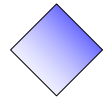


# The Voice of Truth



February 2, 2014

## "The Law Was Lost" By Jimmy Pettigrew

In **2 Kings 22** and **2 Chronicles 34**, King Josiah discovered the book of the law. He gathered the people together and "Read in their ears all the words of the book of the covenant that was found in the house of Jehovah" (**2 Chronicles 34:30**). The King made a promise to keep all of God's commandments. The law of the Lord was lost but now found in the temple.

A much needed lesson today is for men to realize that the law of God can be **REDISCOVERED** but not **REVISED**! God's laws have long been settled (**Psalm 119:89**). "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass way" (**Matthew 24:35**). "...The scripture cannot be broken" (**John 10:35**). Thus, man does not have the God-given liberty to tamper with them (**Revelation 22:18-19**).

The law of God is currently lost in many churches of Christ. How?

**1)** Mechanical instruments of music are allowed in the worship of the living God. **IT IS NOT AUTHORIZED** in worship taught in the New Testament (**Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16**). You will note that the action commanded is **"SINGING"**. Not only is it specified as singing, but the things accomplished by the singing are named. The instrument can never **"TEACH," "ADMONISH,"** or **"SPEAK"**. In our worship we should strive to please God, not ourselves. And that means worshipping as He directs.

**2)** By accepting Denominational baptism. It is impossible for one to hear another gospel; the words of God mingled with the doctrines of men, and of it obtain the one faith (**Ephesians 4:5**). Baptism is for the remission of sins (**Acts 2:38**), Paul was commanded to wash away his sins by submitting to baptism (**Acts 22:16**), that gets one into Christ (**Galatians 3:27**), that gets one into the body of Christ (**1 Corinthians 12:13**), which is the church (**Ephesians 1:22-23**), the one church (**Ephesians 4:4**), where we are reconciled back to God (**Ephesians 2:16**), where Christ is the head and the Savior (**Ephesians 5:23**).

"If one is taught error on a dozen matters, and yet that religious group baptizes for the remission of sins, is the person, 'added to the Lord's church' at the same time he takes up membership in the particular denomination he's joining?" Related to this is the fact that in the preaching of the gospel, things of the kingdom are to be proclaimed (**Acts 8:12**). But, if one is taught a dozen errors regarding the kingdom, is his baptism somehow still proper in the sight of God? **I THINK NOT!** You cannot be taught incorrectly and baptized correctly. Nor can you do something for the wrong reason and get the right results.

**3)** Saying denominations have New Testament Christians within their ranks and should be fellowshiped. First division has always been condemned by God. The very word **DENOMINATION** means a named or designated division. But this is in direct conflict with Jesus' prayer (**John 17:22**). Unity was God's aim and His desire. Likewise, denominationalism is in direct conflict with Paul's statement to the church of Christ in Corinth (**1 Corinthians 1:10**). Here is a passage that says denominations are not even to exist. The Bible clearly reveals that division is condemned by the Judge of this universe.

False doctrine is also condemned by God (**Romans 16:17-18**). John also spoke the words of God when he warned us that, "*Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: for he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds*" (**2 John 9-11**). Division is condemned, false doctrine is condemned, those that teach these false doctrines are to be rejected (**Titus 3:10-11**) and not fellowshiped (**Ephesians 5:11**). So where does this leave the "Denominations"? I think the answer is plain to all.

The churches which practice and believe these things and many other far off ideas have lost the **"LAW"!** ♦

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## “Getting Angry At The Wrong Things”

By Jarrod Jacobs

The population of man has typically shown themselves to think in exactly the opposite manner as God (**Isa. 5:20-23**). Truly, His ways are higher than man’s (**Isa. 55:8-9**). It is not in man that walks to direct his steps (**Jer. 10:23**). At the same time, it is possible for us to know God’s will and act upon it when we read and obey the word of God (**Phil. 4:8-9**)!

Seeing that man, on his own, tends to think in the opposite manner as God, it should be no surprise that man would get angry at the wrong things as well. Often, the things which anger God do not anger man, and vice versa. Please consider the following examples:

### David Got Angry At The Wrong Thing.

David got angry when Nathan spoke the parable of the man’s ewe lamb that was killed (**II Sam. 12:1-6**). After having been told about the selfishness of the rich man and his actions in killing the poor man’s lamb, David responded by saying, “*As the LORD liveth, the man that hath done this thing shall surely die: And he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity*” (**v. 6**). David got angry when told about the rich man’s actions. He was ready for vengeance as well as restitution after hearing this parable. Yet, when told of the death of an actual *person*, not a lamb in a parable, his response to Joab was, “*Let not this thing displease thee, for the sword devoureth one as well as another: make thy battle more strong against the city, and overthrow it: and encourage thou him*” (**II Sam. 11:25**).

