



A
Ministry
of:

**CORNERSTONE
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DEFENDING THE FAITH!

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In a day when the Word of God was being compromised by professed believers in inspiration, C. H. Spurgeon wrote: "We must defend the faith. What would have become of us if our fathers had not maintained it? If Confessors, Reformers, Martyrs and Covenanters had been recant to the faith and name of Jesus, where would have been the churches of today. Must we not play the man... It is very pretty, is it not, to read of Luther and his brave deeds? Everybody admires Luther. Yes, yes, but you do not want anyone else to do the same today. When you go to the Zoological Gardens you all admire the bear, but you do not want a bear at home or wandering the streets. You tell me that would be unbearable... So, we admire a man who is firm in the faith, say 400 years ago: the past ages are sort of a bear-pit or iron cage for him: but such a man today is a nuisance and must be put down. Call him a narrow-minded bigot, or give him a worse name if you can think of one. Yet imagine in those ages past, Luther, Zwingli, Calvin and their compeers had said, 'The world is out of order, but if we try to set it right, we shall only make a great row and get ourselves into disgrace. Let us go to our chambers, put on our nightcaps, and sleep over these bad times, and perhaps when we wake up things would have grown better.' Such conduct on their part would have entailed upon us a heritage of error. Age after age would have gone down into the infernal deeps, and the pestiferous bogs of error would have swallowed all. These men loved the faith and the name of Jesus too well to see them trampled on. Note what we owe them and pay to our sons the debt we owe to our fathers. It is today as it was in the Reformers day. Decision is needed."

We need to preach the Gospel but we must also "**earnestly contend for the faith!**" One of the reasons for the compromise, mixture, declension and confusion among Fundamental Baptists is the failure of many preachers (who may be sound in doctrine) to point out error and compromise among the people of God. We have too many Fundamental Baptists who apparently don't think anything is worth fighting for. I was told by a man who was present at a Fundamental Baptist preachers' meeting, that more than one speaker said there were four things not worth fighting for. They are the following: dress, music, who one associates with, and Bible versions. If those things are not worth fighting over, what is? Sensual dress may not be as important as Bible versions but it surely is sinful, and it says a lot about the level of spirituality. Does God approve of music that is of the world? Who one associates with is not important? That means you may have a popular New Evangelical (or whoever you please) in your pulpit. Whatever happened to "**Come out from among them and be ye separate.**"? It is amazing that so-called Bible believers are not concerned about whether they have God's true Word or not! If that is not worth fighting over, one wonders what we are doing! All modern versions deviate seriously from God's Word, from the King James Bible and they teach error. They eliminate scores of verses and destroy many others with marginal notes. Imagine - *Fundamental* Bible believers with a phony bible! We are admonished, we are commanded (this is not just good advice) to "**earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.**" You can't do that with a modern version!!! May we, like the apostle Paul, be able to say, "**I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith.**" ~II Timothy 4:7. Not some of "**the faith**" - all of it! Cafeteria Christianity (pick and choose) is popular but not with God.

CORNERSTONE NEWS

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GOSPEL TRACTS: We have 39 different Gospel Tracts; most of them deal with salvation. Write or call for a sample packet and Order Form.

A GREAT DECISION

A.W. Tozer wrote the following: "There is a great decision...every Church has to make...Every Pastor has to face it and keep renewing his decision on his knees. Finally, every church member, every Christian has to make this decision...The question is this: Shall we modify the truth in doctrine or practice to gain more adherents? Or, shall we preserve the truth in doctrine and practice and take the consequences?" The sad truth is that many in Fundamental circles are modifying their ministries to please the people and gain more members. But this is a treacherous path! Many say that times are changing and we must change with the times. No, it is the world that needs to change! The Scriptures declare: "**For ever, O Lord, thy Word is settled in Heaven.**" ~*Psalms 119:89*

A GOOD CHURCH MEMBER

Henry Ward Beecher, the great preacher, went to rent a horse and carriage in order to take his wife for a ride. The man tried to sell him a horse. He said, "He is a good saddle horse, a good buggy horse and a good carriage horse. He works well with other horses on either side of the tongue. He is a good all-round horse and a good team worker." Mr. Beecher replied, "My Friend, I cannot buy your horse, but I sure would like to have him as a member of my Church.

