



Scriptures and Doctrine :: No Denominations In Heaven!

No Denominations In Heaven! - posted by KingJimmy (), on: 2007/4/30 17:45

Recently I was pondering on passages such as John 17 and Ephesians 4 in which the Scriptures state that part of God's ultimate intent for the church is that all those who are saved be in perfect unity. I believe one day we will see this fulfilled here on the earth. What it will take to bring such a thing about, God only knows. But one thing I believe God has shown me is this: There are no denominations in heaven!

And if we are seriously praying "thy kingdom come, thy will be done," then we can expect that God's will shall be fulfilled in regard to the church here on earth, and that anything that resists God's will shall surely fade away.

So, if there are no denominations in heaven, then why should there be any here on earth?

Just some thoughts...

Re: No Denominations In Heaven! - posted by tjservant (), on: 2007/4/30 18:02

Quote:

-----So, if there are no denominations in heaven, then why should there be any here on earth?

There shouldn't be, but there shouldn't be a whole lot of other things also.

I won't start a list.

Re:, on: 2007/4/30 18:31

Someone gave an illustration of scaffolding on a building in progress. It isn't part of the building but is needed as a temporary support until the building is finished.

The problem with denominations is the reluctance to let the scaffolding go. Or folk may even start worshipping the scaffolding, long after the building has fallen down for lack of repair!

But the true Building will last for ever. JESUS is building His Church, and it isn't in organisations, denominations, disagreements over creeds and doctrines, church government, or what to call the leaders. Still less is it in bricks and mortar, who does the flowers or where to put the organ!

Jeannette

Re: No Denominations In Heaven!, on: 2007/4/30 21:10

KingJimmy said

Quote:
-----...God's ultimate intent for the church is that all those who are saved be in perfect unity. I believe one day we will see this fulfilled here on the earth. What it will take to bring such a thing about, God only knows.

Judging from what Wurmbrand states in his books and sermons, I imagine the best thing that can happen to a splintered church divided over jots and tittles is... persecution. And lots of it.

Catholics, orthodox, baptists, charasmatics, calvinists, and armenians won't have the luxury of debating the finer points of theology when they're stripped, beaten, starved, and worked to death in concentration camps and finally lined up in a row and shot (or worse).

Whatever denomination he or she once "belonged to", at the end it comes down to him/her and God - which in my humble opinion is true religion.

Re: No Denominations In Heaven! - posted by davidt, on: 2007/5/2 2:22

good quote on the persecution thing.

There are essentials and then non essentials and some even argue about those. There are also Churches that need reform. Paul would say let every man be convinced in his own mind concerning non essentials. Like a weak brother over food sacrificed to idols, or a woman wearing a head covering though it mattered just not imperatively. He would also say for everyone to be pressing on counting all things loss, but then even with that he said let the mature have this mind and if anyone thinks otherwise God will show him, and so wouldn't keep driving them to contention. It is hard "sigh", and I think it will just really have to be the Lord who does the building up, for I don't think its going to be by genius, WE NEED AN AWAKENING!

Re: - posted by davidt, on: 2007/5/2 2:23

I would though however Corey be careful about that "Catholic" comment.

Re: - posted by enid, on: 2007/5/2 5:22

davidt,

Corey mentioned the Catholics because Wurmbrand does mention them in his books.

He mentions being in prison with them.

They were there.

God bless.

Re:, on: 2007/5/2 6:46

davidt said

Quote:

-----I would though however Corey be careful about that "Catholic" comment.

And you ought to be careful if you think there aren't true brethren that were, and perhaps even now are, members of the Roman Catholic Church... because...

enid said

Quote:

-----Corey mentioned the Catholics because Wurmbrand does mention them in his books.

He mentions being in prison with them.

They were there.

... Wurmbrand witnessed Roman Catholics, Anglicans, and Orthodox priests who were martyred for refusing to deny Christ even after horrendous physical and mental torture and horrific spiritual abuse.

Evangelicals don't have the corner on Jesus.

Re: No Denominations In Heaven! - posted by PassingThru, on: 2007/5/2 8:33

Quote:

----- that part of God's ultimate intent for the church is that all those who are saved be in perfect unity.

I think it's his intention for us today.

Act 2:1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all **with one accord** in one place.

Jas 4:1 From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members?

...

Jas 4:7 **Submit yourselves therefore to God.** Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

If two people are completely submitted to God's Spirit what disagreement (of any importance) can exist between them?

Where disunity exists, one or both parties are out of synch with God.

PassingThru

Re: - posted by PassingThru, on: 2007/5/2 8:42

Quote:

-----And you ought to be careful if you think there aren't true brethren that were, and perhaps even now are, members of the Roman Catholic Church...

I agree. I know trustworthy Catholics and untrustworthy Protestants - Which one is bearing the fruits?

While a lot of Catholics are deceived into worshipping Mary, a lot of Protestants deliberately choose to worship Mammon.

Out of the two, I prefer the chances of the Catholic before the Judgement Seat of Christ.

PassingThru

Re: - posted by enid, on: 2007/5/2 9:06

Actually, 'trustworthy Catholics' and 'untrustworthy Protestants' are both lost.

They will both perish for all eternity.

Nothing in scripture tells us to worship Mary. It is a blasphemy against our God and Creator.

And there is in scripture against the worship of mammon and any false god.

You can't serve God and mammon.

Concerning 'chances'.

The only chance any of us have to our credit, if you want to put it that way, is the blood of the Lamb.

God bless.

Re: - posted by PassingThru, on: 2007/5/2 10:02

Enid

Quote:

Nothing in scripture tells us to worship Mary. It is a blasphemy against our God and Creator.

And there is in scripture against the worship of mammon and any false god.

The point I wanted to make was we often overlook the deliberate idolatry amongst Protestants when criticizing the well meaning idolatry of Catholics.

Quote:

-----The only chance any of us have to our credit, if you want to put it that way, is the blood of the Lamb.

I think it is possible for a Catholic to accept the blood of the Lamb be saved, even if they do erroneously pray to Mary. If it weren't so, our own unconscious sins would disqualify us from heaven as well, not to mention the more conscious ones.

When we rely on our finances or put our faith in some other human structure in an area of our life, aren't we doing the much the same thing? Sin is sin.

I used the word 'chances' because I was thinking of this verse, even though it isn't really appropriate since I think it is talking about various degrees of punishment in hell :-

Mat 10:15 Verily I say unto you, **It shall be more tolerable** for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment, than for that city.

Only God knows where the cutoff line is and where each person really stands.

