

WORLDLINESS IN THE CHURCH!

September 2013

Many would agree that we are in the Laodicean stage of the Church, Revelation 3:14-20. However, I contend that most, if not all, Fundamental Baptist (are there any other Fundamental ones?) churches are Laodicean. Few want to believe that; but I believe they are deceived. We always tend to think we are better than we are. I hope you will look at the following quotes of fundamentalists who ministered 50 to 100 years ago. They indicated that the compromise and worldliness in the Bible believing churches of their day was Laodicean. Is not worldliness a sign that God's people are **"lukewarm"**? What about the other indications: **"...rich, increased with goods and have need of nothing..."** But what did God say? **"...and knowest not that thou art wretched, and, miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:"** Here's what these men of God wrote; Dr. Ironside (about 1910): *"It is of grave importance that we bear this principle in mind in these Laodicean times. We live in days when truth for which myriads of martyrs shed their blood is considered hardly worthy of being contended for - days when the claims of God as set forth in His faithful Word are openly set aside by those who 'call themselves by the name of the Lord...' Latitudinarianism is the prevailing order and few ask, 'What saith Scripture?'"* Dr. A. C. Gaebelein (about 1920): *"Look about and see the thousands and thousands of God's people who instead of being transformed are conformed to this world. They have fallen in with the present evil age, and instead of being separated, they walk in its ways and hence they are barren in spiritual things...Let us not think so much of the pleasures of this world, the attractive things for the senses...the possession and enjoyment of earthly things."* Dr. Clarence Larkin (late 1920's): *As Christians, we find ourselves captives in the Babylonian life of worldliness and pleasure that surrounds us, and instead of being transformed are conformed to this world. We have fallen in with the spirit of this 'Present evil age' and are living a life of compromise the outcome of which is a life of powerlessness and spiritual barrenness...Let us dare to be a Daniel."* Dr. M. R. DeHaan (about 1947): *"Without fear of successful contradiction, we dare to say that the greatest need of the Church today is a company of separated saints of God who will refuse steadfastly to be swayed by the world's program... No greater blight has ever beset the Church of Jesus Christ than the blight of compromise and conformity to the world and its program. We are a redeemed people and a peculiar people and a holy nation... The line of difference and demarcation between the Church and the world has almost been wiped out, and those few followers of Christ who dare to be different and refuse to go along are so small in number that they are looked upon as odd and peculiar and even fanatical and narrow-minded. The scandalous and positively immoral innovations of dress and attire, which I am sure are the prime causes of immorality and divorce and juvenile delinquency, are meekly accepted, and worse than that, are copied by folks who profess to be Christian, with hardly a protest from those who are spiritual leaders...The reason Christians are not taken more seriously by the world, and why our testimony falls on deaf ears most of the time, is because the world cannot see any difference between themselves and us. They see Christians frequenting the same places of worldly amusement...using the same language, dressing in the same shameful way..." (p.3)*

CORNERSTONE NEWS

FRIEND DAY!

SUNDAY, SEPT. 9TH

SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:30

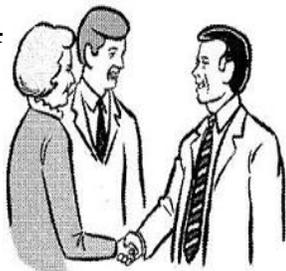
CHURCH SERVICE - 10:4

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YOUTH CORNER

ONLY ONE MOTIVE WILL SUSTAIN US! Hudson Taylor was examining some young people who had volunteered for the mission field. He wanted to ascertain their qualifications for the arduous life toward which they were looking. "And why do you wish to go as a foreign missionary?" he asked one. "I want to go because Christ has commanded us to go and preach the Gospel to every creature," was the reply. Another said, "I want to go because millions are dying without Christ, not even having heard of the One Name whereby all their sins may be forgiven." Others gave various answers. Then Hudson Taylor said, "All of these motives, however will fail you in times of testings, trials and tribulations, and possibly death. There is but ONE MOTIVE that will sustain you in trials and testings. That motive is the "LOVE OF CHRIST." **"For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead."** II Cor. 5:14.

SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT!

Some people give to God, but not what is right --- just what is left!

The grace of God still enables men to live straight in a crooked world.