Why? How can this be? David looked upon the death of Uriah his friend, one of his “*mighty men*” (**II Sam. 23:22-39**) in his army as nothing, but is enraged at the death of a lamb?

### Jonah Got Angry At The Wrong Things.

Jonah had a similar problem as David. After finally obeying God and preaching in Nineveh, the people obeyed the word of God (**Jonah 3**). When they obeyed, Jonah became very angry (**Jonah 4:1**). He pleaded with God to take his life, but God did not do it, so he went to the east side of the city to watch the events in town (**Jonah 4:5**).

While there, God prepared a gourd to give him shade from the sun, and then prepared a worm to harm the gourd, so that it died (**Jonah 4:7**). After this, Jonah got

angry again, and begged God to let him die (**Jonah 4:8-9**).

Why? How can this be? How can Jonah be more “wrapped up” in a gourd than in a people once lost who have now repented and were spared by God?

### Judas Got Angry At The Wrong Thing.

When Mary took a box of ointment and anointed Christ before His crucifixion and burial, we see the disciples, and namely Judas, being upset and angry at this event (**Matt. 26:8-9; Mk. 14:4; Jn. 12:4-5**). His reasoning was this could have been sold and given to the poor. John says that the real reason was that he wanted the money since he “*had the bag*” and would steal out of it (**Jn. 12:6**).

Why? How can this be? How could Judas have been upset when a wonderful sacrifice occurred in preparation for the Lord’s burial (**Matt. 26:12-13; Mk. 14:8-9; Jn. 12:7**)?

### Scribes, Pharisees, The Nazarenes, And Others Were Angry At The Wrong Things.

When Christ was upon this earth, we find that when He spoke, some folks would become angry with Him. The scribes, Pharisees, and even folks in the city of Nazareth became angry when Jesus spoke words that they didn’t like (**Lk. 6:11, 4:16-28**). In these, and other cases, we see Jesus speaking the truth to folks. Yet, when the truth did not fit what they wanted to do, then the people became angry at Jesus.

Why? How can this be? When so many people would love to hear the words of Christ as they were spoken from His mouth, how could these people become angry when they heard those words?

### Men Today Get Angry At The Wrong Things.

In addition to the above examples, we could add more examples of folks getting angry at the wrong things, could we not? In like manner, we today can become angry for the wrong reasons if we are not careful. For example, when some acquire a disease like cancer, heart disease, etc., some men have a tendency to blame God. “Why did God allow this to happen?” “Why do bad things happen on this earth to good people?” are questions men often ask

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when faced with diseases and other hardships. Some may even lose their faith over events like this. In reality, those folks are angry at the wrong One. Disease and death came into this world as a consequence of sin (**Gen. 3:16-19**). Sin came into the world because men listened to Satan rather than God (**Gen. 3:6**). Thus, folks who are angry at God over disease and death are angry at the wrong One!

### Why Do People Get Angry At The Wrong Things?

While I am not able to list every reason why people get angry at the wrong things, I believe we can see a "theme" in the Bible examples we noted above. Please notice that in every case, the anger expressed was based upon a selfish motive.

In the case of David, his selfishness motivated him to hide the truth and mislead a nation as well as arrange for Uriah's execution (**II Sam. 11**). When Nathan spoke a parable that seemed to not be centered around David, he got angry at the injustice. In other words, he refused to acknowledge his own sin, and thus when his plan for killing Uriah succeeded, he was not upset nor angry about that at all. See how this is backwards? He should have repented for his sin of adultery, his sin of murder, lying and trying to hide the truth about who the father of Bathsheba's baby was, coveting his neighbor's wife, and stealing a man's wife (**Ex. 20:13-17**). Instead, he sought to hide those sins, and became angry over a lamb! See how his thinking was messed up?

The case of Jonah was very much the same. He did not want to preach to the Ninevites because he knew God would forgive them (**Jonah 4:2**). The gourd provided shade and relief for him (**Jonah 4:6**). Therefore, when it was

gone, he was angry. His selfishness found joy in something meant for him, but he could not see his way clear to being happy for a city of people who were spared and forgiven of their sin (**Jonah 4:10-11**).