PassingThru

Re:, on: 2007/5/2 10:09

Quote:

-----I think it is possible for a Catholic to accept the blood of the Lamb be saved, even if they do erroneously pray to Mary.

You do not understand Catholicism.

Krispy

Re: - posted by PreachParsly (), on: 2007/5/2 10:10

Quote:
-----... Wurmbbrand witnessed Roman Catholics, Anglicans, and Orthodox priests who were martyred for refusing to deny Christ even after horrendous physical and mental torture and horrific spiritual abuse.

Evangelicals don't have the corner on Jesus.

I'm not trying to push anything, but I thought I would just post this scripture that came to mind.

1Cr 13:3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed , and **though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.**

Re: - posted by enid, on: 2007/5/2 10:59

Whether Protestants are idolators or not, does not mean that Catholics are not lost, because they are.

Anyone who fears God and has any honesty or integrity will know that Catholics are lost.

It is not up to us who goes to heaven, but we need to weigh everything with scripture to see how it measures up.

Catholic practices violate scripture, therefore, they forfeit an eternity with God.

Concerning Sodom and Gomorrah, God rained hell on them, Gen 19v24.

And they had no Bible, churches etc.

There is a book by Leonard Ravenhill called Sodom had no Bible.

So, if they perished, and they only had Lot, then we have no excuse, none.

Catholics are lost. But with God, all things are possible. They can repent and know God given salvation.

God bless.

Re:, on: 2007/5/2 11:08

Enid & Preach... it is so refreshing to see that I am no longer one of the few voices of truth concerning the RCC on this forum. I'm glad to see that folks will speak the truth, no matter how unpopular it is.

Maybe my job here is done?? lol...

Krispy

Re: - posted by enid, on: 2007/5/2 11:35

Krispy,
Your job here is certainly not done!

As it is there are too few with backbone like yourself.

They are so compromising, man pleasing and spineless...oops, should I say that? Not nice is it?

But then, truth isn't nice.

God bless.

Re: - posted by ccchhhrrriiisss (), on: 2007/5/2 11:40

Hello...!

I've always felt that most denominations were created as the result of a certain group of individuals who feel that their own particular doctrinal belief(s) deserved exclusive status enough to separate them from all other believers (and doctrinal beliefs).

Could you imagine what would happen if all local churches allowed individual believers to hold their own interpretation of beliefs that are not clearly stated by the Word of God? Instead, we have a multitude of churches divided by even the most obscure set of beliefs.

There are some things that are completely clear from the Word of God (included in Hebrews 6:1-3). There are a lot more things that are not so clear.

My wife and I were having a Bible study the other night, and the issue of "remarriage" came up. In the course of our discussion, I told her that I am not certain what to believe. Thus, I cannot take any firm position. Yes, I believe what the Bible says in Matthew 5, Matthew 19 and I Corinthians 7 -- but the ultimate outcome is NOT completely clear. My wife was immediately astonished at my statement. She asked whether or not the Bible contains an answer about EVERYTHING in life? I told her, "Yes AND no." The problem, I told her, lay in the fact that our understanding, knowledge and maturity often changes our perspective about a particular doctrine. After about 2 hours of discussion, searching and reading the same passages over and over again, my wife changed her "position" on the issue. She said that she read Matthew 19:9 over and over again until it changed her opinion in the matter. However, the first 20 times reading the verse, she held a completely different opinion!

I have friends from many different denominations. While we don't always agree on the "small things" -- we agree on that which is completely clear in the Word. If we all did the same, perhaps denominations would crumble. Who knows, perhaps all Churches would turn into what our prayer is for the Revival Conference?

:-)

Re: - posted by PassingThru, on: 2007/5/2 12:13

Quote:

-----They are so compromising, man pleasing and spineless...oops, should I say that? Not nice is it?

But then, truth isn't nice.

I didn't expect my views on some under the RCC banner obtaining salvation to be pleasing to the majority on this forum, but they are currently my genuine views. What's so "compromising, man pleasing and spineless" about that?

PassingThru

Re: - posted by PassingThru, on: 2007/5/2 12:24

Quote:

You do not understand Catholicism.

I know their doctrine is in grave error and for that reason I haven't had any need to study it in any depth. I'm not endorsing RCC teachings & practices.

The main point I'm trying to get across, is that there is a good possibility that some people under the RCC banner will still find acceptable to the Lord.

No one really know where the heart of each Catholic really stands with the Lord, or how effective the RCC doctrine has been in polluting the heart of each individual.

PassingThru

Re: - posted by PassingThru, on: 2007/5/2 12:29

Quote:

I'm not trying to push anything, but I thought I would just post this scripture that came to mind.

1Cr 13:3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed , and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

In contrast ...

Mat 10:32 Whosoever, therefore shall confess, me before men, him will I confess also, before my Father which is in heaven.

I think the men mentioned by Wurmbrand have met Christ's condition in this verse.

PassingThru

Re:, on: 2007/5/2 13:01

Quote:

-----No one really know where the heart of each Catholic really stands with the Lord, or how effective the RCC doctrine has been in polluting the heart of each individual.

I agree with this statement. Our job is not to judge peoples hearts or standing with the Lord.

But someone who calls themselves a Catholic, and holds to and practices the Catholic faith... trusting in these practices to save them... can not be saved. And if they have put their faith in Christ alone, then they can not be true Catholics.

Krispy

Re:, on: 2007/5/2 13:03

Quote:

-----Mat 10:32 Whosoever, therefore shall confess, me before men, him will I confess also, before my Father which is in heaven.

In the context of this verse... how would you respond to a JW or Mormon who confesses Jesus before men? (as they do every day)

My question would be... which Jesus are they confessing?

See, you have to take every verse in context of scripture as whole. Scripture interprets scripture. If you take this verse alone, out of context, then anyone who says "I believe in Jesus!" is saved... and you know as well as I do... it ain't so.

Krispy

Re:, on: 2007/5/2 13:17

enid said

Quote:

-----As it is there are too few with backbone like yourself.

They are so compromising, man pleasing and spineless...oops, should I say that? Not nice is it?

Well, considering Christ is our heavenly defense eagerly pleading with the Father for our cause... and Satan is our diabolical persecutor who searches out the world for every fault...

...who's are you to level an accusation? Who's child does that make you?

Re:, on: 2007/5/2 13:49

KrispyKrittr said

Quote:

-----I agree with this statement. Our job is not to judge peoples hearts or standing with the Lord.

But someone who calls themselves a Catholic, and holds to and practices the Catholic faith... trusting in these practices to save them... can not be saved. And if they have put their faith in Christ alone, then they can not be true Catholics.

