



MISSION OF THE CHURCH IN THE WORLD!

March 2014

This much needed message was given about 100 years ago by the great Baptist preacher, I. M. Haldeman, Pastor of the First Baptist Church, New York City. Things are clearly much worse today. He said, "The general concept of the mission of the Church in the world is that it is here to make the world better, to lead it to a higher plane of life... The Church is to make the world a better place for the natural man to live in and to make the natural man a better man to live in the world. To this end, the Church and the Christian minister are to engage in all moral and reform movements and join hands with good men everywhere in an effort to purify and stabilize government. I reply that it is wholly unwarranted in the Word of God, and that the very constitution and outlook of the Church repudiates it. *The Church is not here to make the world better. On the contrary, it is here to testify the world cannot be made better.* The Church bears the same relation to the world that a lifeboat and its crew do to a ship pounding on the rocks. The people in the ship do not appear to be aware of their danger. There is laughter and song and dancing... The men in the lifeboat are putting out. They have but one aim; get the people out of the ship and into the lifeboat. *The Church is here to impress upon men two facts: the fact of the soul and the fact of eternity.* The Church is to cry in the ears of men, 'You have a soul. You are a soul! The real life, your soul is invisible and just as eternal as God.' The Church is here to so move men that each man shall ask himself the question, 'Where and how shall I spend eternity?' *Eternity! Eternity! Eternity!* Thy soul not the body, eternity, not time: arouse, awake, arouse O sons of men before it is too late. *The Church is here to warn men of hell that awaits every soul outside of Christ.* The word "hell" has fallen out of theology. It is banished. It is not heard in the pulpit... And yet the sweetest lipped Man whoever spoke, not only uttered it, but invented that ruthless and most jarring of places. And it is this Man that described that most harrowing scene ever presented to mortal gaze, the awakening of the rich man *in this place of torment.* Luke 16:19-31.

"The faithful minister must tell him that the only basis on which he can build his life for time and eternity is regeneration, the possession of new, the perfect and holy life which the risen Son of God alone can give. What right has any minister of Christ, to talk to the man about being sober, about overcoming the habit of drink in his own strength? What right has the ambassador of Christ to link himself to a movement which is a part of the self-gratulating civilization of the hour, a civilization which, at best, will be swept away? He cannot logically take part in sociological endeavor even though (but mistakenly) it calls itself Christian; for it is a very movement which denies the fundamentals of the Church, based on the idea that there are self-redemptive forces in human nature. The moment he lends himself to such a movement, he becomes a false witness. This is the admonition of the Apostle Paul: **'Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness?'** The Church is here to warn men, to tell them that however long delayed, the end of 'man's day' is certain. Let the Church in the hour of her opportunity be faithful... not only to invite men to surrender to Him to be saved but to lift up her voice in warning a world that each day is rushing on to judgment." Ed. How pitiful this voice of warning is not sounded in many "Fundamental" pulpits today. As we said in an earlier message, there are three forbidden words in many a Fundamental Church today. They are SIN, HELL AND REPENTANCE! It will not go well at the Judgment Seat of Christ for those who ignore them! After all, it is God's message, not our own! If you are not saved, trust Christ today!

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YOUTH CORNER

DON'T GAMBLE WITH YOUR SOUL! Some years ago I read this story. An evangelist was preaching in a Church. During the invitation, he said, “Don’t gamble with your soul; trust Christ as your Savior right now.” In the front row of the balcony, was a young couple. As they were singing the closing song, the young man wrote a note and gave it to the young lady. She left it in the hymnbook. They did not respond to the invitation. Later that night there was a terrible accident where the couple died. The Pastor was called to visit the parents, and he went along with the evangelist. On the way back the evangelist asked if they could go by the Church. He said that he would like to read what was in that note. When they found the hymnbook and the note, they read the following: “I’ll gamble with my soul if you will gamble with yours.” They gambled and lost! Young person, do not gamble with your soul. Many gamble that they will be able to do it later, when it is more convenient. I plead with you to trust Jesus Christ as your Savior from sin today. Jesus said, **“For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?”** ~Mark 8:36. God also has said in His Word, **“Boast not thyself of to-morrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth.”** ~Proverbs 27:1. You have no guarantee of tomorrow! **“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved.”** ~Acts 16:31. Do it today! God says, **“NOW is the day of salvation...”**

