

Hearts of Love

Tom & Debbie Tillman "to touch the world for Jesus Christ"

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Unity Schmunity

Some question the idea of well known pastors who 'call out' other pastors whom they believe are teaching error and preaching false doctrine. For example, John MacArthur and Voddie Baucham accuse others, of teaching contrary to God's Word... aren't they hurting the cause of Christ and fostering division among the body? No... not at all!

In fact, we find many examples in God's Word of those, who are doctrinally sound, calling out and specifically naming the false teachers who were, in fact, the ones who were harming the cause, and Body, of Jesus Christ.

In Matthew 23, Jesus calls the scribes and Pharisees "hypocrites" six times; he calls them "blind guides," "blind fools," "blind men," "whitewashed tombs," "sons of those who murdered the prophets," "serpents," and "brood of vipers."

Peter wrote, 'Be on your guard so that you are not carried away by the error of unprincipled men and fall from your own steadfastness.' (2 Peter 3:16-17)

Paul wrote, 'This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare, ¹⁹ having faith and a good conscience, which some having rejected, concerning the faith have suffered shipwreck, ²⁰ of whom are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I delivered to Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme.' 1 Tim 1:18

Paul also wrote: 'And their message will spread like cancer. Hymenaeus and Philetus are of this sort, ¹⁸ who have strayed concerning the truth, saying that the resurrection is already past; and they overthrow the faith of some.' 2Tim2:17 By the way: Paul's 2nd letter to the Thessalonians was to correct the false teachings of some who had worried the believers in Thessalonica by teaching that the Rapture had already taken place and that they had been left behind: 'Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, ² not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come.' 2Thes 2:1 It appears that Hymenaeus and Philetus were among those teaching this error. Hymenaeus must have been akin to many of today's 'TV-types' to have twice warranted Paul's condemnation!

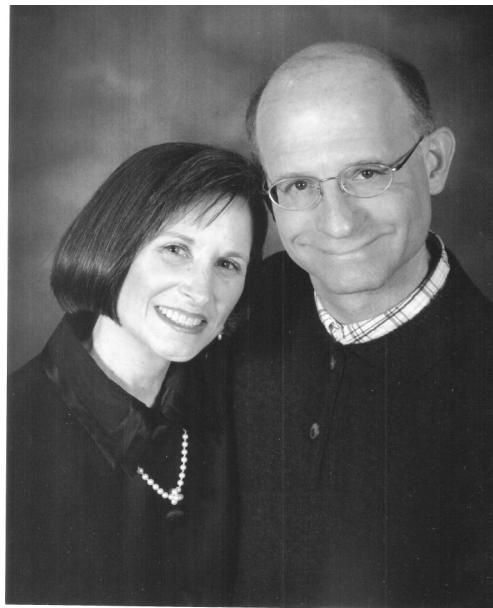
Some seem to think that if we call out and name a false teacher we are not acting in love.

If someone were to slander your wife or husband, or to deny the truth of what she/he had said; would it be unloving to name the liar and tell the truth about your loved one? Of course not... in fact, it would be unloving to not defend, with the truth, your loved one. Would you fear what others would think if you told the truth about your loved one or would your love override that fear and spur you on to louder, more forceful defense?

Paul told us the Last Days would be marked by a great falling away in the Church which would happen before the True Church is removed in the Rapture, leaving the false, apostate church behind. 'Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day (the Rapture) will not come unless the falling away comes first...' 2Thes 2:3

We see the apostate church all around us today while it is especially visible on television; it is not characterized by people leaving churches but, rather, great crowds of supposed Christians falling away within the churches, that thousands and millions of supposed Christians would fall prey to the lies and distortions of false teachers and pastors who would, like a pit of vipers, infest and lead the Apostate Church in the Last Days.