Are you forgetting the poor old woman who threw her last two pennies into the Treasury of the "apostate" Temple?

As corrupt as the institution is, the Word of God will not return void. I imagine that goes for (gasp!) catholics, too.

Re:, on: 2007/5/2 13:50

KrispyKrittr said

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-----I agree with this statement. Our job is not to judge peoples hearts or standing with the Lord.

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Are you forgetting the poor old woman who threw her last two pennies into the Treasury of the "apostate" Temple?

As corrupt as the institution is, the Word of God will not return void. I imagine that goes for (gasp!) catholics, too.

Btw, doesn't "catholic" just mean "universal"?

Re:, on: 2007/5/2 14:01

No Corey, there is no comparison to the widow in the parable.

The temple was not apostate... the leadership was.

They were not teaching false doctrine in the temple. What they were teaching was truth, but there hearts were far from God.

Apples to oranges.

Anyone who is truly saved according to scripture will leave the Catholic Church in time. God has never called anyone to stay within a false religion. Scripture commands that we **seperate** from such. We are to mark and **avoid** them.

My personal opinion is it doesn't matter what church you go to... when they veer off course you should make an attempt to show them their error, but if they refuse... you **leave**. You don't hang around hoping to "make a difference". What will happen is they "make a difference" on you.

God calls us to separate from that *for our own protection*... and we better heed His Word.

It may take time for someone to leave due to ignorance of scripture, but if they are growing as believers it won't take long for them to see that they need to come out.

Doesn't matter if they are JW's, Mormons or Catholics who get saved, they are commanded to come out. You would think it impossible for a Muslim to get saved, and then continue to practice Islam... why would you think it ok for someone who gets saved that's part of any other false religion... like Catholicism?

Makes no sense...

Krispy

Re: - posted by BenBrockway, on: 2007/5/2 14:04

Excellent point Krispy

Re: - posted by PreachParsly (), on: 2007/5/2 14:46

Double post..

Re: - posted by PreachParsly (), on: 2007/5/2 14:47

Quote:

-----In contrast ...

Mat 10:32 Whosoever, therefore shall confess, me before men, him will I confess also, before my Father which is in heaven.

I think the men mentioned by Wurmbrand have met Christ's condition in this verse.

PassingThru

What I meant by posting that verse is just because someone was killed and professed to be a Christian doesn't, in itself, mean they were a Christian. Those men that died could have been, or they could have not been. That's all I was saying.

Just professing to be a Christian and being killed for that profession doesn't automatically mean you are a (real) Christian.

Mat 7:21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

1Cr 13:3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

Re: - posted by PreachParsly (), on: 2007/5/2 15:02

How many have heard people say something to this effect, "Well, when the 'Tribulation' comes, I won't take the mark, I'll die for Christ." While at the moment they are in utter sin and know they are not a Christian at the moment.

Oh! What horror! What if someone actually did something like that? Could you imagine? Being killed for the "cause of Christ" yet not even knowing him and wake up in Hell?

But Lord, I....

: -o

Re:, on: 2007/5/2 15:35

Quote:
-----How many have heard people say something to this effect, "Well, when the 'Tribulation' comes, I won't take the mark, I'll die for Christ." While at the moment they are in utter sin and know they are not a Christian at the moment.

Oh! What horror! What if someone actually did something like that? Could you imagine? Being killed for the "cause of Christ" yet not even knowing him and wake up in Hell?

But Lord, I....

There's a sin that's worse than a lie in the world: hypocrisy.

If I had a God's eye view of PreachParsly's near-present thoughts and actions, would I find sin?

I don't know if someone or other will or won't take the mark, and I don't know their standing with God. I am called to be a "doer of the law", not a judge.

And when we start labeling a man who is willing to die for Christ - whatever his sins - WE are more in danger of judgment and hellfire than them.

If the Archangel Michael refuses to rail an accusation against Satan, who are we to accuse one another?

Re:, on: 2007/5/2 15:39

Is everyone in a bad mood today or something?

(By the way, I understood and agreed with Preach's words)

Krispy

Re: - posted by KingJimmy (), on: 2007/5/2 15:52

I believe there might be "bad Catholics" out there who are actually good Christians. But I don't believe there are any good Catholics out there who are good Christians. For a good Catholic is trusting in their works to save them. And Galatians makes clear that those who are attempting to be justified by works are fallen from grace and cut off from Christ.

Re: - posted by PreachParsly (), on: 2007/5/2 15:54

Hi Corey,

I wasn't trying to offend you, or even cast judgment on someone. I just quoted two verses. One says that just because someone says "Lord" doesn't mean they have Christ as Lord. The other just says that even if I were to give my life, but it's not with love it's worthless.

It's possible to say "Lord" and go to Hell.

It's possible to give your life and go to Hell.

Scriptures and Doctrine :: No Denominations In Heaven!

Quote:
-----And when we start labeling a man who is willing to die for Christ - whatever his sins - WE are more in danger of judgment and hellfire than them.

Do you believe that saying "Lord" and dying because of that profession means you are right with God? In other words, does your own blood being shed make you justified? I'll refuse to believe you do, unless you inform me otherwise.

Re:, on: 2007/5/2 15:54

Quote:
-----I believe there might be "bad Catholics" out there who are actually good Christians. But I don't believe there are any good Catholics out there who are good Christians. For a good Catholic is trusting in their works to save them. And Galatians makes clear that those who are attempting to be justified by works are fallen from grace and cut off from Christ.

Amen KJ... I have to question someone's understanding of Catholicism if they think otherwise.

Krispy

Re:, on: 2007/5/2 15:59

KrispyKrittr said

Quote:
-----No Corey, there is no comparison to the widow in the parable.

The temple was not apostate... the leadership was.

They were not teaching false doctrine in the temple. What they were teaching was truth, but their hearts were far from God.

Where the head turns the body surely follows.

Are you prepared to say there isn't a poor catholic widow that's going to heaven? Not one good thing can come out of the catholic church?

Quote:
-----My personal opinion is it doesn't matter what church you go to... when they veer off course you should make an attempt to show them their error, but if they refuse... you leave. You don't hang around hoping to "make a difference". What will happen is they "make a difference" on you.

God calls us to separate from that for our own protection... and we better heed His Word.

It may take time for someone to leave due to ignorance of scripture, but if they are growing as believers it won't take long for them to see that they need to come out.

Doesn't matter if they are JW's, Mormons or Catholics who get saved, they are commanded to come out. You would think it impossible for a Muslim to get saved, and then continue to practice Islam... why would you think it ok for someone who gets saved that's part of any other false religion... like Catholicism?

Makes no sense...