MARTIN LUTHER ON SEPARATION FROM THOSE WHO TEACH ERROR. “Those who boldly stand for the truth will not long remain on friendly terms with teachers of error. Unity with them would be an unmistakable sign that we have lost the true doctrine. To receive evil workers, as Paul calls them (Phil.3:3) requires that we call evil good and good evil (Isa.5:20). To do this is to plunge into confusion from which there can be no recovery until truth and righteousness are again defined and honored in Biblical terms.” God’s people are to be separate from the unsaved. If there is one thing God hates it is mixture! He says, **“Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.”** ~Ephesians 5:11. In II Cor. 6:14-17. It says, **“Come out from among them.”**

TRUTH ABOUT BIBLE VERSIONS

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NEWS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

OBAMA WARNS UGANDA ABOUT HOMOSEXUAL LAW.

U.S. President Barack Obama is placing pressure on Uganda President Yoweri Museveni not to sign a controversial anti-gay bill that could make “aggravated homosexuality” punishable by life imprisonment, warning that such a law could strain relationships between the two countries Obama said in a statement on Sunday that as a people, the U.S. stands for the protection of fundamental freedoms and universal human rights, and that is why he is so “deeply disappointed that Uganda will shortly enact legislation that would criminalize homosexuality.” “The Anti-Homosexuality Bill in Uganda, once law, will be more than an affront and a danger to the gay community in Uganda. It will be a step backward for all Ugandans and reflect poorly on Uganda’s commitment to protecting the human rights of its people,” Obama warned. “It also will mark a serious setback for all those around the world who share a commitment to freedom, justice and equal rights.” The bill in question was approved by Uganda’s parliament in December, and seeks to make repeated gay acts punishable by life in prison, as well as threatening jail time for anyone who fails to report gay people.-Christian Post (2/20/14). Ed. We know that Obama is fully behind the homosexual movement. But that doesn’t give him the right to assume that he is the world’s dictator!

EUTHANASIA’S SLIPPERY SLOPE.

The following is excerpted from “Belgium Votes Overwhelmingly,” *The Blaze*, Feb. 13, 2014: “Belgian lawmakers voted overwhelmingly on Thursday for a child’s ‘right to die,’ extending the country’s euthanasia law to people younger than 18. The law empowers children with terminal ailments who are in great pain to ask to be put to death by their doctor if their parents agree and a psychiatrist or psychologist certifies they are conscious of what their choice signifies. ... Belgium’s euthanasia law, passed in 2002, previously applied only to legal adults. The neighboring Netherlands allows euthanasia for children as young as 12, providing their families agree.” FBIS (2/21/14). Ed. Amazing! Once you take the first step on a given path, the next is easier and so on. Of course, this course ultimately depends upon the parents who must consent to kill their own child!

ANOTHER BAD SUPREME DECISION.

The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday declined to take a case involving an Arizona law that sought to deny Medicaid funds to Planned Parenthood because the organization performs abortions. The court left in place a lower court decision that overturned the law. Proponents of the law argued that taxpayer funds should not go to help an abortion provider. Even though Medicaid does not reimburse for abortions, the payments free up resources to help the organization promote and perform abortions, they claimed. The appellate court that reviewed the case reasoned that Arizona did not have the authority to decide which providers were eligible for Medicaid reimbursements. Federal law allows patients to see any “qualified provider,” the court ruled. Steven H. Aden, senior counsel for Alliance Defending Freedom, argued that Arizona should be able to decide for its own citizens which providers are considered qualified. “Taxpayers should not be forced to subsidize the work of abortionists,” he said. “Arizona should be free to enforce its public interest against the taxpayer funding of abortion and in favor of the best health care for women, which is what this law sought to do. We are disappointed that the Supreme Court did not decide to weigh in on that principle. Arizonans deserve the best policies and laws possible to protect both their money and their health.” *Christian Post* (2/25/14)

RUSSIA FLEXES MILITARY MIGHT IN LIGHT OF UKRAINE SITUATION.