When Jesus Disciples asked Him what would be the signs of His return and of the end of the Age, the first thing He told them, and us, was, 'Take heed that no man deceive you.' Deception within the Church would be the number one sign of the nearness of His return, in



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2 Corinthians 5:19,20

the Last Days, for His True Church, in the Rapture. The worst deception a person can fall prey to is in their believing that they are saved, that they will stand before God and hear Him say, 'Welcome, My child,' when, in reality, what they will hear is, *'Depart from Me, I never knew you! Cast him into outer darkness where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth!'*

The great irony is that rather than the deception being the result of divisions in the Church, the Apostasy, the great deception, has been built on the foundation of a cry for 'Unity!

Above all, Unity!

Here are excerpts from a prayer for 'unity' by a false pastor on the internet: 'God, we pray that we would find **understanding for each other and any differences we have in our reading of your word... We are all followers of Christ and you preach nothing but love and unity and acceptance of each other...** that we come together and realize that **we can accept different understandings and different thinking inside the church** ... that you love us all equally and without judgment... we can accept different understandings and different thinking inside the church... Give us the wisdom to understand that our differences are not dividers, they illuminate our thinking and debate under the same banner... Help us to accept our unity in diversity, to accept our differences... **God does not want to subjugate us to his will, he wants to spread love and acceptance...**'

We should be able to clearly see that what this 'pastor' has prayed is not something we would ever expect to hear from Jesus Christ or Paul or Peter or from any other true shepherd of God's flock.

There are many corners of the apostate church, the pastors of which, do agree wholeheartedly

with this kind of deceptive babble. The Red Letter Christians, started by Tony Compolo, Shane Claiborne and Jim Wallis, who also started Sojourners magazine, the Emergent Church, with leaders such as Brian McLaren and Phyllis Tickle... these and so, so many more... all these were begun as opposition to conservative groups such as The Moral Majority. These Leftist groups are unified around some specific areas of Biblical morality: most specifically: abortion and homosexual rights. Rather than call out for abortion and homosexual rights, now including transsexualism, they instead claim to be against what they would term as the 'self-righteous, judgmentalism of the 'Christian Right.' They are proudly the 'Christian Left.' They proudly claim common cause with every aspect of the Left: abortion, homosexuality/transsexualism, racism/white-supremacy, poverty/heavily taxing the rich and middle class, climatism, green energy. The Democrat Party have been able to cobble together all of these competing groups into opposition to the Right, and these Leftist pastors and church leaders have decided that they can do the same thing, that they can fill their churches with people from all these groups while making them believe that they are the real Christians because they care so much about so much while believing that conservative Christians are the ones to whom Jesus will say, 'Depart from Me, I never knew you!'

False pastors and teachers fill their churches, today, with false believers: tares and goats, instead of genuine believers: wheat and sheep. Sometimes it's difficult to tell the difference; when tares first sprout up, they look like little wheat plants. When goats are born, they look like little lambs.

The Great Apostasy speaks of believers falling away from the faith but the reality is that they simply turn away from truth which they had never really embraced in the first place.

A true child of God, one who has placed their faith and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior will be kept safe and secure, in the Faith, by Jesus Christ Himself.

Jesus said, *'All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out. 38 For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. 39 This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day. 40 And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.'* John 6:37

Everlasting Life does not begin when we die or when we are Raptured or when we stand before Jesus Christ after we die; Eternal Life, Everlasting Life began for each child of God the moment we placed our faith and trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Our Salvation is God's work, all God's work from beginning to end. He is the One Who has been responsible for every aspect of our Salvation. He chose and elected us from before Creation; then, at His chosen moment, He revealed Himself to us and drew us to Himself while placing within us the gift of faith to believe and turn to Him, and He is the One Whose responsibility it is to keep us safe and secure in Himself. None of us have ever been 'good enough' to be worthy of Salvation, and none of us could ever be good enough to remain saved. Our only security is in knowing that Jesus Christ's sacrifice on the Cross was sufficient to cover all our sin: past, present and future.

When God gives one Eternal Life, it is life eternal, not probationary life.

