



The Voice Of Truth

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Hate Every False Way

By Jimmy Pettigrew

Should we be upset, disturbed, worried when we hear churches of Christ not following God's pattern? Do you hate to hear of these brethren teaching false doctrine? Does it break your heart? Do you grieve? I have had some brethren tell me NO! Jeremiah's heart was broken within him because of the false prophets. "Mine heart within me is broken because of the prophets: all my bones shake, I am like a drunken man . . .," (Jeremiah 23:9). He was shocked and saddened by the corruption within the nation of Judah. His heart ...is broken...all my bones shake; I am like a drunken man. Why is the prophet so deeply disturbed; why is he overcome by grief? It is because of his reverence for Jehovah, and his respect for the word of God which he hears reviled and rejected even among the priests and prophets of the land.

We as God's children should "hate every false way," (Psalm 119:104). God hates every false way, and we can see this from Genesis 6:3-8 and Revelation 2:6. It should upset, disturb and grieve us when we hear false doctrine being taught!

We are to expose error! We must be active in opposing, exposing and reprovng it (Ephesians 5:10-11; John 3:20; Romans 16:17-18; 1 John 4:1). Don't we have the same respect and reverence for God's word as Jeremiah? Does it not bother you to see Christ's body, the church (Ephesians 1:22-23), which He purchased with His own blood (Acts 20:28) nothing more than a denomination?

One day, brethren, we are going to stand before the judgment seat of Christ (2 Corinthians 5:10), and one of the things Christ is going to ask is: did we oppose those who were in error? (Jude 3).

Just a Matter of Wanting To!

A man can get out of bed at three o'clock on Saturday morning to go fishing, but when you talk to him about Sunday morning Bible class, he can't get up that early on Sunday!

WHY THE DIFFERENCE???

A man can go a hundred miles on Friday night to a ball game, but is too tired to get out for worship on Sunday and Wednesday nights!

WHY THE DIFFERENCE???

A man can take his family to a circus and spend considerable money, but can't afford to give more than a dollar to the Lord!

WHY THE DIFFERENCE???

A Man can be on the membership committee at the civil club but cannot make the right approach when asked to do personal work for the Lord!

WHY THE DIFFERENCE???

A man can take an aspirin and go to work despite an annoying headache, but a similar headache is considered a good reason for missing the worship!

WHY THE DIFFERENCE???

Praise The Lord! By Jimmy Pettigrew

“O praise the Lord, all ye nations: praise him all ye people (Psalm 117:1). The Christian enjoys the opportunity to assemble with brothers and sisters in Christ and worship God by singing praises to our Maker. What a privilege it is to worship God in this way. One can hardly help wonder how many Christians give thought to the songs they sing during worship.

The purpose of worship is to give something to God. It may be asked how we can give God anything when singing? “By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name” (Hebrews 13:15). When we worship, we give God homage, adoration, devotion, praise, love and services. The fact that people do not understand this explains why we have churches worshipping God with instrumental music. God hastens the day when we come to realize that every act of worship is designed to give us the opportunity to give God something. It’s not to have the denominational concept that the primary purpose of worship is for us to **GET** something out of worship.

“Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord” (Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16). What are these verses telling us? One thing they are saying is, I sing to you while you sing to me and vice versa. The church itself is to sing. Yes, each saint who is a member of a local congregation has the obligation to sing! No one can do this worshipping for you! We all are commanded to sing; it is your responsibility. Whenever God stipulates for a certain activity to be done by each saint in the assembly, He means for it to be done by each saint! This is why chorus groups, quartets and other special singing groups are proven to be **UNSCRIPTURAL!**

If one changes the reason for singing from teaching, admonishing, and giving homage to entertainment, he is practicing vain worship (Matthew 15:9).

One of the purposes of singing is to express our love to God! Why? The fact that we are saved by the blood of the Lamb! No one can do this for us!

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

Hear and Learn - Rom. 10:17; John 6:45; 17:3

Believe - Heb. 11:6; John 6:29; 8:24

Repent - Luke 13:3; Acts 3:19; 17:30

Confess the Lord - Matt. 10:32-33; Rom. 10:9-10

Be Baptized - Mark 16:16; Acts 22:16; Gal. 3:26-27; 1 Pet. 3:21

Continue in the Apostles' Teaching - Acts 2:42; 2 Tim. 3:14-17