



**Miracles that follow the plow :: times square church**

**times square church - posted by growingholly, on: 2009/3/9 11:01**

i am writing this with great heaviness of heart. i went to times square church yesterday for the 3:00 service. a man whose name i did not write down (sorry about that) gave the message, he sounded in accent like he was maybe from ireland or england. what he spoke had many elements of the health-wealth-prosperity thing and i was so sad afterwards, and have not been ok since. how can this sort of teaching come from the same church as david wilkerson? i listened to wilkerson's sermon about the awful presence of God, and i have listened to his sermons before and been so blessed and believe them to be Biblical. i listen to denny kenaston, paul washer, paris reidhead, etc. and by God's grace through these dear brothers have learned the difference between the "God loves everybody and it's all about you" stuff and the truth of glorious gospel of the living God. i felt what i fully believe was the pull of God to go to tsc yesterday, and i couldn't believe my ears...also, during the announcement time they talked about a plan they had for the church members to read the new testament and psalms and proverbs by the end of 2009...what? what then of the old testament? and carter conlon talked about that. i don't understand...even now i'm weeping in my very soul over this...i don't come to you with a spirit of gossip, but pleading for some kind of way to make sense of this...i don't get it. i'm like a little kid saying, i thought this was where the good guys are, daddy...i just sat there dazed as i heard the man twist Scripture...i don't know if this guy was a guest speaker and maybe they just didn't ask him enough questions? i don't know what to think, i beg you all for prayers over me that i would be able to have joy in the Lord, knowing His purposes will prevail, as i am devastated over this... and i ask for prayer over tsc that the truth would be preached there, that God's Word would be glorified. maybe i'm wrong too, that could be, maybe i just heard him wrong, but there was a lot of stuff that i just couldn't believe he was saying it. i'm so sad, please help me understand, brethren. maybe i'm the wrong one, maybe i misunderstood him, maybe i am way more ignorant than i thought. it certainly is a possibility. but here are a couple examples so it's not all vague. he said that Jesus saying He was the bread of life meant that even though the world may fall financially, believers won't have money problems. he used a verse in the old testament to back up his point which was that david wrote he had never seen the Lord's servant begging bread. that is a wonderful verse, but i contend that it is not what Jesus meant when He said that. also, if we see in the new testament and church history, we know that oftentimes persecution involves poverty, and that is ok, because it brings joy to be counted worthy to suffer with Christ. also this man said that if we go and evangelize that God will save our blood families. he gave some other stuff too, he gave an altar call that just seemed very typical of "churchianity"....i'm really, really not trying to be a jerk here, but i'm devastated, and i deeply need help digesting all this. people's eternities are on the line, and we know many wolves are among the sheep. i'm like a four-year-old, i'm so shocked. please pray God will settle my heart in all this. i can't bear it. i can't. my heart is sobbing. please help.

**Re: times square church, on: 2009/3/10 7:49**

Since you really give no specifics about what was preached, I think I would need to hear the sermon you heard in order to comment intelligently about it.

Thats probably why you havent gotten any responses. (edit: my original post said "expenses" instead of "responses"... I apologize for any confusion! lol! I need more coffee this morning!)

Krispy

**Re: times square church - posted by enid, on: 2009/3/10 8:45**

Sister Holly,

Sorry to say this, but you sound a little like 'the sky is falling', if you see what I mean.

As it is, I didn't hear the message, but is something like that going to throw your faith overboard? Is it worth it?

Maybe, I'm just so hardened to this person and that ministry falling, it's kind of like, so what's one more? It kind of getting like that for me anyway.

Our faith should be grounded in the unchanging word of God, not in man, whether he uses a Bible or not.

It's God to whom we have to give account. We all have to. The entire world.

As it is, the word of God says, 'For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind', 1 Tim 1v7.

That settles it for me.

Krispy, what's with the expenses bit, I don't get it.

**Re: - posted by growingholly, on: 2009/3/10 9:12**

you are very right, i just need to be grounded in the Lord. my faith in Christ is solid, by God's matchless grace, but my concern was more for the people who aren't so sure. i was upset that i saw that people would build their faith in God on incorrect promises, you know? where is someone's faith going to be when they expected God to give them financial comfort and the bottom falls out? that's what had me upset. but really, God is bigger, i need to see that more. plus, they are accountable to read His Word for themselves and see what Jesus really said in terms of following Him. also, i get way too upset about things that God already said will happen, it all just means His glory shall be revealed, and i don't look up on that near enough. praise God for His perfect will.

thank you all for all your prayers, i need them so much and they have helped; God is faithful and has comforted me much last night and this morning. i tend to wear my heart on my sleeve, which can be a good thing, but also i need to rest in Him so much more. i'm just a year and a half old in the Lord after some years of religion, so there is a way lot i'm still pretty far off about! :)

thank you guys for helping me to see the bigger and more God-honoring picture...