When Jesus will say, *'Depart from Me, I never knew you!'* He doesn't say, 'I used to know you.' In the passages of Scripture which speak of someone turning away from the faith, it is describing one who was never really saved in the first place. For example: *'For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, 5 and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, 6 if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame.'* Heb 6:4

This is speaking of one who never really made the commitment, in faith, to truly trust in the Lord Jesus Christ; they liked church life, they liked the social life, the were drawn to the feeling of belonging but they remained lost because their

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cowardly false pastors would not believe and teach the true Gospel of Salvation, the whole Council of God; all they ever heard from the pulpit was love, love, good works, and a social gospel of 'loving and serving the city,' instead of, 'We are sinners, headed for Hell and our only hope is in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the Cross when He took upon Himself the death and punishment we deserved.

John wrote, 'They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but they went out that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us.' 1 John 2:19

A true Believer will be proven by his/her continuing in the Truth of the Faith while a false believer will be proven by his/her falling away from the Truth within the Faith.

And that brings us back to the devilish deception of unity.

A well used form of thought and compromise is called the 'Hegelian Dialectic.' It's simplest form is: 'Thesis: Antithesis: Synthesis.' An idea is expressed, the opposite is expressed and the predetermined compromise is arrived at.

For example: Thesis: The Christians says, 'God's Word says that homosexual behavior is sin; even if it is simply hidden in the heart, it is sin.' Antithesis: the World says, 'No form of fornication is sin; every sexual expression is normal and natural which is why we must teach children, all children, even as young as 3, all that we know or imagine about sex. Synthesis: the Christian then says, 'Maybe the teaching is OK if we wait until they reach Jr. High.'

But then, for the next round, the Christian agrees with the thesis: 'Maybe the teaching is OK if we wait until they reach Junior High; the World's antithesis remains the same: no form of fornication is sin; every sexual expression is normal and

natural which is why we must teach children, all children, even as young as 3, all that we know or imagine about sex while the Christian caves again, saying, the Synthesis is now, 'maybe the teaching is OK if we wait until they reach 2nd Grade.' And so forth, back and forth until the Christians finally acquiesce and agree with the World.

This same Thesis/Antithesis/Synthesis has been used for every area of sin for which the Church has given up the fight: alcohol, drugs, divorce, abortion, homosexuality, movies, cards, gambling, dating, makeup, revealing clothing and every other area of sin or disagreement. The World never compromises upward; the church always compromises downward until many churches, today, are indistinguishable from the World.

Anytime a weak pastor or Christian is caught between the World and God's Word, it seems they will always follow the World while denying the Word of Truth. They will always fear the World's ridicule more than they fear the Lord's correction; they will always crave the World's acceptance more than God's praise and every time they choose the World's praise, it will be far easier the next time to choose the World again and again.

False pastors and teachers seek unity but never unity around the truth of God's Word. They seem to be under the foolish misconception that if a local church body tailors their gatherings to the World and what they are drawn to, they will also be drawn to that church body.

Jesus prayed that we, His Body and Bride, would be in unity.

The leftist organizations I've mentioned as well as the World Council of Churches and the

National Council of Churches famously seek unity but only with those who are theologically and politically liberal, those who specialize in a false gospel of works, a 'social gospel' which is, in fact, no true gospel at all.

Paul wrote: 'Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?— unless indeed you are disqualified.' 2 Cor 13:5

The only way we can always recognize false teachers and their false gospel is by studying and knowing God's Word and His True Gospel, by renewing our minds in God's Word.

Lies succeed when truth is ignored. The value of the gift of God's Word cannot be overstated! The Word of God, alone, is our only plumb line of Truth and our only true unity, in Jesus Christ, is in our common, right understanding of the truth of His Word and in our shared Eternal Life in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Unity founded upon viewing certain sins as acceptable and good, sins centering on sexual deviancy and on the murder of unwanted children who are the result of sexual sin, is a unity that promises to take all who seek it, and all who embrace it, to eternity in Hell.

Jesus answered, "You say *rightly* that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth.

Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice." John 18:37

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. 2 Tim 2:15 (and rightly unifying around the same Word of Truth.)

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The Harvest is Great, but the laborers are few. *Matt 9:38*

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