

I could go on and on and mention many other things. Actually books could be written about this subject. However, the point is obvious: there are innumerable ungodly things taking place in churches today.

Reason 8—HEBREWS 13:12,13 IS CLEAR. The writer to the Hebrews is exhorting the Hebrew Christians to make a clean break with Judaism. We might say, Judiasm was the religious establishment of their day and the religion which these people were identified with before they were saved. The point the writer of Hebrews is making is that they should make a clean break with their former religious affiliation because it is not true to Christ. The application is obvious: we should make a clean break with any religion which is not true to Christ even if it is the church to which we belong. Being true to Christ means separating ourselves from religion that is not true to Him. We ought to be willing to endure reproach for Him.

A pastor in a liberal denomination mentioned that he knows he should withdraw from the liberal denomination of which he is a member and supporter. However, he said he would not do it because he could not keep his pension if he did.

There are scores of people in liberal and modernistic churches because they are unwilling to bear reproach for Christ.

Reason 9—ELIJAH WAS SEPARATED. Let's not forget that this spiritual giant did not compromise with the corrupt religious system of his day. Elijah separated himself from the religious system that was contrary to the Word of God (I Kings 18).

Reason 10—WE CANNOT OBEY PROVERBS 22:6 IN A LIBERAL CHURCH. It is the responsibility of parents to make sure their children are in a Christ-honoring, Bible-believing, New Testament Church. Proverbs 22:6 cannot be obeyed in its entirety apart from a sound local church.

Reason 11—ALTHOUGH DISOBEDIENCE IS COMMON, THAT DOESN'T MAKE IT RIGHT. While talking to a Gospel singer this subject came up. The singer made it a habit to "perform" in some outright liberal churches. His thinking was that in so doing he was not compromising his message. As I mentioned to him, "The question is not compromising your message, as I am sure you do not; but it is a question of endorsing and putting your stamp of approval upon a church that is not true to the Bible nor the Lord Jesus Christ." The singer's purpose was not to expose the liberal churches he was going into; but

rather, to promote them and actually build them up and add people to them.

No singer or preacher or anybody else has a right to build up or promote that which the Bible condemns. It may be good for the pocketbook, but it is not good for the cause of Christ. In fact, this is why so many of God's people are totally confused about this subject. Sad to say, there has been a lot of disobedience in this area.

Reason 12—WE ARE OBLIGATED UNDER SCRIPTURE TO STAND WITH THE FAITHFUL FEW. (Genesis 6-7; I Kings 18; Jude; II Peter; Revelation 2:8-11; 18:4—please read and study)

Reason 13—FALSE DOCTRINE IS DEMONIC. One of the main thrusts of demons (Satan's helpers) is to promote false doctrine (I Tim. 4:1-2). Anyone who lends support to churches that are not true to the Bible are engaged, many times unknowingly, in actual support of the devil's program in this world.

Demons love to promote morality, religion, and false doctrine of one sort or another. (Never get the mistaken idea that the devil is only interested in promoting immorality. He is out to damn people to Hell. One of his easiest ways to do this is through religion!) We must never forget that Satan and his demons love to appear as angels of light (II Cor. 11:14). They also like to quote the Bible (Matt. 4).

In fact, the most likely place to find a demon is behind a pulpit!

Any person who supports a church or pastor who advocates salvation by: good deeds, church membership, baptism, taking communion, sacraments, being good, sincerity, morality, etc. is supporting the devil's program in this world (I Tim. 1-2; II Cor. 11:13-15).

Are you supporting and promoting the devil's program???

Reason 14—IT IS THE RIGHT AND PROPER THING TO DO. Why leave a liberal or Modernistic Church or a church that is not true to the Bible and join a fundamental, Bible-believing, Christ-honoring local New Testament Church? Because in the light of scripture it is the right and proper thing to do.

CONCLUSION: I am not saying that fundamental, Bible-believing churches are perfect churches. According to the Bible, even the New Testament Churches were not perfect. However, the local New Testament Church according to I Timothy 3:15 is the pillar and ground of the truth. My friend, you ought to unite with and actively and faithfully support that which God's Word refers to as the pillar and ground of the truth.

If you are a member of a church that is not true to the Bible, leave it without delay, depart from it, withdraw, abandon it immediately and unite with a Bible-believing, Christ-honoring church.