Great preaching without great listening accomplishes very little.

The Bible tells it like it is, and like it should be; but who wants to hear it?

Trouble is always a whole lot easier to get into than it is to get out of.

Most anybody can put a new suit of clothes on a man but only God can put a new man in the suit.

WHERE ARE THE DEAD? I spoke one night on the subject: "Where are the Dead?" My audience expected me to speak on the future state. They were greatly surprised when I said that 90% of the dead are in the churches. I gave them quite a few statistics to think over. There are big dead churches everywhere, and to them the Lord's injunction certainly applies. "Because thou sayest, I am rich and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor and blind, and naked; I counsel thee to buy of Me gold tried in the fire." - Copied

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NEWS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

WORLDLINESS IN THE CHURCH. (From p.1)

They cannot see any difference between themselves and us. The only difference is that we have our names on church rolls and go to church.” Please listen to me my Christian friend. These were not crackpots or fanatics. They were outstanding, dedicated Fundamentalists! Now, I happened to be saved in 1950 and I can tell you the majority of Christians then would not think of doing what many believers do today! I hope you will hear me out - in all probability some of the foregoing applies to you! You don’t want to admit it, but it’s true! The great majority of professing Christians are worldly and they cater to their own sinful flesh. Oh, yes, you have found some way to justify it, but you are caught up in worldly, and quite possibly, sensual dress. You attend the theater, or even worse, you bring the filth of Hollywood into your home on TV and the internet. Some are all wrapped up in sports (there’s a sacred cow of Fundamentalists) that Jesus and the Word of God condemn. You cannot be a worldly Christian and have spiritual power. You are in the flesh or Spirit! Do you love Christ? What is your prayer life like? Do you care for lost souls? Do you go soul winning? The world is going to hell while most Christians are enjoying themselves, playing church and living worldly lives. As Dr. Ironside said, this is one reason the unsaved pay so little attention to us and our message. It is time to repent! It is time to confess our sin of worldliness and indifference and get back to basics: serious Bible study, prayer, soul winning, sacrificial giving, faithfulness to ALL the services of the Church, etc. **“It is high time to wake out of sleep!”** (Reprint)

CRIMINAL INCIDENTS IN SCHOOLS. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, in 2010 there were 828,000 nonfatal criminal incidents in schools. There were 470,000 thefts and 358,000 violent attacks, of which 91,400 were serious. In the same year, 145,100 public school teachers were physically attacked, and 276,700 were threatened. What explains today’s behavior versus yesteryear’s? For well over a half-century, the nation’s liberals and progressives – along with the education establishment, pseudointellectuals and the courts - have waged war on traditions, customs and moral values. These people taught their vision and there are no moral absolutes, to our young people. ...During the 50’s and 60’s the education establishment launched its agenda to undermine lessons children learned from their parents and the church... –*Sword of the Lord*. 7/19/13. Ed. We have seen abundant evidence that children are taught in public schools that they have a right to do what they please, even above their parents.

SUPREME COURT PREVENTS PRO-LIFERS FROM DISPLAYING ABORTION PICTURES.

The Supreme Court declined to take a case from Colorado, which saw a lower court prevent pro-life advocates from publicly displaying pictures of babies victimized by abortion. A petition for review of a Colorado Court of Appeals decision upholding an injunction against pro-lifers displays of “gruesome images” OUTSIDE a Denver church was denied (June 19) by the U.S. Supreme Court. The Supreme Court justices gave no reason for refusing to hear the appeal, which is typical when the High Court decides against taking a case from a federal appeals court. –From *Sword of the Lord* (8/2/2013)

POLL: 80% OF ISRAELI JEWS SAY PEACE IS IMPOSSIBLE. JERUSALEM: Almost 80 percent of Israeli Jews believe a peace deal with the Palestinians is impossible, an opinion poll found on Friday, two days after the resumption of negotiations in Jerusalem.