I positively agree that we are called to "come out of her". I am a "come outer" myself.

I am positing the possibility, no, the probability, that somewhere in the deep, dark recesses of "religious establishment" there are believing, prayerful, charitable poor old widows and unloved, but contrite, fatherless bastards that "tremble at God's Word"...

Not every "saved" soul will be as luminous as Savonarola or Luther.

Re:, on: 2007/5/2 16:16

Quote:
-----Are you prepared to say there isn't a poor catholic widow that's going to heaven? Not one good thing can come out of the catholic church?

Not if she is relying on baptism or the other sacraments to save her. As much good as Mother Teresa did in her life, if her faith was in the sacraments of the "Church"... which is what she claimed, then she is not in heaven right now.

Pope John Paul II was a better man than me, by the world's standards. But his salvation was in the sacraments of the "Church"... then he is not in heaven either.

Has anything good come out of the Church? Yes... absolutely. The true believers who realized the wretched, hellish doctrines of demons taught by the Catholic Church for what they were... trusted in the Lord Jesus' Blood alone, and came out of the RCC. That's the good that has come out of the Catholic Church.

Oh... and one more thing good came out of the Catholic Church... BINGO!

B - 12!

Krispy

Re:, on: 2007/5/2 16:18

Quote:
-----Quote:

Corey said:

And when we start labeling a man who is willing to die for Christ - whatever his sins - WE are more in danger of judgment and hellfire than them.

PreachParsly said:

Do you believe that saying "Lord" and dying because of that profession means you are right with God? In other words, does your own blood being shed make you justified? I'll refuse to believe you do, unless you inform me otherwise.

I believe that God sees all, knows all, and judges all - not us.

I believe that any professing "Christian" who denigrates ANYONE who died for refusing to deny Jesus... who hasn't faced the trial him/herself... is in immediate danger of hellfire and judgement. If we're right with our judgements, good for us. We've proved ourselves great judges of character, now haven't we? Being three thousand miles away... In your comfy chair, flavored coffee, and Windows Vista, with the SUV and white picket fence just outside the window.

Come on, people! We're alive! None of us on this board... NONE OF US HAVE FACED THAT TRIAL. How can we condemn a martyr to hell for being a catholic? Because he's a sinner?

So am I. Condemn me, too.

We don't know any man's relationship with God. And to judge a man's heart by his denomination is, in my humble opinion, is sheer foolishness and utterly dangerous.

Have all the problems with a denomination you want. Judge a man who died in Christ's name at your own peril.

Re: - posted by KingJimmy (), on: 2007/5/2 16:25

No doubt, many Catholic martyrs out there have died for refusing to deny Jesus. But that doesn't prove they were Christians. A lot of people die for a lot of things.

Re:, on: 2007/5/2 16:28

Corey... unfortunately your beliefs seem to be based more on emotion, feelings and your opinions of right and wrong. I would recommend you check and see if they line up with scripture. From what you've said, they don't.

God judges by His Word... not by our human mind's opinion of constitutes justice.

I say this in love because I am concerned... you need to get your beliefs in line with scripture because I believe your skating on thin ice. That's not a put down, or a judgement (because I hope I'm wrong)... it's just a concern for you.

Krispy

Re:, on: 2007/5/2 16:32

Quote:
-----Come on, people! We're alive! None of us on this board... NONE OF US HAVE FACED THAT TRIAL. How can we condemn a martyr to hell for being a catholic? Because he's a sinner?

First off... how do you know no one here has never faced that trial? Do have any inclination how many people visit this site from around the world? Do you know any of us personally? You don't even know my real name. For all you know, I could be Billy Graham.

Secondly, none of us are condemning anyone to hell. They are condemning themselves.

You're saying being a martyr gets you to heaven. So in other words we can earn our salvation by being martyred? You know who else believes that? Suicide bombers in Iraq.

Krispy

Re: - posted by PreachParsly (), on: 2007/5/2 16:33

Quote:
-----I believe that God sees all, knows all, and judges all - not us.

I believe that any professing "Christian" who denigrates ANYONE who died for refusing to deny Jesus... who hasn't faced the trial him/herself... is in immediate danger of hellfire and judgement.

You mean, you would judge someone for doing that...?

I'm glad you do seem to believe we are to have some type of judgment- at least by your words you show you do. We are to judge righteous judgment.

If my memory is right, I believe the early church dealt with people that thought that martyrdom would save them, or make them "super Christians." That is what I was poking at and coming against. Next time I will just try to lay it all out. I didn't mean to cause any confusion if I did.

Re: - posted by PreachParsly (), on: 2007/5/2 16:35

I didn't know there were going to be posts between mine and yours, Corey. If I knew there would be I wouldn't have even posted mine. I don't want it to look like we are just blasting you, but please consider what has been said.

Re:, on: 2007/5/2 16:41

Quote:
-----We don't know any man's relationship with God. And to judge a man's heart by his denomination is, in my humble opinion, is sheer foolishness and utterly dangerous.

I must have missed something... I don't recall seeing where anyone in this conversation did that. Catholics can certainly be saved. I know many. But once they begin to grow and mature in the Lord, they don't stay in the RCC for very long. They get out.

I know I never said Catholics go to hell. I said anyone who puts their faith in the sacraments of the Church in order to be saved will find themselves in hell.

Scripture is clear... there is only one salvation. That is faith in the complete work of Christ done at the cross for the remission of sins. Anything less or added to that is not salvation.

Period.

Don't like it? Talk to God... those aren't my words, they're His.

Krispy

Re:, on: 2007/5/2 17:03

Quote:
-----First off... how do you know no one here has never faced that trial? Do you have any inclination how many people visit this site from around the world? Do you know any of us personally? You don't even know my real name. For all you know, I could be Billy Graham.

Logic. Everyone currently posting here is alive. A living person cannot be a martyr. Therefore, no one on this board is or has been a martyr (hence, none here can justifiably judge any martyr who died for Christ's name).

If you told me the truth earlier about starting up a small prayer group, and then a home church, I can induce you are not Billy Graham - if you are Billy Graham, why are you so wealthy and why do you run with worldly presidents and politicians?

Quote:
-----Secondly, none of us are condemning anyone to hell. They are condemning themselves.

We will be judged for every idle word we speak. Therefore, when you come before that Sapphire Throne surrounded by fire and seraphims, and the Ancient of the Ages gazes piercingly through your life with eyes flaming with a brilliance ten thousand times brighter than the Sun... and He asks you why you told others a martyr who died in Jesus' name was going to hell... what will you say?

Even if you don't know the fate of that man, what will you say?

