

WORDS OF TRUTH

A Weekly Bulletin for the Sunrise Acres church of Christ

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Sunrise Acres CHURCH OF CHRIST

Meeting at:
8625 Robert Drive
El Paso, TX 79904

915-525-5794

OUR MEETING TIMES:

Sunday Bible Class: 9:45 AM
Sunday Worship: 10:55 AM

Are You Visiting With Us?

If you are visiting with us, we want to welcome you to the Lord's church (Matthew 16:18 and Colossians 1:18). Our goal is to simply get to Heaven and to help you do the same. We use the Bible as our standard to govern what we do in our work and worship for the Lord (Colossians 3:17, II Timothy 1:13, II Timothy 3:16-17, and I Peter 4:11).

We welcome your questions and would love the opportunity to study further with you. Luke recorded a fascinating statement we all need to consider: *"Then said one unto him, Lord, are there few that be saved? And he said unto them, strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able"* (Luke 13:23-24). We invite you to join us in being one of the few that are saved!

All Fired Up About Politics, But Cool With Error

By: Brian A. Yeager

Nearly every day I get an email from some brother or sister in Christ about what Obama has done today or what the democrats have said. (I am not a democrat nor do I support Barak Obama, so this article is not in defense of him or any agenda this worldly man has to offer.) On one particular day I received an email from a man who is a "weak Christian" if anything at all. He was ranting on about how Obama is ruining the economy, diminishing our countries morals, etc. In two sentences he wrote: "This man is going to tear apart the UNITED States of America with his ultra-liberal agenda which I fully hate with all my being. I know some on my mailing list may be offended by that and it is not normal for me to use the word but I just hate what this man is doing to our country."

This same person attends a congregation where false teachers are regulars at their "Gospel Meetings". The congregation this man is a member of practices the false doctrine of "unity in diversity" (I Corinthians 1:10, Philippians 1:27; 2:2; 3:16, and II John 9-11). The worship services there have errors going on with the Lord's Supper and other matters that this couple knows is wrong. When something goes wrong and I talk with he or his wife about it they often say, "the congregation is doing the best they can". This couple speaks as though they are not part of the congregation during times when error is being practiced.

Why does this couple allow for unity in diversity of matters pertaining to God and our faith, but they get fired up when it is a Democrat pushing that agenda? Why are they so angry with a matter destroying a country (which is not united to begin with), but not at all angry when such happens within the Lord's body? Why are they so knowledgeable about what is going on in the world of politics, but completely ignorant about what is going on in the church? These are questions they don't have the answers to. They don't care to either. So now, the applications turn to you, the reader of this article. Are you like this man and his wife? Do you get fired up about nonsense, but ignore sin?

A Look In The Mirror

Most likely, as you read the above paragraphs, you were irritated thinking about this couple. Yet, are there things in life that really make you angry and if you made a list of those, would the real important issues be down the list a ways? How mad are you at sin? How much do you hate false doctrine and false teachers? How angry do you get when you see division in the body of Christ? Will you examine yourself honestly enough to make the application you need to make (Ezekiel 18:27-28, Haggai 1:5, II Corinthians 13:5, and James 1:21-25)? Do you realize that how the man above feels about Barak Obama is how we should feel about sin, error, division, etc.?

We Are Expected To Hate Every False Way

Notice what the Scriptures plainly state on this matter: *“Ye that love the LORD, hate evil: he preserveth the souls of his saints; he delivereth them out of the hand of the wicked... Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way... Therefore I esteem all thy precepts concerning all things to be right; and I hate every false way... Therefore I esteem all thy precepts concerning all things to be right; and I hate every false way... I hate and abhor lying: but thy law do I love... Do not I hate them, O LORD, that hate thee? and am not I grieved with those that rise up against thee? I hate them with perfect hatred: I count them mine enemies... Hate the evil, and love the good, and establish judgment in the gate: it may be that the LORD God of hosts will be gracious unto the remnant of Joseph... Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good... For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile: Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it”* (Psalms 97:10; 119:104; 128; 163; 139:21-22, Amos 5:15, Romans 12:9, and I Peter 3:10-11).

Any honest person who reads the Scriptures above will see what attitude we should have towards sin and those who commit sin. God certainly hates both sin and sinners (Psalms 5:4-6, Psalms 11:5-7, Proverbs 6:16-19, Proverbs 16:5, Romans 9:13, and Hebrews 1:8-9). This is why He demands that the sinner be converted (Matthew 18:3 and Acts 3:19). Brethren, we are to be followers of God (Ephesians 5:1 and I Peter 2:21-22). There is no doubt that God is not pleased with Barak Obama, but neither is He surprised by the actions of Obama, for he is a sinner. We should not be surprised either. Sin is what you can expect from those of this world (Galatians 1:3-4, John 15:18-20, I Peter 4:1-4, I John 2:15-17, and I John 3:7-10; 13). Therefore, we should hate what is going on in this country, but we should not be surprised. The same is true when we find a worldly person trying to rip us off, lying to us, stealing from us, etc. Expect it. That does not mean we should not hate these sins, for they are part of “every false way.

When we show our ignorance is when we care more about the sins of the world than those causing people to be lost within the body. False doctrine and teachers are part of “every false way”. If you get worked up about all of the other matters in this life and not of the sins affecting souls, what does that say about you? It says you care more about carnal matters than spiritual matters. It shows that you have the spiritual depth of an empty teaspoon. How can you expect to have an eternal reward when your cares are of and about this world? Brethren, to be carnally minded is death (Romans 8:4-8). Where are your affections (Galatians 5:24 and Colossians 3:1-4)?

Conclusion

DO GET ANGRY ABOUT ALL SINS! HATE sin and everything related to sin. Just be consistent. Don't be an ignorant fool who cares more about the temporary than the eternal. Our citizenship [conversation] is in Heaven (Philippians 3:20). So, focus on what matters. Be equally upset about all manner of sin. Get fired up (Matthew 21:12-13 and Mark 3:1-5)! Just use the proper focus and show self-control (Ephesians 4:26)!

What must one do to be saved (Acts 2:37)? Hear and believe the Gospel (Mark 16:15-16 & Romans 10:17), repent of their sins (Acts 3:19), confess Christ (Acts 8:37), and be baptized (immersed) for the remission of sins into the church of Christ (Acts 2:38-41; 47, I Corinthians 12:12-13, and Romans 6:1-6; 16:16). One must then remain faithful (Colossians 1:23).