**Re: , on: 2009/3/10 9:31**

Quote:

-----Krispy, what's with the expenses bit, I don't get it.

re-read my post... I fixed it. I was doing some Quick-Books work the same time I was writing that, and also needed more coffee...

It was a goof on my part.

I don't "multi-task" very well! I'm riddled with A.D.D.!

Krispy

**Re: times square church - posted by Vakugal, on: 2009/3/10 9:31**

Just wanted to add a few thoughts here ...

There are times that I have been offended by what I heard and that too from brothers I know are Godly.

But by God's grace I did not stay there.

I took my doubts to the Lord, maybe I did not understand it as I ought too.

The things that God has been showing me is ...

1. Do not go by the letter, but drink of the Spirit. There are times that a brother may not word it as perfectly as it should be.
2. Maybe there is a big log in my eye that is causing me to see all those specks. As they say to the pure all things are pure. So I need to ask the Lord for clarity.
3. Maybe I do not see it as that brother. Maybe it is just two sides of the same coin?
4. I need to ask the Lord to teach me how to identify the fruit (his life) and not the gift (his preaching) alone. By a person's fruit we get to know if he be rooted in God.

So if I remain in a place of brokenness, I will always receive the living water from the Lord, as it flows to the lowest place. As I remain in brokenness, I will be able to discern and take what is from God and leave the rest.

Above all I can look at people with grace and mercy and take the weakness of others to the Lord in genuine concern and love.

A side note on the promises. I know a brother who said that God's will for all of us is that we be healed of our sickness, but if at all there is a sickness, we can be assured that God wants to bring something better out of that than just health. because God wants the best for us.

Same way, i need to have no concern of my son, if I have given myself to the Lord. Yes when Richard Wumbrand and his wife was in prison, their son was on the street, but God was watching and that was the assurance.

Yes they that put their trust in the Lord will not be put to shame even if need to go through the worst persecution ever.

**Re: - posted by Nellie, on: 2009/3/10 9:49**

You need to bring this to the attention of the Staff at TSC.

They need to hear the Message again.

I didn't hear it, but if anything I hear being preached from there, I will let them know.

This Preacher may have slipped by the Pastors.

I have confidence in Jesus Christ who lives in David Wilkinson and Carter Conlon at TSC.

God Bless

Nellie

**Re: , on: 2009/3/10 9:56**

I'm listening to a sermon that was preached at Time Square Church by Carter Conlon this past Sunday (March 08, 2009) called "Seeing Christ at the Hour of His Return" ... and if this was the sermon you heard you completely misunderstood it because this is about the exact opposite of the "prosperity gospel" you're saying was preached.

Krispy

**Re: times square church - posted by TrueWitness, on: 2009/3/10 10:23**

growingholly wrote:

Quote:

-----he used a verse in the old testament to back up his point which was that david wrote he had never seen the Lord's servant begging bread  
-----

That doesn't sound like health, wealth and prosperity teaching to me.

Quote:

-----also, if we see in the new testament and church history, we know that oftentimes persecution involves poverty, and that is ok, because it brings joy to be counted worthy to suffer with Christ  
-----

That sounds like just the opposite of the health, wealth and prosperity message to me.

Quote:

-----also this man said that if we go and evangelize that God will save our blood families  
-----

Again, God protecting his own from harm is not even close to being the same thing as health, wealth and prosperity.

I hope I am not being too harsh on you about this, but honestly, you seem to be so sensitive about the gospel not being about blessings toward the believer that you have gone into the ditch on the other side of the road.

**Re: - posted by randomname, on: 2009/3/10 10:26**

REMOVED

**Re: , on: 2009/3/10 10:37**

Even in times of trial and persecution there is still joy in the Lord... could it be that the Lord decided to shed some grace and mercy and joy? We are believers, we are victorious and if we sit around in gloom and doom at the impending judgment of God... well, frankly, I'll go and find me a different faith.

I understand things are bad, and I understand the gravity of the situation... but I am having much more peace and joy and communion in the Lord than I have ever had before in my walk.

There is a time for sadness and crying out to God, but there is also a time for rejoicing. We get out of balance when we ignore either one.

Krispy

**Re: , on: 2009/3/10 10:43**

Quote:  
-----I understand things are bad, and I understand the gravity of the situation... but I am having much more peace and joy and communion in the Lord than I have ever had before in my walk.  
-----

Me too!

Let's be sober to the terrible calamities that are coming upon the land us but let our hearts be fixed on Jesus. He is our joy, strength, and tower of refuge both in life and in death.

-Jim

**Re: - posted by randomname, on: 2009/3/10 10:44**

REMOVED

**Re: , on: 2009/3/10 10:50**

Quote:  
-----Should a Christian maintain a smile while walking the streets and seeing literally millions of people whom judgment has allegedly been inevitably pronounced over?  
-----

They should stand on the corner and preach the Gospel and pass out tracts to everyone who passes by...