President Vladimir Putin on Wednesday ordered massive exercises involving most of its military units in western Russia amid tensions in Ukraine. Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu said in a televised statement made at a meeting of top military brass in Moscow that the exercise is intended to “check the troops’ readiness for action in crisis situations that threaten the nation’s military security.” Shoigu said Putin ordered the exercise Wednesday afternoon. During the first two days, the military will be put on high alert and some will deploy to shooting ranges. The actual maneuvers will start Friday and will last four days, he said. The exercise will involve ships of the Baltic and the Northern Fleets and the air force. Shoigu’s statement didn’t contain any reference to Ukraine, where tensions remain high following the toppling of Russia-backed President Viktor Yanukovich... AOL News (2/26/14) Note: The former Ukraine was Russian backed!

WORDS ON DRESS BY DR. DEHAAN

“I am going to give you a verse that will be unpopular with many of you, but I am not aiming to be popular with you. I have one desire, that I may be popular with the One who sent me. This verse pertains to dress of man and woman. It is found in Deuteronomy 22:5. **‘The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman’s garment: for all that do so are abomination unto the Lord thy God.’** God emphatically declares that He wants the distinction between the sexes sacredly maintained...(Then) May I speak plainly? God meant that a woman’s body, the man’s too, be covered... The modern dress of our women on the beaches, the streets, and even our business places is an indication of moral decay, social collapse and the judgment of God..This applies to men as well. Shorts, my friend, are still nothing more than undergarments. To see men, even preachers, running around in public with only a pair of shorts is a disgrace... I hear someone say, ‘That is all Old Testament and Law...’ In regard to dress, Paul has something to say in I Timothy 2:9 we read: ‘In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in MODEST APPAREL.’ Oh, Christian men and women, DARE TO BE DIFFERENT.” That article was written in 1943 and we have come a long way in improper and immodest dress. Yes, and in the Church – even Fundamental Baptist Churches I have seen that which is slovenly and unbecoming one who claims to follow the Lord Jesus Christ; such things as shorts, T-shirts, dungarees, etc. Then there is the matter of sensual dress. Yes, that is there too. Because we have a dress code we are considered odd! So be it; we’d rather be labeled odd, than displease God!

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UNIVERSAL INVISIBLE CHURCH

I recently read a good article in response to the question: ***“Is There A Universal, Invisible Church?”*** The Pastor said: “The Biblical truth of the matter is the Church of Jesus Christ is neither universal visible nor universal invisible. The Greek word from which the English is derived is *ecclesia* and is defined as *“an assembly.”* It is then a contradiction to use the word *church* in conjunction with the term *universal*, due to the absolute impossibility of anything being assembled and scattered all around the world at the same time...The Church is synonymous with the Body of Christ; and as such must be a visible assembly in order to meet the requirements spelled out in such passages as Ephesians 4:11-16 and I Corinthians 12:12-27. A so-called *universal church* cannot meet the basics of being a body *“...fitly joined together and compacted...”* It cannot fill the mandate *“...that there should be no schism in the body; but that the members have the same care one for the other.”* To be a member of the Body of Christ, as the Scriptures have shown, requires that you are assembling yourself as an *“active”* member of such a church. To say you are a member of the true church, or the universal, invisible Body of Christ, is to say you belong to nothing. Let’s take the Bible as our authority and act in obedience to it.” I have heard many excuses for believing in a universal, invisible church. Some have been disappointed in one church after another and say, I’m not joining another church. Then, many Christians just don’t want the responsibility; they don’t want to be tied down. They don’t want to be obligated. Others are just plain lazy. They are simply carnal; disobedient to God! There are all too many who claim to believe the Bible, but who really only believe what suits them.