

Biblical Christianity vs. Respectable Christianity

Read 2 Timothy 4:1-5

The word must be preached, or people will be turned aside to false doctrine and their own lusts.

1 Timothy 4:1-3,

Compromise, False Doctrine, and Fence Riding Christianity Characterizes the Last Church

1. Paul's Warnings to the Church (60% of Paul's warnings have to do with doctrinal issues)
2. Lukewarm Christianity (Revelation 3)
3. Life of Paul – Compromised for the sake of the unity of the church; this caused his arrest that brought him to his death in Rome.

- Comparing yourselves among yourselves (2 Corinthians 10:12) vs comparing yourselves with scripture.
- Antipas (Revelation 2:13) means "against all"
- Pharaoh wanted Israel to compromise in Egypt

I. Definition of Terms

Biblical Christianity:

- It is a biblically founded and biblically based, word based Christianity (Ephesians 2:20)
- It believes **ALL** of the Bible (Acts 24:14)
- It holds the Bible (the written revelation) as the final authority (2 Peter 1:16-21, Psalm 138:2, John 12:48)
- It is despised by the world and respectable Christianity
- It preaches the positive and the negative of the word of God (Jeremiah 25:4-5, John, Jesus)
This is what God's prophets preached: Moses' blessings and cursings' (Deuteronomy 28)
- It believes in all the fundamental doctrines taught in the Bible
- It has always been the minority
- It has always been persecuted and spoken against and borne reproach
- It partakes of Christ's sufferings (Philippians 1:29, Philippians 3:1-14)

Respectable Christianity:

- It is a compromised, undecided, fence riding Christianity (Revelation 3)
- Not entirely biblically based, but partially (Like the Pharisees who had not inspired tradition who would teach doctrines of men – Matthew 15:1-9)
- It believes **SOME** of the Bible (It approaches the Bible like a Chinese Buffet: take what you like and leave what you don't like)
- It is friendly with the world
- It is despised by Biblical Christianity

- It preaches only the positive of the word of God and waters down the negative and shies away from it (this is what the false prophets of the Old Testament did – Ezekiel 13:10, Jeremiah 6:13-14, 23:17, 2 Peter 2:18)
- It has a form of godliness but denies the power thereof
- It is accepted by the world
- It is the majority
- Not often persecuted, spoken against, nor often mocked
- Not often suffers shame and reproach for Christ

Why do Respectable Christians despise Biblical Christians?

You might ask why would Respectable Christianity despise Biblical Christianity since it is following in the footsteps of all the prophets, John the Baptist, the apostles, and Jesus Christ himself? Because their Jesus is another Jesus, and their gospel is another gospel, and their spirit is another spirit. The Jesus of the Bible is contrary to what the majority of Christians think he was and is! When you tell them when Jesus Christ comes back he will make war and slay thousands and thousands of people, they flip out! But that is what the Scriptures say. The Jesus of the Bible was a Man not a woman! People said he was like John the Baptist or Elijah who were hard preachers! They did not say he was like a Joel Osteen or Joyce Myers. You see Respectable Christianity is making a Jesus in their own image because they don't like the Jesus of the Holy Bible, just like they don't like the LORD God of hosts of the Bible, so what do they do? They change his words, and doctrines, and precepts, to make God into whatever they want him to be. This is wickedness and idolatry! It is just as bad as making a graven image and bowing down and worshipping it! Make sure my friend that you are conforming to the image of his Son according to God's word, and not conforming to the image of God's son according to your deceitful heart and imagination. They don't like the God of the Bible.

Why do people become Respectable Christians?

Because there is no reproach, or suffering, or tarnishing of one's reputation associated with being a respectable Christian. The temptation to compromise and be friendly with the world is great because if you adopt a respectable Christianity, all the persecution, suffering, reproach bearing, name-calling, and shame ceases to exist. That's the temptation. That's what happens. People don't want to go without the camp and bear his reproach. It is a tuff thing to do, but it is worth it and he'll reward you for it.

Respectable Christianity and the World: Using each other to alibi their sins

The world uses Respectable Christianity to justify itself and Respectable Christianity uses the world to justify itself. Here is what I mean by that.

The world will tell the Biblical Christian, "my church doesn't do what you're doing," "keep it in the church [building]," "you are going about it the wrong way," "get an education," etc. They will point to Christianity and say, you see, [Respectable] Christians don't believe, act, or speak the way you do. They'll say, "Well I'm a Christian too and I think" and they never quote Scripture to back up what they are saying but give their useless vain opinion. The world looks to

Respectable Christianity in order to justify their continued unbelief and ignorance of the truth of the word of God, and boy is their crutch that they lean on getting bigger and bigger!

Respectable Christianity looks to the world in order to conform more to the world's image in order to win them to their Jesus, in other words, do evil that good may come (Romans 3:8). They will look at statistics and look at worldly sayings and compromise and alter biblical doctrines and the biblical way to evangelize "to be relevant" and "to reach a particular age group and culture" by changing or altering or diminishing the truth, God's word. This is exactly what respectable Christianity does.

But Christians, that is Respectable Christians, look to the world to justify their unbiblical and unholy ways of doing things. Kids like wicked music (rock, rap, etc) so let's include that in our worship to bring them in and tell them about our Jesus. The world likes wild parties and rock concerts; let's have a "rave for Jesus" and "rock out for Jesus" (believe me they do it)! The world likes entertainment, let's put on shows, and skits, and plays, and dances that we might bring them in and tell them about our Jesus. The world doesn't like preaching, so let us water down our preaching, let us compromise our message, let us only preach for 15 minutes and have a rock show for 30 minutes, that we might bring them in and tell them about our Jesus – we don't want offend anybody. That is what they do! Respectable Christianity compromises so it can conform more to the world and be reduced to its likeness for the sake of reaching the world.

It's an unholy alliance, the world and Respectable Christianity; they both use one another to justify their sins. And they always use one or two verses that they don't understand and think they are proving a point. How about this one, "the Bible says not to judge anybody," or "God is love" etc. The Bible does say the saints can judge and if we are simply quoting the Scriptures, we are not speaking but the oracles of God are speaking. That is what a preacher is to do, if any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God (1 Peter 4:11). When a man is simply preaching God's word, it is powerful and reveals the thoughts and intents of the heart (Hebrews 4:12). That's what people don't like, it reveals who they really are, and most of them are haters of God and love not the truth (You don't believe me preach in a public place).

And they'll say "God is love" and you are preaching hate and condemning people. They forget that we are preaching what the Bible plainly says and that book will manifest what is in your heart. They forget that charity rejoiceth not in iniquity but rejoiceth in the truth (1 Corinthians 13:6). True love doesn't rejoice in sin. The world and Respectable Christianity's definition of love is an unbiblical one, as usual. The world and Respectable Christianity's definition of anything related to God, Jesus, and the Faith is an unbiblical one, as usual.

Read ***Churches Condemn the Apostle Paul***

Where do you fall? Under Biblical Christianity or Respectable Christianity.