YOUTH CORNER

THE FAITH WAY IS GOD'S WAY. It is God's way to have your sins forgiven – have faith in Christ and His death on the cross for your sins. It is the way to live the Christian life. God says, "**Without faith it is impossible to please Him.**" ~*Hebrews 11:6*. A school teacher gave three bright students a difficult problem. He said, "You will find it very hard, but I promise you there is a way to solve the problem." After several attempts without success, one of them gave up saying, "There is no way!" A little later, the second pupil also gave up. He said, "I think it can be done but I do not know how." The third student worked on for some time and though he was somewhat worn out, labored on saying, "I know there is a way because the Master has said it." We believe and act upon the Word of God because it is the work of the Master. If the Master, the Lord Jesus has said it, it must be so! One of the simplest definitions of faith I know is "taking God at His Word." It has been said: "God said it, I believe it; that settles it!" I think a better statement is, "God said it; that settles it!" The Bible says concerning the Christian: "**For we walk by faith, not by sight.**" ~*II Corinthians 5:7*. I John 5:4 says: "**...and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.**" C.T. Studd said: "Yes, let us ever see the impossible, Yes, the utterly impossible, and then go to God and ask Him to do it. This glorifies Him, magnifies Him, or gives Him a chance to magnify Himself – which is best of all."

SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT!

True Faith is not a victory for you but a victory in or through you.

The Christian must be willing to forfeit human companionship in order to have God's fellowship. If you want to know who your human friends are, just make a mistake or disagree with them.

One fool can ask more questions than ten wise men can answer. M.R.D.

We must be saved from dependence upon people and walk alone with Jesus. J. Hudson Taylor

If you don't believe in the devil's existence, try resisting him a while. –Charles Finney.

A WORD OF EXPLANATION! We are truly sorry that we have been late with the Challenge, etc. the past few months. The reason is, I have been subject to several ailments. I praise the Lord for basic good health for eighty-eight years. And I thank Him that I am feeling much better and able to keep up with things a little better. I certainly would appreciate your prayers that I might serve Him with all of my heart. I'd like to say that we do appreciate those who write to us from time to time. May the Lord richly bless you.

NEWS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

BOY'S TRIP TO HEAVEN RETRACTED. A best-selling account of a 6-year-old boy's journey to heaven and back has been pulled after the boy retracted his story. Spokesman Todd Starowitz of Tyndale House, a leading Christian publisher, confirmed Friday that Alex Malarkey's "The Boy Who Came Back from Heaven: A Remarkable Account of Miracles, Angels, and Life Beyond This World" was being withdrawn. Earlier this week, Malarkey acknowledged in an open letter that he was lying, saying that he had been seeking attention. He also regretted that "people had profited from lies." "I did not die. I did not go to Heaven," he wrote. "When I made the claims that I did, I had never read the Bible. People have profited from lies, and continue to. They should read the Bible, which is enough." "The Boy Who Came Back From Heaven" was first published in 2010 and told of a 2004 auto accident which left Malarkey in a coma. According to the book, co-written by Alex's father, Kevin Malarkey, he had visions of angels and of meeting Jesus. In 2014, Tyndale reissued "The Boy," which on the cover includes the billing "A True Story." *NewsMax* (1/16/15) Ed. The thing that amazes me is that so many people apparently believed it.

DEPRESSION EPIDEMIC! On the day (Robin) Williams died --- as on every day in America --- more than 100 people died by suicide and 2,500 people attempted suicide. And amid the wall-to-wall coverage of his death, there was no attempt to explain why the suicide rate for adults has increased 25 percent since 1999 or what is raising the incidence of depression in America and other affluent societies around the world. According to worldwide projection from the World Health Organization (WHO) by 2030, the amount of disability and life lost from depression will surpass that from war, accidents, cancer, stroke, and heart disease. In fact WHO reports that for youth 10-19 depression is already the number one cause of illness and disability. According to a 2012 survey by the Association for the University and College Counseling Center Directors, 95 percent of college-counseling center directors in America reported an increase in the number of students with significant psychological problems. A 2012 study of college students by the American College Health Association found that 33 percent of women and 27 percent of men have identified a period of time in the previous year of feeling so depressed they have trouble functioning. According to the centers for disease control antidepressant use has increased 400 percent

since 1988. In fact, 11 percent of Americans over the age of 12 take an antidepressant... *PsychoHeresy News Letter*. (Jan.-Feb. 2015). Ed. The answer to all of this is found in the Word of God: Jesus gives perfect peace to those who will trust Him as their Savior. John 14:27 and many more passages. Christ is the Prince of Peace! He said, "**Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.**" ~*Matthew 11:28*. "**Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee: because he trusteth in Thee. Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength.**" ~*Isaiah 26:3,4*.

