appeared for the second time on Oprah Winfrey's *Lifeclass* to discuss life's purpose. As he did in his appearance on Ted Talks, Warren did not mention sin, repentance, the cross, or the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Instead, he dished out a big helping of the power of positive thinking, which is not surprising since this is Oprah's main theme and she wouldn't have invited him had she thought that he would preach a clear gospel message. Winfrey is one of the most influential promoters of New Age heresy in the world today, and yet she also claims to be a Christian, a Baptist nonetheless. She often talks about her upbringing and how the church shaped her life, but she blends Christian faith with pagan spirituality. She was raised in a Baptist church in Mississippi, the daughter of a deacon. After a rebellious youth she “repented” and joined a Baptist church in Nashville and spoke frequently in church contexts; but she rejects the “negatives” of the biblical faith such as the fall of man and redemption only through Calvary. She uses biblical terms but defines them according to the New Age dictionary. On a show with Shirley MacLaine, Oprah said that being born again is the same as being “connected to the higher Self” and that “ask and it shall be given” is the same as seeking answers from your “intuitive Self” (“The Gospel according to Oprah,” *Vantage Point*, July 1998). Oprah's 2005 book *Live Your Best Life* promotes her philosophy that everything is one, man is divine, and man can create his own reality. Her gospel is that man is *not* a sinner, God is *not* a judge, all is well with the universe, and I just need to surrender to the *flow*... -Copied

CLINTON OPPOSES DEFENSE OF MARRIAGE

ACT. Former President Bill Clinton, who signed the Defense of Marriage Act (**Marriage is between one man and one woman**) in 1996, expressed strong opposition to the federal marriage law this week, asserting that it is time for it to be overturned. The 42nd president of the United States explained his reasoning in a letter to The Washington Post, saying that back when he signed the bill, the country was living in very different times.”As the president who signed the act into law, I have come to believe that DOMA is contrary to those principles and, in fact, incompatible with our Constitution,” -*Christianpost*. (3/11/13) Ed. If it against the Constitution now it was against it when he signed the bill! The “times” maybe different but the Constitution isn't. Of course we know more than a little about the character of this man from when he was President. He not only lacks character, he is a man who has no character as he consistently displayed.

SALVATION IS FOR SINNERS

A woman who was a very busy Church worker went to Moody after he had said some hard things to a group of Church workers. She was quite angry and said: “Mr. Moody, do you mean to tell me that I, an educated woman, taught from childhood in very good ways, and all my life in Church and doing good, must enter Heaven the same way as a common criminal?” “No, madam,” said Moody, “I don’t tell you at all – God does. He says that everyone who would enter Heaven, no matter how good they think they are, or how well educated, or zealous of good works must be ‘born again.’” In all the years I have been speaking to people about their souls, knocking on doors, preaching on the streets, I have never run into so many people who say that they are going to Heaven because they good and do good. The truth is they are only good in their own eyes. Listen to God: **“As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.”** ~Romans 3:10-12. My Friend, it is not what you or anyone else thinks. It is what God has said! We are all bad because we are all sinners. All sin is bad; it will send you to Hell unless you receive God’s Son, Jesus Christ as your Savior. Jesus said He came to call sinners to repentance – a change of mind. You need to repent – change your mind – and see yourself as God sees you; a lost sinner. But there is hope. **“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved.”** ~Acts 16:31.

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APATHY IN THE CHURCHES

A. W. Tozer wrote the following over fifty years ago: “God wants His people to talk Christ and to think Christ and to dream Christ, and to love His Word and His ways and to be so dedicated to it that the conversation normally swings around to it when they are together. I do not believe that God can continue to bless nor send anything like a life-giving revival to a church until we are absorbed in it. We’ve got to be absorbed in the Lord’s doings.” To get anything done you’ve got to be absorbed in it. Nobody ever did anything when he did it halfway. Men who have done great things have always had to be dedicated men. To make the electric light and the talking machine, Edison only slept four or five hours a night and worked constantly. Tchaikovsky used to stay awake hours upon hours while others were sleeping... (He disclaimed any interest in the man’s music, only making a point)... I recently read the words of a great Christian leader who has been around the world several times. He said, “The only religion that I have found in the world that people don’t take seriously is Christianity. The Buddhists take themselves seriously. The Mohammedans take themselves seriously. But Christians play at it too much. We have the truth that would save the world and we are like the children that play in the marketplace (Luke 7:32). There is no doubt in my mind that the Fundamental Baptist churches of our day are in need of a true Heaven-sent revival. But as I have said many times, we will not have revival unless we really want it. I wonder how many want it! II Chronicles 7:14 is still in the Book, but it is going to take real commitment and spiritual effort to see it.