This publication is distributed by the following fundamental, Bible-believing, Christ-honoring church:

GARDEN STATE BAPTIST CHURCH
Fifth Street
Old Bridge, New Jersey 08857
"Just Minutes Away!"
Sunday Services: 10:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M.
Phone: 251-4232

Other publications available: (1)—*The Importance Of The Local Church* (2)—*Where Should You Give Your Tithe?* (3)—*Whatever Happened To That Christ-like Spirit In Our Local Churches?* (4)—*Amazing Local Church Revivals In Direct Answer To Prayer!* (5)—*Every Member Evangelism!*

Evangelist Jim Gent

***Why Should A Born-Again
Believer Leave A Church
That Is Liberal,
Modernistic, Or Not True
To The Bible?***

Why Should A Born-Again Believer Leave A Church That Is Liberal, Modernistic, Or Not True To The Bible?

Reason 1—BECAUSE OF THE CLEAR TEACHING OF THE BIBLE. The local church is referred to specifically 91 times in the New Testament. It is clearly God's will for a believer to be identified with, not just any local church, but a Bible-believing, fundamental, New Testament church.

Reason 2—OUR MONEY IS TO SUPPORT GOD'S WORK, NOT THE DEVIL'S. If a person is a member of a liberal or modernistic church, or a church that is not true to the Bible, that person is actually supporting the Devil's program, according to II Cor. 11:13-15. Certainly it is not God's will for God's people to support the Devil's program! However, many people are doing that very thing.

Reason 3—THE BIBLE EMPHATICALLY TEACHES SEPARATION FROM RELIGIOUS HERESY. It is our God-given responsibility to separate from false doctrine. II John 7-11 and Romans 16:17 are clear even to the casual reader.

Reason 4—THE APOSTLE PAUL DID NOT ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO GO TO THE SYNAGOGUE OF THEIR CHOICE. I can hear someone saying: "Didn't Paul preach in the synagogue?" The implication is that if the Apostle Paul was living today he would recommend people to stay in churches that are not true to the Bible.

As we study the Word of God, we learn that the Apostle Paul never sought to add converts to a system of error (synagogues), but to call sinners (religious sinners at that) to repentance and separation from error. To say that the Apostle Paul supported the concept of staying in unsound churches because he preached in certain synagogues is to misconstrue the clear teaching of the Bible, and especially the Book of Acts. The record is clear, Paul was not an ecumenical evangelist nor did he recommend converts to stay in the synagogue of their choice. Don't forget some members of the synagogues actually tried to murder Paul!

Reason 5—BELIEVERS ARE NOT TO BE YOKED WITH UNBELIEVERS. God's people are to be kind and forgiving (Eph. 4:32). However, when it comes to God's work, the Bible is plain and clear, believers are not to be united with unbelievers (II Cor. 6:14).

Reason 6—CHURCHES, RELIGIOUS ESTABLISHMENTS, AND DENOMINATIONS ARE NOT ALWAYS TRUE TO CHRIST. The religious establishment of Jesus' day thoroughly rejected Him (John 8:33,40,44,49,55; Matthew 23:13,33). There are several denominations today that are just as much in danger of the damnation of Hell as the religious establishments of Jesus day.

A Sad Comment. . .

A leading minister stated openly: "In our denomination what you call the Faith of Our Fathers is approaching total extinction. Of course, a few of the older ministers still cling to the Bible. But among the younger men, the real leaders of our denomination today, I do not know of a single one who believes in Christ, or any of the things that you classify as fundamentals."

World Council of Churches Against Gospel. . .

According to published reports financed by the World Council of Churches, missionary work is to be opposed because through Gospel work some tribes give up witchcraft, fighting, and drunkenness. They refer to such change as "irreversible disintegration of Ameridian peoples" and expressed strong opposition to Gospel work in foreign lands.

Homosexuals And Lesbians Being Ordained. . .

The new lesbian Episcopal priest who was recently ordained by Bishop Paul Moore in Manhattan had her picture in *TIME MAGAZINE* for January 24, 1977: "Barrett, who has been studying for a doctorate in social ethics at the graduate theological union in Berkley, goes somewhat beyond 'homosexual tendencies.' She said candidly that her relationship with her lesbian lover is 'what feeds the strength and compassion I bring to the ministry.' She also believes that 'homosexuality is an alternative life style that can be a good and creative thing.'"

Infidels In The Pulpit. . .

In a survey made of 500 pastors, they were asked if they believed the Genesis account of creation:

47% said they did, 5% were uncertain and 48% did not!