Quote:
-----You're saying being a martyr gets you to heaven. So in other words we can earn our salvation by being martyred? You know who else

se believes that? Suicide bombers in Iraq.

I'll let Jesus answer that one:

"Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven... And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it." (MATT 10:32-40)

Re: - posted by KingJimmy (), on: 2007/5/2 22:46

Quote:

If my memory is right, I believe the early church dealt with people that thought that martyrdom would save them, or make them "super Christians."

Indeed. So much so that there became what some scholars would call a "Cult of the Martyr."

Re: No Denominations In Heaven! - posted by ADisciple (), on: 2007/5/3 0:23

Quote:

KingJimmy wrote:

Recently I was pondering on passages such as John 17 and Ephesians 4 in which the Scriptures state that part of God's ultimate intent for the church is that all those who are saved be in perfect unity. I believe one day we will see this fulfilled here on the earth. What it will take to bring such a thing about, God only knows. But one thing I believe God has shown me is this: There are no denominations in heaven!

And if we are seriously praying "thy kingdom come, thy will be done," then we can expect that God's will shall be fulfilled in regard to the church here on earth, and that anything that resists God's will shall surely fade away.

So, if there are no denominations in heaven, then why should there be any here on earth?

Just some thoughts...

Greetings, all...

Just want to splice something in here. I've quoted KingJimmy's original post, the one that started this thread. I am in full agreement with what he has said. And I felt there was a spiritual burden in that original post that I pray we will not lose sight of.

No denominations in heaven. And, since God has taught us to pray that His will be done in earth as in heaven, it is obviously His great desire and intent to manifest in the earth ONE church in which ALL believers are joined together in perfect harmony under One Head.

And you only need to view the differing thoughts in this very thread to see how far we are from that. Please don't misunderstand me: I am not being critical-- just stating facts.

We are prepared to recognize this, aren't we? Never mind that there are division among denominations, but even among ourselves we still have not arrived at the "mind of Christ."

I mean, having one mind, all of us TOGETHER. "Now I beseech you brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak THE SAME THING, and that there be NO divisions among you, but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment" (1 Cor. 1.10).

What do you do in the face of that Scripture? Shake your head? Water it down? Paul, could we talk about this? Are you sure you know what you are asking?

Or do you BELIEVE?

This is the glory of God he's talking about. God, are you really going to return your GLORY to your people? Do YOU know the implications of doing that? And what such a thing is likely to do to our denominations and opinions?

KingJimmy wonders what it will take to bring this into being, and I guess we all wonder that. I know I wonder. Tribulation, shakings, Fire...

All that. But Jesus says it will take His intercession for us: "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word, that they all may be one, as Thou Father art in Me, and I in Thee, that they also may be one in us..." (Jn 17.20) His intercession for us at the right hand of the Father. It will take that, and those who are seeking to be in tune with Him will find that intercession being expressed in their own prayers in the Spirit.

And further, He says it will take His giving us the glory that God has given Him. "And the glory which Thou gavest Me I have given them, that they may be one, even as we are one..." (Jn 17.22)

So, How does He do that? How does He give us HIS glory? I just ask the question so we will earnestly seek this, all of us. HIS glory.

If we are truly desirous of seeing HIM glorified in the earth, and in our own lives, THIS will bring us into a single-eyed unity of purpose, something we seek, something we long for, something we anticipate, and not just "pie in the sky" that God will get around to doing some wonderful day down there at the end of the time charts.

This will bring about that fearsome harmony that the world is waiting for, waiting to see among the Christians. And it's THIS HIS unity that Jesus says will cause the world to believe (Jn. 17:21).

So, am I seeking HIS glory? This is the secret of the unity He has in mind. He that is ascended has sent the Holy Spirit into the earth with this ONE commission: "HE SHALL GLORIFY ME." (Jn. 16.14) That's something the ministries and every one of us needs to lay deeply to heart. The Holy Spirit is in the earth, to glorify, to reveal, Jesus: to do only what HE is doing, to speak only what HE is saying. And so, if you and I (who profess to be temples of the Holy Spirit) are doing that, we will be ONE. Not speaking our own words, but HIS, not doing our own thing, but HIS. Not holding our own opinions, but HIS. Having no doctrines of our own, but HIS... Seeking to glorify HIM.

This turned out longer than I had intended, but thanks for listening.

AD

Re:, on: 2007/5/3 7:51

Quote:

-----why are you so wealthy

Uhmmm... if you knew anything about Billy Graham, you would know he is not wealthy.

I live 20 miles from where he lives. I've been by his house. It's very modest. He has purposely lived on a fixed salary since the 1950's in order to avoid the temptation of money, and so that he could not be accused of being wealthy because of the Gospel.

Dont be so judgemental.

Quote:

-----We will be judged for every idle word we speak. Therefore, when you come before that Sapphire Throne surrounded by fire and seraphims, and the Ancient of the Ages gazes piercingly through your life with eyes flaming with a brilliance ten thousand times brighter than the Sun... and He asks you why you told others a martyr who died in Jesus' name was going to hell... what will you say?

Well, first off... you're misrepresenting my words. Thats convenient. But to play your game, my response would be:

"Because You said 'For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.'" (Ephesians 2:8-9)

...but then, God knows His Word much better than I do. He already knows He said that.

Dont you get it, man? Salvation is not based on what we do or what we go thru... it's based on our trusting in the shed blood of Jesus for the forgiveness of sin! Many people have claimed to believe in Jesus (Matthew 7:22-23), and yet He will say to them "depart from me, I never knew you". There even have been people who were killed for not denying the name of Christ, yet they themselves were trusting in the sacraments of the Catholic Church for their salvation... and not the blood of Christ alone. They died believing in their own works to save them.

And it's a shame, and I take no pleasure in that.

This is not a "holier than thou" thing, and I dont say what I say to make myself feel superior to anyone. This is truth that I speak, and it's truth that you need to hear. Why? Because if what you are saying on this thread is truly what you believe about your own salvation... then I dont know that you are truly saved. I'm **not** judging your heart, I am judging your word s. Only you know for sure what you believe... but your words betray you, I think.

I really care about you, my friend... and to quote Keith Green "I only just want to see you there..."

Krispy

Re: - posted by KingJimmy (), on: 2007/5/3 9:45

Quote:

Just want to splice something in here. I've quoted KingJimmy's original post, the one that started this thread. I am in full agreement with what he has said. And I felt there was a spiritual burden in that original post that I pray we will not lose sight of.

Amen ADisciple. You have expressed the burden that is indeed on my heart quite well. This is part of an overall message that I plan on bringing at my church this Sunday.