Judas was this way as well. His anger stemmed from the fact that he wanted the money for himself! He did not see why the ointment ought to be used in the manner it was when he could have taken the money and used it for his own purposes! Again, selfishness clouds man's judgment, and this is just another example. Should he not have been repenting of his actions and asking for forgiveness? Instead, he was mad at Mary.

Instead of being happy to be able to hear the truth preached from the mouth of Christ, the ruling class of Jews became angry with Christ! They did not want to change. They did not want to live as the Lord said to live. Therefore, instead of humbling themselves and following the Lord, in their selfish pride they castigated Christ! They were angry with the Lord and sought for an opportunity to kill Him until they finally succeeded!

### Conclusion

Friend, there is no question that there are times when we get angry. Let us make sure we are like the Lord and are angry for the right reasons. Let us also express our anger in the right way (**Eph. 4:26-27**)! When we are confronted with our sin, then let us not get angry about it, but humble ourselves and repent. Let us not allow pride and selfishness to blind us to the truth as others did. Yes, when angry, it is hard to control our emotions and actions, but it must be done if we are to be followers of Christ. No one said being a Christian would be easy, but it is the best! *Credit: The Old Paths - 4/24/11* ♦

## THINK! THINK! THINK!

Most people believe in life after death, and the majority of these believe that they are destined to enjoy the pleasures of heaven. There is, however, something that should worry those people. **Hebrews 9:27** declares, "It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment." Voltaire, the noted French atheist, spent his life lecturing and writing about his disbelief in the almighty, yet is quoted as saying with his final breath, "Oh, God, if there is a God, have pity on my soul, if I have a soul." The term "judgment" as introduced in the scripture means that there is going to be a dividing of one group of people from the other. It is easy to decide that one group pleases God while the other does not please him. Therefore, those who please are separated from those who do not.

-Borrowed- ♦

Sin will take you farther than you  
Ever wanted to go.  
Keep you longer than you ever wanted  
To stay and cost you  
More than you ever wanted to pay. ♦

## The church of Christ

**Has:**

- One Builder – Jesus Christ (**Matt. 16:18; Eph. 3:9-11**)
- One Purchaser – Jesus Christ (**Acts 20:28**)
- One Head – Jesus Christ (**Eph. 1:22-23**)
- One Savior – Jesus Christ (**Eph. 5:23**)
- One destiny – eternal salvation (**Eph. 5:23**)

**IS:**

- The spiritual body of Christ (**Eph. 1:22-23; 5:23**)
- The kingdom of Christ (**Matt. 16:18-19; Heb. 12:28**)
- The depository of those saved (**Acts 2:47**)
- One body, not many bodies (**Eph. 4:4; 1:22-23**)
- One way to be added to the church:
- One must believeth that Christ is the Son of God (**Jno. 8:24**)
- One must repent of sins (**Lk. 13:3**)
- One must confess that Christ is the Son of God (**Rom. 10:9-10**)
- One must be baptized into Christ (**Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38; Gal. 3:26-27**) ♦

### SUPPOSE - JUST SUPPOSE

Yes, just suppose that next Sunday Jesus stood at the end of the pew where you sit as you were about to place your offering in the collection plate, and just suppose that instead of the collection plate, he held out his hand, the hand that was nailed to the cross for you. Would you be willing to place your offering in that nail pierced hand?

Could you look upon that face stained with blood from the thorn pricked brow; see the body that was beaten and placed upon the cross, could you do this, look him in the eye and say, *“Lord I’m giving all I can”*?

Suppose as you looked upon Jesus, with the torn hands and feet, the beaten body, the pierced side and head crowned with thorns, he said to you, *This is how I showed my love to love.* ♦

### What Must I Do To Be Saved?

**Hear and Learn** - Rom. 10:17 m. 10:9-10 ; 1 Pet. 3:21 ; 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; Romans 10:9-10; 1 Pet. 3:21

**Be Baptized** - Mark 16:16; Acts 22:16; Gal. 3:26-27

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

### About the Hillcrest church of Christ

**Evangelist: Jimmy Pettigrew**

How to Contact Us	Our Address	Schedule of Assembly
<p><b>Telephone:</b> (920)499-5677  <b>E-mail:</b> hillcrestcofc@live.com</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> </div>	<p>1621 Hillcrest Drive Green Bay, WI 54313</p>	<p><b>Bible Study:</b> Sunday, 9:00am  <b>Worship Service:</b> Sunday, 10:00am  <b>Bible Study:</b> Wednesday, 7:00pm*</p> <p style="font-size: small; text-align: right;">*A song service is held on the last Wednesday of every month</p>