

THE MISREPRESENTATION OF THE CHRIST OF THE BIBLE

HOW OUR PULPITS HAVE CHARACTERIZED AND PORTRAYED
“Another Jesus:”

“But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him.” 2 Cor. 11:3-4

“If Jesus had preached the same message that ministers preach today, He would never have been crucified.”

Leonard Ravenhill

“A church at peace with the world will be found at war with God.”

By Pastor Del Wray

The Church Pulpit in its Misrepresentation of Jesus Christ:

Most churches have gotten away from preaching the Cross of Jesus to preaching a Jesus ashamed of the Cross and its offense brought on by a godless world hating its bloody content. And many are on the right side of Calvary and the wrong side of Pentecost, on the right side of His birth and on the wrong side of His resurrection. They're right on His pardon and wrong on His wrath. Christian's are positive when it comes to His forgiveness and negative when it comes to His hatred of sin. For most believers today it has never entered their minds that when Jesus came to earth the first time the entire world was His enemy and when He comes the second time in His Glory the entire world will again be His enemy, except for a remnant of blood washed saints. The Church will have already been removed and only His enemies will be awaiting Him. Think people! What's coming on this world? Human nature has not changed in two-thousand years and unregenerate man will be marshalling his armies to oppose the coming King. Man's religious nature has not changed either and still even after God's One Supreme Sacrifice at Calvary, man will be found in rebellious hatred against Him. Jesus Christ's birth divided people, even at birth man tried to kill Him. Satan's sinister plot was at work even before He was born, Matt. 2:13. Jesus Christ's life divided people, John 7: 1-13. The Jews were out to kill Him; often He had to withdraw himself from crowds as the Devil was plotting to kill Him trying to keeping Him from going to the cross. Christ baptism divided people, His preaching divided people, His death even divided people, and His resurrection had its deniers. His entire life was one of evading the crowds and authorities of His day as He went about the business of His Father, founding the Church that is to be His bride, then in its embryonic stage yet future to be His heavenly people. As the Jew is God's earthly people His wife so too the Church is the bride of Christ. The Church, the lost treasure hid in the field! The true Church is His body through which Christ would carry on His earthly ministry while away in a far country. This Church has always been like Christ, divisive by nature in a world of men gone mad. John 15:18 Jesus told His Disciples,

“If the world hates you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you.”

Excuse me, but for the sake of being repetitive, throughout the Bible there are many verses that warn the believer that things are not what they appear. As a matter of fact when a Christian looks at the things in the world and in particular in the church he should notice that they are almost always the exact opposite of what they may appear to be. The lost person will ignore these facts and live as if he has never been warned. While for the most part the believer to, knowing better, refuses to see things as God would have and continues to stumble around in a make believe existence in the church, blind completely, to the will of God for the church and for themselves, judging by appearance and not by “every Word of God.” 1 Sam. 16:7 says, *“For the Lord seeth not as man seeth, for man looketh on the outward appearance but the Lord looketh on the heart.”* Dr. Peter S. Ruckman states it this way, “find out what direction the world is going and turn around and go the opposite.” This well could be true of many of our churches today for we still have not learned the lesson that God would have us know, that being, living by “every Word of God” and not judging by appearance. The church is no longer the “salt in the world” but has settled down and made peace with the enemy. The salt being the preserver along with being an irritation to an open wound or must I conclude an aggravation to the Church settled down in the world. Believer the church is and we are at war with the world!

“A church at peace with the world will be found at war with God. And the church at war with the world will be found at peace with God.” Pastor Del Wray

The True Church has always been a thorn-in-the-flesh with the world and the world at enmity against the Church. And the churches of our day have settled down and at whatever the cost will do anything to be at peace with the world. It's programs, its methods, it's preaching, it's music and its correction and changing of the Word of God are all channeled to a union with the world. A one world system, a one world church and a one world government sealed with the spirit of Laodicea! Can anyone wonder why Jesus Christ spoke so angrily at the religious crowd of His day? And why do we not hear it from our pulpits today? The serious Bible student knows why? It's because He's, Christ, is not living in the majority of our preachers and pastors today. Mark it down! The church pulpits are misrepresenting and portraying “another christ” to a lost dying world. Like it or not the man of God, under the control of God's Holy Spirit, will not only live like Christ but will sound and preach like Christ, also!!! Those who don't agree go stick your thumb in your mouth and go cry on your wife's shoulder. You're hiding behind her anyway! Look at how Jesus preached!

“Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?”

“Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?” Matt. 23:33

How does that sound coming from the greatest Preacher that has ever walked upon earth! The humblest of men, the God Man, Jesus Christ, God Himself preaching to the religious Jews of His day: **“Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?”** The religious leaders of His day question His authority to forgive sins and to heal on the Sabbath day. Hear His response: *“Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?”* How about that, you folks who make up the Church of our day? When Christ spoke it was either His way or hit the highway! It was His way or the highway! When a man of God preaches His Word today it

should be with the same authority! It's the Bible way, God's way or hit the highway! Listen to Jesus:

"Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness." Matt. 23:27,

This kind of preaching is not acceptable in our churches; Jesus Christ would not be allowed in the majority of our church pulpits today. Church people, Christians are always telling me that "hard preaching" coming from the pulpit is counterproductive while using "honey" is the best approach. Tough-love preaching is outdated. When did that occur? It is to the Apostate Church of our day. How is it that anyone who claims to be saved can be so stupid? I can understand if it's your desire to get along with the world, but we Bible believers are at enmity with the world and the world is suppose to hate us. Today, the church so resembles the world that you can't tell them apart. Pleasing God in obedience to His Scriptural command is our driving force and motive and not the fear of offending worldly church goers. Preachers, pastors and Christians who think like this have no problem deserting the biblical Christ for "another Jesus" more pleasing to the world. When God's man stands behind the podium preaching hard, sharp and stern portraying Christ as scornful, angry, sarcastic and disrespectful showing a total distrust with human nature and of the masses of the people, immediately they demand he tone down and soften his delivery. Or he will not be allowed to preach. Another "Jesus" is being preached in our churches today and not the Christ of the Bible. I contend that most Baptist churches are nothing more than Laodicean's with Luke warm saints. Pastors as Sheppard's are nothing more than ravenous wolves inwardly, greedy and grudgingly preaching for fifthly lucre. How blind we are to the real disposition of God's Son? Christians refusing to read their Bibles anymore and their minds darkened for failing to study the Word of God properly.

I know a church in North Carolina owned and run by one family with money, owned, lock, stock and barrel professing to be in our ranks that personifies just what I'm exposing here. Their portrayal of Jesus Christ is pathetic and their personification of Him is unspeakably appalling an inexcusably disgusting. They for years have been presenting a "Jesus" to their congregant that is effeminate, loving, that would never offend anyone with harsh pronunciations or do anything to hurt the feelings of another. Their characterization of Him is always appealing; He is always soft spoken, kind and the friend of all. People, I don't know what's wrong with me but inside this old preacher, men and churches that present that kind of false impression of my God to the world makes me sick. O' I know most of you out there are under the same impression, you've been slowly and slyly brainwashed by the spirit of the age. You think, and have been taught to believe that a loving God would send no one to Hell. You've been deceived! You're wrong! Preachers have lied to you! The God the Bible depicts and that the Father reveals in Scripture is a real man who spoke like no other and wasn't afraid to offend or to condemn human nature to any man. Listen to what he said in Matthew Chapter 10,

"Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword." Matt. 10:34

Read further in Matthew 10:35-39

“For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man's foes shall be they of his own household. He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.” Matt. 10:35-39

Doesn't sound like to me He mixes words or whether someone is offended and has had his feelings hurt. Jesus Christ is God's man and the only real man that has ever walked upon planet earth. The only real Man! You say what about the Apostle Paul, he doesn't count, and while he was here Jesus Christ walked with him. How about it, who walks with the one reading this article? If Jesus walks with you as I know He does with me, He makes you a real man too! Brother get a holt of that truth and you want be afraid to preach like Paul either! Here it is again,

“If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple. And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.” Luke 14:26-27

How about His speech in Luke 12,

“I am come to send fire on the earth; and what will I, if it be already kindled?” Luke 12:49

When I got saved and called to preach it right then became “thus saith the Lord” nothing more and nothing less! What has happened to the preacher's in our Baptist churches?