Re:, on: 2007/5/3 10:11

Back to the original thread...

There is one true church who are united in the blood of Christ and walk in the light of fellowship with God. Everyone who is truly born again is a member of this Church. This Church does not have a name or a building, it is a living body. The membership list is not recorded in any database and resides only in the lambs book of life. Blessed are those who find their names written there.

Beware of the false unity movement among the babylonian harlot that we call North American Evangelical Christianity (and beware of the RCC too).

In Christ - Jim

Re:, on: 2007/5/3 11:35

Quote:
-----There is one true church who are united in the blood of Christ and walk in the light of fellowship with God. Everyone who is truly born again is a member of this Church. This Church does not have a name or a building, it is a living body. The membership list is not recorded in any database and resides only in the lambs book of life. Blessed are those who find their names written there.

Beware of the false unity movement among the babylonian harlot that we call North American Evangelical Christianity (and beware of the RCC too).

I shout amen at your first paragraph. Well stated, and I believe you are quite correct.

As to your second paragraph... I agree, but I think I would refrain from throwing the "babylonian harlot" blanket over ALL of the evangelical church. There are certainly problems, but you cant really generalize it the way you did. I think that is irresponsible.

Thats akin to me saying "anyone who reads the NIV is an unsaved hell bound heathen". Thats not a true statement at all.

Krispy

Re: Re in perfect unity! - posted by rowdy2 (), on: 2007/5/3 12:52

I'll be 65 in September. When I was ten I became aware that there were different dominations one summer when I was told that a big church in town was giving the children that attended vacation Bible School ice cream cones. I immediately switched churches for a week.

I do not attend church lately but I hear live preaching at the senior center I attend.

Above 90% of the Christians I know attend church including my natural brother and sisters. I love every Christian whether they attend or not. I would not offend a single one of them knowingly about the matter. The Christians I know personally show great restraint in judging others and I try to emulate them. I would not take anything for the fellowship and teaching I have received from them. At different times my life has changed course in such matters and if I had been saved earlier in my life I may have walked a different course and could have shared the church fellowship that so many hold so dear.

I pray God give each and everyone a spiritual blessing today..

Eddie

Re:, on: 2007/5/3 19:34

KrispyKrittr said

Quote:
-----"Because You said 'For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.'" (Ephesians 2:8-9)

I agree. However,

"What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him...? Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works. Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble. But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead? Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he offered Isaac his son upon the altar? Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect? And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS IMPUTED UNTO HIM FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS: and he was called the Friend of God. Yes see then how that by works a man is justified, and **not by faith only**. Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by her works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another way? For as the body without the spirit is dead, so **faith without works is dead also**." (JAMES 2:14-26)

"Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but **he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven**. Many will say

y to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then I will profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, **and doeth them**, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock..." (MATT 7:19-24)

"Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven. Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to SET A MAN AT VARIANCE AGAINST HIS FATHER, AND THE DAUGHTER AGAINST HER MOTHER, AND THE DAUGHTER IN LAW AGAINST HER MOTHER IN LAW. AND A MAN'S FOES SHALL BE THEY OF HIS OWN HOUSEHOLD. He that loveth father and mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. **He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.**" (MATT 10:32-39)

"And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were **slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held**: And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, **until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.**" (REV 6:9-11)

Quote:
-----This is not a "holier than thou" thing, and I don't say what I say to make myself feel superior to anyone. This is truth that I speak, and it's truth that you need to hear. Why? Because if what you are saying on this thread is truly what you believe about your own salvation... then I don't know that you are truly saved. I'm not judging your heart, I am judging your words. Only you know for sure what you believe... but your words betray you, I think.

I really care about you, my friend... and to quote Keith Green "I only just want to see you there..."

We are being "holier than thou". We've passed judgement on men and women we don't know because of their affiliation with the catholic church. Now "we're" off to heaven and "they're" off to hell. Because we "know" sola fide's right... even when a sola scriptura Jesus reads "DO WHAT I'VE TOLD YOU TO DO" (see above).

Just like the Catholic Church, the Evangelical Churches have grasped and intellectualised to death revelations that come in through the fringes - and make them central doctrines. Eventually, one ends up at a place far from the intended meaning... "faith is the only way..." or "...works is the only way..." or "...manifesting tongues and prophecy is the only evidence..." or "...sanctification by sacraments..." and the steep slide into apostasy and hypocrisy occurs.

I believe wherever the scripture is preached, the odds are good there's someone saved around somewhere. Catholic or Evangelical, Pygmy or Chinese. It's God's word, after all.

"Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgement ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again." (MATT 7:1-2)

"By their fruits (works) ye shall know them." (MATT 7:20)

You don't need to know if I'm truly saved. That's not your business. He saves me, not you. He judges me, not you.

Re: - posted by HomeFree89 (), on: 2007/5/3 20:18

Quote:

PassingThru wrote:

Out of the two, I prefer the chances of the Catholic before the Judgement Seat of Christ.

I think if you worship anything or anybody but God you'll be in trouble on Judgement Day. Idolaters can't enter into Heaven.

Re 21:8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

Jordan

Re:, on: 2007/5/4 7:17

Quote:

-----You don't need to know if I'm truly saved. That's not your business. He saves me, not you. He judges me, not you.

Well... like I said, I was judging your words, not your heart. Why do I say this? Because perhaps I'm not understanding fully what you're saying.

Based on your words I think your understanding of salvation is not scriptural.

Your words that I've quoted above say quite a bit about your attitude as well. I express concern, you tell me it's none of my business.

OK... shaking dust off the shoes. (Luke 9:5)

Krispy

Re:, on: 2007/5/4 8:23

This thread troubles me, but I don't know why.

Re:, on: 2007/5/4 8:38

If it's my last post... I don't harbor any ill feelings toward Corey. In fact, I'm very concerned for him. But scripture tells us in for different passages (all words of Christ) that if we share the gospel and it is rejected, walk away.

I'm not trying to be mean to Corey... just trying to be obedient to God. I'll continue to pray for him, but I will not get involved in a back and forth with him more than it has already been.

I'm holding out hope that he is just a bad communicator, or I am a bad understander... and that there is a miscommunication going on.

Krispy

Re: - posted by PassingThru, on: 2007/5/4 8:48

HomeFree89

Quote:

I think if you worship anything or anybody but God you'll be in trouble on Judgement Day. Idolaters can't enter into Heaven.

Re 21:8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

I agree with you. I am in no way trying to water out the gospel. I am just not sure where God is going to put the cutoff point in relation to sins committed in ignorance by believers.

