

PLACING THE BLAME WHERE IT BELONGS

“Thus saith the LORD concerning the prophets that make my people err, that bite with their teeth, and cry, Peace; and he that putteth not into their mouths, they even prepare war against him.” Micah 3:5

“Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.” Malachi 3:5

Pastor Del Wray

God Blames The Pulpit For The Present Sad State Of Affairs.

The unfaithfulness of preachers is very largely responsible for the lawlessness which is now so prevalent throughout the whole of Christendom. During the last two or three generations thousands of pulpits have jettisoned the Word of God, and replaced the Word with their own inventions and mechanisms stating that the Bible has only a part and partial place in the church, and has no real authority in the dispensation of grace. And thus the most powerful of all “restraints” has been removed and license given to the lusts of the flesh. A large part of this was due to liberalism, but a huge portion was among dispensationalists as well. And the ethic of dispensationalism had affected many others. As a result, a catastrophic chain reaction exploded throughout society. They quit preaching the Word of God showing man’s sinful nature, and as a result, the humanist ethic took over. The results are plain to see:

Conscience has been comatose: the requirements of justice are stifled: over-sentimental concepts now prevail. As eternal punishment was repudiated, either tacitly or in many cases openly, ecclesiastical punishments were shelved. Churches refused to enforce sanctions, and winked at flagrant offences. The inevitable outcome has been the breakdown of discipline in the home and the creation of a “public opinion” which is mushy and spineless. School-teachers are intimidated by foolish parents, so that the rising generations are more and more allowed to have their own way without fear of consequences. If some judge has the courage of his convictions and sentences a brute to the “jail house” for maiming an old woman, there is an outcry raised against him. But enough! Most of you are painfully aware of all this without my enlarging any further: but few of them realize the causes which have led up to it, **AN UNFAITHFUL PULPIT**, the denial of eternal punishment, the misrepresentation of God’s character, the rejection of His Word as absolute, the failure of the churches to enforce a Bible centered message, the breakdown of parental authority.

This chain reaction was, as surprisingly as it may strike its grace, lipped proponents, little more than a rehash of the error of the Pharisees. As such, it was the work of the devil leading purported men of God to overthrow God's order in both church and state:

As the Jewish leaders sought to ingratiate themselves with the people rather than to please God, they pandered to this evil lust. In this we may see the workings of the Devil; for in all ages his policy has been directed to the overthrowing of the Divine order. The great enemy of God and man has ever sought to move corrupt leaders, both civil and religious, so to temper things to the depraved inclinations and popular opinions of the people that true piety may be overthrown.

It is at this very point that the true preachers of God stand out in sharp contrast with the Devil's hirelings. The latter are unregenerate men, with no fear of God in their hearts. "They are of the world, and the world heareth them" 1 John 4:5. They trim their sails to the winds of public opinion. They accommodate their preaching to the depraved taste of their hearers. Their utterances are regulated by a single motive: to please those who pay their salaries. But the servants of Christ shun not declaring all the counsel of God, no matter how distasteful and displeasing it may be to the natural man. They dare not corrupt the Truth and refuse to withhold any part of their God-given message. To glorify their Master and be faithful to the trust He has committed to them is their only concern. Consequently, they share, in their measure, the treatment which was meted Out to Him.

Indeed, preaching the whole counsel of God is unpopular. For this reason, preaching is unpopular. But the longer the pulpit refuses this aspect of its prophetic office, the more it is capitulating unwittingly to the work of the devil, and the further the blessings of restoration slip into the depths of a depraved culture. The true preacher of righteousness, the Divine Word of God and Divine order, will preach it all anyway, no matter how unpopular it may seem.

MY CONCLUSION:

While there are plenty of preachers today who claim to desire great alteration in the churches, their desire seems to end as soon as Society and the Scripture is mentioned. The Word of God is relegated to only personal and ecclesial uses, if any at all. When challenged, lip service is given to the importance of the Word. But when detailed applications are called for, every denial of "the Word of God" and condemnation of "political correctness" that can be given is. Yet these curtailed pulpits. He condemns them openly. He proclaims the "true ministers of God" as ones who preach the whole counsel of God. In the context we've seen, that whole counsel includes the complete Word of God and its God ordered declarations and teachings, and for want of it, we have the degeneration that we see.

So where are these preachers today? Where is the call to today's pulpits to reclaim the same substance and boldness? It is time we renewed this call, and raised up our preachers again! Even if you don't like the tone and unbending discrimination of a man of God! The conclusions at which you arrive will have you fighting shoulder-to-shoulder with Bible preachers, and you'll be looking back at several generations of our pulpits with the sense of urgency.

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