“Every Word of God is pure” Prov. 30:5

The majority of Baptist preachers do not believe the Bible anymore. They'll tell you it's the “message,” the “principles,” the “fundamentals,” and the “teachings” not the individual WORDS of the Bible. Jesus said the WORDS of that Book were “spirit” and “life” John 6:63 and “Every Word of God is pure” Prov. 30:5. What we have is a bunch of Bible deniers in our Baptist pulpits. And in the churches that claim to believe every word, they want preach every word. Folks, we are in a mess? That Book is right and we are wrong, that Book is true and we are liars and it's as simple as that! The Bible believer believes it just as it was spoken from God's Throne out of Heaven! John 8:47 says if you are “**of God**” you will hear His “**words**” not just His message! Psalms 12:6-7 says it is the “**Words**” that are pure and preserved not just the fundamentals. Matt. 4:4, the believer is to “**live**” by “**every word**” of God, not just the principles. It is the individual “**words**” that are true, 2 Sam. 7:28, not just some figment of some man's imagination. And it is the “**words**” that we are to esteem above our “**necessary food**” not just the teachings, Job 23:12. We either believe the Bible or we do not, we either take God at His Word or we call Him a liar. Which is it? There's no fence to be straddled, there's no gray area or any acceptable room for doubt. You either believe it or you don't! And that belief consumes your entire mind, body, soul, will, and spirit! Nothing more and nothing less take it or leave it! God knows our hearts! And it is our heart that He sees judging to either give us light or let a man drift further into darkness. When He returns He will divide the sheep from the goats, the wheat from the tares, and the vessels of wrath from the vessels of mercy! You can count on that! I have all of

the Word of God that God wants me to have and it is in the English language and I don't need any Bible Scholar to correct it for me. In the King James Bible **"Every word of God is pure!"**

"And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" Luke 6:46

JESUS WASN'T AFRAID TO OFFEND PEOPLE WITH THE TRUTH!

Jesus reminds a woman about her adulterous affairs:

Many people have accused me of being unloving, failing to be like Jesus. Why? It is because of my direct approach. Was Jesus direct? In John chapter four we read about the Samaritan woman whom Jesus met at the well. In John 4:18, Jesus tells her that she is an adulterer, Matthew 5:32. Wow! Can you imagine meeting someone for the first time and they bring up your adulterous relationships?

Jesus wasn't afraid to hurt another's feelings:

Did you ever read that passage of Scripture where Jesus made someone sorrowful?

"Jesus said unto him, if thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me. But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions." Matthew 19:21-22

The truth needed to be spoken! Jesus didn't kowtow and beat-around-the-bush. No, Jesus said what needed to be said.

Jesus called a group of religious people "evil" snakes:

It was not uncommon for Jesus to speak harsh words to those whom He felt needed to hear them:

"O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." Matthew 12:34

How's that for tough preaching? Jesus called those religious people "evil." Doesn't sound like a very nice thing to do, does it? The diversity committee wouldn't have liked Jesus' outbursts of contempt and hate speech very much would they? Jesus would have been very unpopular in today's apostate world. Jesus even called them "vipers" or deadly snakes.

Jesus calls one of His own Disciples, Peter, "Satan"

Jesus did not discriminate; He evidently seemed to hate everyone, even His own disciples. Listen to what Jesus said to the Apostle Peter when Peter showed concern for Christ's well-being:

"But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men." Matthew 16:23

Again, how about that? Peter was only trying to be a friend. Peter couldn't have been anymore sincere. One would think Jesus would have been a little more understanding with those closest to

Him. Rather, Jesus called Peter “Satan.” Isn’t that something? Talk about Jesus using hate speech. He broke the law, arrest Him would be the cry all over again!

Jesus accuses one of His disciples of being “a devil”

Jesus, while at the dinner table with His disciples, called one of them a “devil”

“Jesus answered them, Have not I chosen you twelve, and one of you is a devil?” John 6:70

Jesus' didn't seem to regard His own family either:

“Then one said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to speak with thee. But he answered and said unto him that told him, who is my mother? And who are my brethren?” Matthew 12:47-48

Wow! Jesus sure had a different side to Him that most people don't see, and don't want to see.

Jesus taught that many people will one day burn in Hell:

Everyone likes to think about the “God loves you” Jesus, but no one wants to think about the

“You're going to burn in hell” Jesus. Well, here He is:

“Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels” Matthew 25:41

Did Jesus really say that? Can it be? Is the loving Saviour actually saying that people will one day burn in the torments of an everlasting fire? Yes, that is exactly right!

Jesus said, “It must be my way, or burn in Hell when you die!” It’s my way or the highway!

“Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.” John 14:6

How about that? Doesn't sound very polite does He. Do it my way or burn in hell! In fact, Jesus was extremely adamant that there is ONLY ONE WAY TO HEAVEN!

Plainly put, it's Jesus or hell. Joel Osteen, the blind leading the blind down the wrong path. Many people are on the wrong path. That means that the Roman Catholic Church is a false religion because they teach that the church, good works, the sacraments, the rosary, and the Blessed Virgin Mary are all necessary to enter into heaven. Catholicism is a bunch of lies. Jesus proclaimed that FEW people will ever make it into heaven...

“Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.” Matt. 7:13-14

Hell will be filled with religious people who mocked and scorned the precious name of Jesus Christ, while idolizing the pacifist, apologetic preaching of our day. Preachers are illusionists, filled with satanic deception. You see friend, truth is INTOLERANT, and it cannot be compromised, nothing can change that! If some liar wants to teach people perversion, it still doesn't change the truth. If some people are gullible enough to believe the lie, that is their misfortune; but the truth hasn't changed one bit!

It is obvious that Jesus, who is very God in the flesh, the great loving teacher, also said some pretty harsh things to people. He called them hypocrites, fools, blind people, blind guides, whitewashed tombs, lawless, of their father the devil, and liars.

Why would Jesus be so harsh to people? He did this because He hated their sin and despised those who hindered others from coming to a saving relationship with Him. Remember, saying harsh things to people is not wrong, but what is said needs to be true and tempered with wisdom. We need to be careful when we speak harshly, and we need to attempt to be loving and kind whenever possible. But it is not wrong in and of itself to speak the truth when dealing with peoples' rebellion against God.

There are just too many Scripture verses in the Bible that show Jesus Christ to be a real man with absolutely no desire and no interest in winning a popularity contest. I must admit that it is difficult and awkward for a pastor to present this real Jesus to his congregation. By doing so could limit the size of his membership. There is an irreversible trend in our churches to portray Jesus Christ as being wishy-washy, weak, lacking masculinity and soon every one of us will have to face a real mountain of a man, cut out of a mountain who will require and accounting from each one of us. Has your church pulpit misrepresented Him? Are you misrepresenting Jesus Christ even now? How do you as a pastor portray Jesus Christ! Below is a number of Jesus Christ's own words right from His own lips taken from the Bible:

Matt. 7:4, "You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye."

Matt. 15:7, "You hypocrites, rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you, saying, 'This people honors me with their lips, But their heart is far away from me.' 'But in vain do they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the precepts of men.'"

Matt. 23:13, "But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you shut off the kingdom of heaven from men; for you do not enter in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in."

Matt. 23:15, "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites . . ."

Matt. 23:16-17, "Woe to you, blind guides, who say, 'Whoever swears by the temple, that is nothing; but whoever swears by the gold of the temple, he is obligated.' 'You fools and blind men; which is more important, the gold, or the temple that sanctified the gold?'"

Matt. 23:23-24, "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cummin, and have neglected the weightier provisions of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness; but these are the things you should have done without neglecting the others. "You blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel!"

Matt. 23:25, "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!"

Matt. 23:27-28, "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which on the outside appear beautiful, but inside they are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness. "Even so you too outwardly appear righteous to men, but inwardly you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness."

Matt. 23:29, "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!"

Matt. 23:33, "You serpents, you brood of vipers, how shall you escape the sentence of hell?"

Mark 12:38-40, "Beware of the scribes who like to walk around in long robes, and like respectful greetings in the market places, and chief seats in the synagogues, and places of honor at banquets, who devour widows' houses, and for appearance's sake offer long prayers; these will receive greater condemnation."

Luke 11:39, "You foolish ones, did not He who made the outside make the inside also?"

Luke 11:43, "Woe to you Pharisees! For you love the front seats in the synagogues, and the respectful greetings in the market places. "Woe to you! For you are like concealed tombs, and the people who walk over them are unaware of it."

Luke 11:52, "Woe to you lawyers! For you have taken away the key of knowledge; you did not enter in yourselves, and those who were entering in you hindered."

Luke 12:1, "Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy."

John 8:44, "You are of your father the Devil and you want to do the desires of your father . . ."

John 8:49, "I do not have a demon; but I honor My Father, and you dishonor me."

John 8:55, "and you have not come to know Him, but I know Him; and if I say that I do not know Him, I shall be a liar like you, but I do know Him, and keep His word."

You know this poor old preacher may not have much, I may not be known among the ministerial board members and may even be hated within the religious establishment but I was never taught those things were important. What is important though is a life lived out for Jesus Christ and the

Word of God! That's why our church slogan is "Bearing the testimony of Jesus Christ and the Word of God" it couldn't be anything else! I'm too stupid, ignorant and weak to think myself anything nor would I ever let the thought linger in my mind that, "who am I" to question God or even His Word much less to be so bold as to think I could change it. Only demon possessed men out of hell conger such thinking. Misrepresenting the truth is blatant rejection of the truth. So could I say as, William Tyndall, "I call God to record against the day we shall appear before our Lord Jesus Christ to give a reckoning of our doings that I never altered one syllable of God's Word against my conscience." William Tyndall

Lord help me! This is true in my preaching, in my writings and in every verbal communication of the same. May it be said of each of us! Remember:

"A church at peace with the world will be found at war with God."