To illustrate, the verse above mentions the fearful won't enter either and Jesus said that anyone who calls his brother a fool is in danger of hell fire. Who then can be saved?

Through our ignorance I think we all harbour an unknown sin or two. After all, who has a perfect knowledge of God's will? Who is truly without sin if God were to search every corner of his heart? Even righteous Job seemed to have a certain pride in his righteousness, as well as a dose of fear.

I agree also with Krispy and others, that no one will be saved by faith in sacraments. Faith in the Blood of Jesus is the only salvation. The problem is many 'believers' confuse intellectual consent to the doctrine of salvation as being salvation. (I'm not saying this is the case of anyone here)

To have faith in someone or something means I apply it as a solution to my problems - ie: when it really counts. If I say I trust the capacity of a certain dentist, but won't go near him when I have a toothache, I'm a liar or severely deceived at the best. Equally if we say we trust in the Blood of Jesus, yet we don't bring our sins to him openly and willingly to be resolved, what faith is that?

Now if we all have a measure of unknown sin how will that be dealt with when we die? I suspect the answer is that it will depend on whether we instantly repent and call on the Blood of Jesus the moment our hidden sins are exposed to us. Obviously if we haven't been doing this with our known sins, chances are we won't do it for our hidden sins either.

I don't have a definite answer on what happens to our hidden sins and faults when we die, nor where God puts the limit on these. I don't think we really need to spend a lot of time finding out the answer to that. Instead we should concentrate on being as far as possible from the limit.

We need to constantly search our own hearts, as well as ask God to reveal our hidden sins, and deal with them promptly. We need to be like a diligent gardener dealing with weeds.

I think the main ingredients man needs to invest to reach salvation through the Blood of Christ is honesty and 'want to'. This is why I sometimes wonder if some 'hidden' Christians, even stuck in some sects perhaps, are actually applying the Blood of Christ to their lives more successfully than some 'verbal' Christians.

Psa 51:17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

PassingThru

Re:, on: 2007/5/4 9:01

PassingThru... excellent post. :-)

Krispy

Re: - posted by ADisciple (), on: 2007/5/4 11:15

Quote:

richardf wrote:

This thread troubles me, but I don't know why.

I, too, am grieved with the direction this thread was taken. It shows only too painfully how deeply we need-- each of us-- to grow up into Him who is The Head, and, surrendering ALL, speak only out from His Mind.

This is a very high Hope, but I trust that what He has promised-- a people in the earth totally harmonized with Himself, of the same mind, perfectly joined together in all things, one in love AND in truth-- He is able to perform.

AD

Re:, on: 2007/5/4 12:51

Krispy said

Quote:

-----Well... like I said, I was judging your words, not your heart. Why do I say this? Because perhaps I'm not understanding fully what you're saying.

I was judging your words, as well. And I hope this is just a misunderstanding as well.

Quote:

-----Based on your words I think you're understanding of salvation is not scriptural.

Not my words only. Look again at the **scripture** quoted in my last post. Jesus says those who cry "Lord, Lord" and don't do what He commands are turned away from the kingdom. Those who take up their cross and die are saved. James says "faith without works is dead". John the Divine says the souls under the altar died for the testimony (refusing to deny Jesus).

I understand the futility of trying to enter in to the kingdom on our own merits. I understand that faith comes before works - but not "sola fide"; not without works.

Quote:

-----You're words that I've quoted above say quite a bit about your attitude as well. I express concern, you tell me it's none of my business.

OK... shaking dust off the shoes. (Luke 9:5)

I admit I may appear crass and unrefined, but that's only because I want the truth. I'm tired of pleasing people by telling them what they want to hear - that's why I'm trying to leave the world as far as possible. I looked to the churches for a place of sanctuary and have found as many, if not more, sycophants there as well.

I suppose I could hand-to-mouth when the preacher says we'll go floating off into the sky before tribulation comes... but then there's all those souls under the altar waiting for the rest of their brethren to be slain.

And I could smile and nod when he says "born again" Bush is doing a great job for Jesus by fighting gay marriage... and yet hundreds of thousands have died in the Middle East due to the "Decider's" misinformed invasion.

Or maybe I ought to throw up my hands, smiling, with tears running down my face when he blathers on in tongues and prophecies wealth, houses, new cars and fun for the congregation.

Krispy, I have no alternative. I either read my Bible, pray to the LORD and ask questions when I discern something doesn't jibe... or I agree with people who tell me this leaking ship isn't sinking.

Did you know people continued drinking and dancing after the Titanic hit the iceberg?

I want to be in the Lifeboat Christ's in. It's a small one. Few are in there.

Quote:

-----But scripture tells us in for different passages (all words of Christ) that if we share the gospel and it is rejected, walk away.

He also said take up your cross and die.

Quote:

-----I'm holding out hope that he is just a bad communicator, or I am a bad understander... and that there is a miscommunication going on.

Probably both, or neither... maybe we're just on different wavelengths.

I simply stated way back in this thread that under persecution, Wurmbrand noted, Catholics, Orthodox, Methodists, etc, worshipped together, refused to deny Christ equally, and died for their faith.

Someone said that Catholics were still doomed.

I said we can't judge their standing with God simply by the denomination they belong to.

I never said anyone's going to heaven or hell. I don't know. But neither do you. It's up to God.

You said something about sola fide, that faith in Jesus was the only way into the kingdom.

I countered with scripture that points out that faith without works is dead, that Christ commands us to be "doers of the law", not simply believers. I also quoted the scripture about the souls under the altar waiting for their brethren to be slain.

Krispy, I appreciate your posts and have agreed with many things you've said on other threads. No hard feelings here either.

Re:, on: 2007/5/4 13:00

OK... I understand better now.

Let's ignore the politics you've brought up, only because Bush has nothing to do with this conversation. Not saying I agree or disagree... just that it's not relevant.

Quote:

-----Someone said that Catholics were still doomed.

As far as I know, no one here said that. I didn't. I said if they are putting their faith in the sacraments of the church... then they are not saved. That's scriptural.

Quote:

-----I said we can't judge their standing with God simply by the denomination they belong to.

I agree... amen. Keep in mind, however, that the Catholic Church is a false religion just like Mormonism or Islam. It's not a denomination. Ask a Catholic priest if the RCC is a denomination. He will tell you under no uncertain terms that it is not ... it is the "true church", and non Catholic Christians are apostate.

Quote:

-----You said something about sola fide, that faith in Jesus was the only way into the kingdom.

Thats right... and I'll stand by that.

Quote:

-----I countered with scripture that points out that faith without works is dead, that Christ commands us to be "doers of the law", not simply believers. I also quoted the scripture about the souls under the alter waiting for their brethren to be slain.