ISLAMIC LAW USED IN TEXAS. Who ever would have dreamed that an Islamic Tribunal using Sharia law in Texas has been confirmed by *Breitbart Texas*. The tribunal is operating as a non-profit organization in Dallas. One of the attorneys for the tribunal said participation and acceptance of the tribunal's decisions are "voluntary." *Breitbart Texas* spoke with one of the "judges," Dr. Taher El-badawi. He said the tribunal operates under Sharia law as a form of "non-binding dispute resolution." El-badawi said their organization is "a tribunal, not arbitration." A tribunal is defined by Meriam-Webster's Dictionary as "a court or forum of justice." The four Islamic attorneys call themselves "judges" not "arbitrators." El-badawi said the tribunal follows Sharia law to resolve civil disputes in family and business matters. He said they also resolve workplace disputes. In matters of divorce, El-badawi said that "while participation in the tribunal is voluntary, a married couple cannot be considered divorced by the Islamic community unless it is granted by the tribunal." He compared their divorce, known as "Talaq," as something similar to the Catholic practice of annulment in that the church does not recognize civil divorce proceedings as ending a marriage. He also said there is a difference between how a man and a woman can request a divorce under their system. "The husband can request the divorce directly from the tribunal," El-badawi stated. "The wife must go to an Imam who will request the divorce for her." ...*Breitbart Texas* asked what happens when there is a conflict between Sharia law and Texas law. El-badawi said most of the time, the laws are in agreement. When pushed further he admitted that, "we follow Sharia law." ~*ACT for America* (1/30/15).

Ed. To what purpose is all this catering to Islam? We never cease to marvel at what is going on in this area. It certainly has not stopped all the violence. If an American goes to a Muslim country, is he allowed to be put under U.S. Law?

SPURGEON AND THE KJV

When modern versions first came on the scene, C.H. Spurgeon wrote the following: “The approved method of the present carnival of unbelief is not to reject the Bible altogether but to raise doubts about the inspiration of it as a whole. If the Book be not infallible, where shall we find infallibility? We have given up the Pope for he has blundered terribly and often; but we shall not set up instead of him a horde of popelings fresh out of college. ARE THESE CORRECTORS OF THE SCRIPTURES INFALLIBLE? Is it certain that our Bibles are not right, but the critics, but the critics must be so? We shall be bedoubted and criticized that only a few of the most profound will know what is Bible and what is not, and they will dictate to the rest of us. I have no more faith in their mercy than in their accuracy. AND WE ARE FULLY ASSURED THAT OUR OLD ENGLISH VERSION OF THE SCRIPTURES IS SUFFICIENT for plain men for all purposes of life, salvation, and goodness. The craving to alter the Word of God is accursed.” I have often said that it is arrogant for puny man to take it upon himself to alter the Word of God. We now have many “Fundamentalists” using and defending modern versions; versions that differ from the KJV in hundreds, if not thousands, of places. We even have some saying there are three or four good ones, chose the one you think is best. What ludicrous logic. They’re all different. It’s not a matter of what you like; it’s a matter of where is the Word of God? God only gave One infallible Word! Where is it? If it is not the King James Version, we don’t have it.

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HAVE IT YOUR WAY

The only thing most people want, including many Christians, is their own way. It causes much trouble and grief among God’s people. They usually tell you it’s God’s will and produce a misused verse of Scripture to back them up. When they don’t get their way, they either create a fuss or go somewhere else where they are “more appreciated.” I once preached a sermon on “*Right Words but Wrong Conduct.*” There are many examples in the Bible and I see it all too often. What a tragedy, for most of these people go on their own willful way as though God was with them, when in reality He is not, but they are as Samson of old: “**He wist not that the Spirit had departed.**” I recently read a sermon preached about sixty years ago. The preacher said, “*Many people find it easy to believe that they ought to do what they want to do.*” Many Christians are doing what they want to do - of course, they ask God to bless it. Little do they realize, He cannot bless it! One of the great drawbacks in God’s work is Christians who are wasting their lives doing what they want to do instead of what God has called them to do. I have had believers come to me for counsel, but their real purpose was not to get my advice but to get my confirmation of *their* plans. God often lets people have their own way, but it is always the wrong way and sooner or later one will have to pay for it. God allowed Israel to have their own way but it says in Psalm 106:15, “**...He sent leanness into their soul.**” The Bible says, “**Remember Lot’s wife.**” Yes, and remember Lot, a believer who had his own way and lost his family!