The same question was asked of 200 theological students (future "preachers" of America):

5% said they did, 6% were uncertain, and 89% DID NOT!

Many Clergymen Do Not Believe In Hell. . .

Mr. Warren Herring of the *News Free Press* in Chattanooga, Tennessee, wrote a very thought provoking article entitled "What Has Happened To Hell?" In this article he asked three questions: (1) Is Hell a literal place of eternal punishment, and if so, why are preachers neglecting the subject? (2) Is hell too controversial for the average preacher today? (3) Do congregations and parishoners squirm when preachers preach on Hell-fire and brimstone?

He went to a number of different congregations in the city of Chattanooga and put certain preachers on the spot as to what they believed about the place called Hell.

The first church this man visited was the Unitarian Universalist church pastored by a Rev. John Wilkerson. He asked, "Mr. Wilkerson, what do you believe about the doctrine of Hell?" He said, "Well, I think Hell is a time of purification, I think it is a time of cleaning when all things that are offensive to God in our lives are cleansed. Then we will come back to the earth. We will be reincarnated."

He went to a second clergyman, Rabbi Lloyd Goldman. He asked the rabbi, "Rabbi, what do you believe about the place called Hell?" He said, "Well, Sir, I think it is a state of being. I think Hell is right here now. I believe Hell is on this earth."

Again Mr. Herring visited with Pastor H. H. Battle of the First Baptist Church. He said, "Sir, what do you believe about Hell?" He Said, "Sir, I cannot accept the fact that Hell is a place. I believe Hell is where the absence of God is felt."

Lutherans. . .

"44% of Lutherans believe that salvation depends upon being sincere in whatever you believe." *A Christian Handbook of Vital Issues* (New Haven: Leader, 1973) p. 369.

United Methodists. . .

This denomination does not have a single theological seminary that could be considered Bible-believing or even evangelical. *The Battle For The Bible* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan; 1976), 153.

"It is informative to note that the United Methodists put reason, experience, and tradition on the same level as the Bible as sources of theological and doctrinal truth. *About Being United Methodists* (Greenfield: Bete; 1978), p. 5.

United Presbyterians. . .

Scores of Presbyterian ministers do not believe the Bible to be trustworthy. *The Battle For The Bible* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan; 1976) pp. 149-152.

Baptist Seminary President Dedicates Brewery. . .

In 1970, Dr. Randall Lolley, the president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, had the dedicatory prayer at the opening of the Joseph P. Schlitz Brewing Company plant, THE LARGEST BREWERY IN THE WORLD. The following are remarks made by the Chamber of Commerce President, Norwood Robinson, at the dedication of the Brewery:

"I would like to say to you, Sir, in the same vein, that I think you have accomplished a great feat here today. It is my understanding that the beer consumption in the state of North Carolina is the lowest of any state in the Union per capita. It is further my understanding that we here today have the largest beer manufacturing plant in the world. Now, Sir, you were wise in selecting my Baptist friend, Dr. Randall Lolley, to come up here and pronounce the invocation. (Applause). I suggest to you that most of those people back there whom you couldn't get to sit down were Baptist. (Applause). And we are going to correct this consumption situation. Pete Hearn and I are working on it just as hard as we can."

The following is the prayer at the dedication of the brewery:

"Dear Lord, we thank thee today that Thou hast made us so that we can enjoy new beginnings and that we can participate in dedications and make commitments and enjoy new, fresh relationships. Our hearts tell us that industry is people, so we thank Thee, living God, for the persons who have been plunged into the life and fabric, the process of living and deciding and being in our community. We thank thee for them and their families. We thank, thee, O God, for influences that shall be engendered and the relationships that shall be enjoyed because of new friends from this plant and this industry moving into our community. God grant to them all the resources, wisdom and skill that shall be demanded of that industry and give them, O God, Thy presence and Thy peace and give us all the fruits of this day of dedication and the relationships and commitments that shall ensue to us all from it. In the strong name of the Lord we pray. Amen."

Reason 7—SOME CHURCHES ARE NOT ONLY UNBIBLICAL, BUT WICKED. A protestant clergyman began the God Is Dead Movement. Strip tease performances have taken place in some churches. Beer and Bingo is par for the course among scores of "religious people." Some churches are simply glorified Las Vegas joints!

A treasurer of a certain church told me recently that his minister receives a delivery of liquor from the local liquor store each Saturday night and charges it to the church!