Amen... I agree. Here's the thing, if one is truly saved the **fruit** will be good works. I think thats where the confusion is. We can not bear good fruit until we are first saved. We are saved by by faith, not of works lest any man should boast. **Out of that faith** will come good works. It happens because there has been a change in us, and the Holy Spirit is at work in us... and the result is good works. We now have a desire to please God, and we do this by being doers of the word, and not just hearers.

If we claim we've been saved, and there is no evidence of this... via good works, then we arent saved. Not because we didnt do good works, but because we were never truly saved by faith to begin with, and therefore **couldnt** bear good fruit.

Krispy

Re:, on: 2007/5/4 13:13

Krispy,

I don't disagree with a thing you just posted. Yay!

-Corey

Re:, on: 2007/5/4 13:16

I thought it was a bit strange that all of a sudden we werent coming together on some as basic as this.... it's been a wierd couple of days on this forum!

Krispy

Re:, on: 2007/5/4 13:58

Quote:

-----I thought it was a bit strange that all of a sudden we werent coming together on some as basic as this.... it's been a wierd couple of days on this forum!

Agreed. Do you really think Mormonism's a false religion?

...joking

Re:, on: 2007/5/4 14:08

... just a little bit!

Krispy

Re: - posted by ADisciple (), on: 2007/5/4 15:00

Krispy and Corey,

Thanks for clarifying things, and for the grace you are showing to one another in the latest posts.

As a relative newcomer here-- and not knowing either of you-- it's difficult to judge where others are at.

I certainly have no interest in peace and harmony at the expense of truth. It's just that I felt the original intent of this thread somehow got sidelined. But I came into the "room" late myself, I guess. Maybe I shouldn't have interrupted the "conversation" at that stage.

Anyway, I think this matter of unity in the body of Christ is something the Lord holds very close to His heart. It's my hope that we will all be seeking Him as to how we can cooperate with Him so that He can have the desire of His heart. There is "out there" a great movement taking place that is bringing about a totally false unity... in which people are being taught they can come together under one great big ecumenical umbrella and still maintain their denominational differences and identities... and which seems to be very willing to roll out the red carpet for the Roman Catholic Church and who knows what else. The charismatic movement seems to be at the helm of this. And what an Abomination it all is.

Beware. Days of great deception are already upon us. In the midst of it it is going to take a heart that receives not just "the truth," but the LOVE OF the truth... that we might be saved. (2 Thes. 2.10). It is going to take recognizing and paying close attention to the Shepherd's Voice and walking in Salvation here and now, never mind living a carnal life and trusting you will go to Heaven when you die just because at some point you "believed" in Jesus.

Woops. What have I started now.

Anyway, thanks for what you have done.

AD

Re: - posted by KingJimmy (), on: 2007/5/4 17:57

Quote:

There is "out there" a great movement taking place that is bringing about a totally false unity... in which people are being taught they can come together under one great big ecumenical umbrella and still maintain their denominational differences and identities...

Indeed, ecumenism is not the solution. The one thing I want to place emphasis on here is the fact that the unity that is to be brought about, and the maturity that is to be brought about, must be the doing of the Lord. It is His work that He will do. The ecumenical movement is nothing more than an Ishamel-- attempting to help fulfill the promise of God by helping God out. Unless this unity and maturity happen through the work of the Spirit, then peace cannot ever happen.

Re: - posted by ADisciple (), on: 2007/5/4 19:07

KingJimmy wrote:

Quote:

Indeed, ecumenism is not the solution. The one thing I want to place emphasis on here is the fact that the unity that is to be brought about, and the maturity that is to be brought about, must be the doing of the Lord. It is His work that He will do. The ecumenical movement is nothing more than an Ishamel-- attempting to help fulfill the promise of God by helping God out. Unless this unity and maturity happen through the work of the Spirit, then peace cannot ever happen.

Amen. That is the heart of it.

When you mentioned unity and maturity together it reminded me of Psalm 133.

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments..."

So, the unity is "like" the Ointment upon the Head that ran down upon the beard (there's the maturity) ...even Aaron's beard: here is the anointed priesthood with only one concern: the Rule of The Anointing, and the glory of the Lord.

The unity God is set on bringing forth is, as you said, God's work alone: ours only as we are abiding in "the same anointing" that is upon the Head, and that flows down upon the whole Body of Christ.

...What can you do when He shares with us a glimpse of such high and holy things... but tremble, and bow your head in worship.

Do, Lord, as Thou hast said. We are grieved with the condition of our hearts. There is so much immaturity in us: bring us to maturity, cause us to put away childish things. Cause us to put away our Ishmaels, though they may be as dear to our hearts as Abraham's was to him; teach us to wait on You, to wait upon and abide in Your Anointing (for it is ALL Yours). And the Anointing alone is truth, and nothing else that we may know or think we know. Amen.

AD

Re:, on: 2007/5/5 13:25

KingJimmy said

Quote:

-----Indeed, ecumenism is not the solution. The one thing I want to place emphasis on here is the fact that the unity that is to be brought about, and the maturity that is to be brought about, must be the doing of the Lord. It is His work that He will do. The ecumenical movement is nothing more than an Ishamel-- attempting to help fulfill the promise of God by helping God out. Unless this unity and maturity happen through the work of the Spirit, then peace cannot ever happen.

Beautifully put. I wasn't trying to bring all religions under the banner of "Religion Mart" - but I think you know this.

I do believe in "one holy, catholic, apostolic church"... only we're spread out across the earth, one in this denomination, four in that one, like a multitude of stars in the vast blackness of space, we're separated by miles of secular and religious infidels.

Re: - posted by ADisciple (), on: 2007/5/8 15:04

Quote:

Corey_H wrote:

I do believe in "one holy, catholic, apostolic church"... only we're spread out across the earth, one in this denomination, four in that one, like a multitude of stars in the vast blackness of space, we're seperated by miles of secular and religious infidels.

Yes, the true people of God are scattered among the denominations. The denominations are not the places where God's people are gathered; they are the places where they are scattered.

And our hope (it's a living hope) is that God is now preparing to gather us from "all places where (we) have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day" (Ezek. 34.12).

I don't mean He will gather us out of all that denominational confusion into one big massive new denomination, but into one Holy Temple, one Body with one Head.

How? What will it look like? I just bow my head before that, and ask for the grace to hear His Voice and walk in my own pathway of obedience. This is God's work.

And it's my conviction we are close to seeing this come into being. Otherwise, why do you see so many Christians around these days with their staff in their hand and their sandals on their feet?

AD