Asked whether “this time, we will reach a final agreement that will put an end to the conflict,” 79.7 percent of respondents said no, and just 6.2 percent said yes. Another 14.1 percent expressed no opinion. The survey, published in right-wing free sheet *Israel Hayom*, was carried out by Israeli research institute *Hagal Hahadash* among a representative sample of 500 Israeli Jews. Asked about the government’s decision to release long-serving Palestinian prisoners alongside the resumed peace talks, 77.5 percent of respondents said they opposed it and just 14.2 percent said they were in favor. Israel released 26 Palestinian prisoners on Wednesday hours before the Jerusalem talks, the first of 104 prisoners slated for release in stages depending on progress in the negotiations. A full 62.9 percent of respondents said they would rather the government announced a freeze on Jewish settlement construction than release prisoners, many of whom were convicted of murder. In the run-up to Wednesday’s talks, Israel authorized more than 2,000 new settler homes in annexed east Jerusalem and elsewhere in the West Bank. The last peace talks, in September 2010, broke down over the issue of settlements, which has this time again incensed Palestinian negotiators. *NewsMax* (8/19/13). Ed. Of course it is impossible, for Palestinian and other Islamic leaders have said for decades that Israel is not to be allowed to exist! If there were an agreement, they would only consider it temporary and keep working for the elimination of Israel. That issue is not going to be truly settled until The LORD JESUS CHRIST, THE PRINCE OF PEACE comes again and establishes His eternal Kingdom! See Isaiah 9:6,7; Revelation 19:11-15; etc. Our prayer: “Even so, come Lord Jesus.” Rev.22:20

ONLY BROKEN ON ONE SIDE

Sam Jones, famous American evangelist, held a campaign for the cowboys of Texas. They wanted to take up a love offering for him, but they had so little money, they let him go home without an honorarium. Weeks later he received a telegram from the cowboys stating they were sending him a love offering: a car load of broncos. But what could Sam Jones do with a carload of wild horses? He thought of an idea. He'd hold an auction, sell them and pocket the money. He kept the finest animal for his son. Calling one of the cowboys he asked how much he would charge to break the bronco. "Fifteen dollars," was the reply. "Take him, and break him," said Sam. Two weeks later the cowboy came back with the bronco. "Is he broken?" asked Sam. "Yes, Sir." Sam said, "Can my son ride him?" "Yes, Sir." So, Sam gave him the fifteen dollars. He thought he'd try out the horse. As he approached the animal, the cowboy came running up. "What's wrong?" said Sam. "Sir," said the cowboy, "he has only been broken on one side and you are mounting from, the wrong side." Agreement was made to break him from the other side also for another \$15. Two weeks later the cowboy brought the horse again. "Is he broken now on both sides," said Sam. "Yes, Sir, both sides." "Here is your fifteen dollars." Do you know the trouble with the average Christian? He is only broken on one side! He's like Ephraim: "**Ephraim is a cake not turned.**" Half-baked! Many a Christian is like that - he wants his own way; he has never been completely broken! He will do this, but he will not do that. He will go here but he will not go there. He will work on the foreign field but he will not work on the home field, God cannot depend upon him. He has never really been broken. He still wants to have his own way. - Oswald Smith.

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TOMORROW!

Procrastination is a great enemy of the soul. How many have waited one day too late to get saved. I have read of an ancient ruler of Greece by the name of Archias. He was a very selfish man and lived only for pleasure and cared nothing for the needs of his people. Many hated him and there was a plot to kill him. A friend knew of the plan and sent a warning note to him. But Archias was busy holding a great feast when the messenger arrived. The messenger was allowed to see the king and said to him, "My Lord, your friend earnestly begs you to read his message at once as it speaks of serious things." But Archias was merry with wine, bent on pleasure and in no mood to read the message at that time. Never guessing what it contained, he laughingly cast it aside saying as he did so, "Serious things tomorrow." For him, tomorrow truly never came. At the height of the feast, those who plotted against him rushed forward and killed him. I wouldn't be surprised if procrastination damned more souls than anything else. My Friend, have you ever thought about your eternal destiny; ever acknowledged your sin to God and received Jesus Christ as your Savior? God says, "**Boast not thyself of to-morrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth.**" ~*Proverbs 27:1*. Believe me, there is a day of judgment coming ("**It is appointed unto man once to die and after this, the judgment.**" ~*Hebrews 9:27*). When it comes it will be too late to do anything about it. I urge you to trust Jesus Christ today. Again, listen to God, "**...Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.**" ~*II Corinthians 6:2*.