**Re: - posted by randomname, on: 2009/3/10 10:53**

REMOVED

**Re: , on: 2009/3/10 11:00**

A Christian should rejoice when being led to rejoice and a Christian should weep when the spirit brings a burden of grief.

This is between the Christian and the Holy Spirit. We're allowed to experience both in relationship but it must be genuine. There's no such thing as an apathetic Holy Spirit, either in a smile or in sorrow. Let it be to each one in relationship with the Lord without being critical of the other. If we know that the brother or sister is a sincere Christian then we must leave room for the Spirit in personal relationship.

**Re: , on: 2009/3/10 11:08**

If we know anything about David Wilkerson it is that he walked those very streets for years and years for the Lord talking to gang members and those left behind by society. The Church was built on this street ministry. If they have gotten away from where they came from that's one thing, but if there's one Sunday that just didn't feel right I think that's another.

I agree that if it's a continued concern, it should be directed toward TSC. A mark of a sound church is their ability to listen to a broken heart without judgment or condemnation. Just by the way they entreat you in your distress may verify or put to ease your concerns.

**Re: - posted by growingholly, on: 2009/3/10 11:31**

just to clarify:

"also, if we see in the new testament and church history, we know that oftentimes persecution involves poverty, and that is ok, because it brings joy to be counted worthy to suffer with Christ" (sorry, i can't figure out how to do the "quote" thing on here..haha)

i said that, not rhodes.

true, i don't want to be too reactionary. but also randomname and others make compelling points.

ultimately, the gospel is a message of hope. the only way to get the power of the cross is to be nailed upon it with Christ. i am furious at the deceit of millions and millions by teachings that tickle people's ears. i grieve that their souls are in danger. but: God's perfect will is still perfect. and He did say that they would choose this, they don't want to hear that we must get up on the cross with Him, die to self, and worship Him not because of what He can do for "me", but because He is worthy...my heart just breaks with the thought of people going to hell. but it's just a reality. my God is the thrice holy God, AND He is the God of love and compassion.

i have been encouraged as well as admonished by this thread. i will take it all to the Lord, and seek His will.

look, i didn't mean to sound mean or angry. i don't want to be censorious. but our fathers grieved at the loss of souls to our fathers grieved at the rejection of God's holy ways, the worldliness, within the desires of their own flesh and the desires and actions of the world around them. that's what i'm feeling now, i believe. i just can't handle it that someone is going to curse God and think He lied to them if their bank account fails, all because this guy taught it at a high-profile church.

and i did go to the church last night to talk to them but it was closed. i will try again tonight.

my heart is this: i just want God's truth to be glorified and for people to be truly saved. maybe i have to learn how to bridge my passion, it's so much and i've never had such a fire in me before.

please accept my apology for whatever way i may have sinned in. i'm still confused about some of the posts here. but i'm not confused that Christ is Lord and King and will prevail.

boy, it's sure tough being a toddler again...:-(

\*\*\*edit\*\*\* so i am really convicted of this: i really should have gone to the church first before posting, truly, that was sin. so i confess this before you all. i'm sorry for it and hope to never repeat the error.

**Re: , on: 2009/3/10 12:40**

My prayers are with you in your convictions. God Bless.

**Re: , on: 2009/3/10 12:49**

Quote:  
-----Should a Christian maintain a smile while walking the streets and seeing literally millions of people whom judgment has allegedly been inevitably pronounced over?

If there is a time for sadness and crying out to God, as you said, this would be it.  
-----

You misunderstood me completely.

Krispy

**Re: , on: 2009/3/10 12:51**

Quote:  
-----so i am really convicted of this: i really should have gone to the church first before posting, truly, that was sin. so i confess this before you all. i'm sorry for it and hope to never repeat the error.  
-----

No, it wasn't a sin. This forum is a good sounding board, and perhaps bringing your concerns here have helped you with your perspective. Better to do that than to have an incorrect perspective of what happened, and go off on the leadership there for no reason.

Krispy

**Re: , on: 2009/3/10 13:50**

Public confession of sin is rare. It is rare because it takes guts and humility. We should never take away from that, mainly because we do not know a person's heart. If we violate our conscience then we have sinned.....Frank

**Re: - posted by TheophilusMD (), on: 2009/3/10 14:56**

Quote:  
-----i just can't handle it that someone is going to curse God and think He lied to them if their bank account fails, all because this guy taught it at a high-profile church.  
-----

I wasn't there when Ps. Neil Rhodes preached at 3 PM but allow me to say a few things. He has been a part of the pastoral staff for probably ten(?) years already. He is NOT some visiting pastor who just comes in and out. I am absolutely sure he is NOT a prosperity preacher. If Ps. Carter Conlon was in the same service would he not have stopped him? BTW, they're friends.

Quote:  
-----  
The tone Sunday wasn't particularly solemn. The Sunday morning "alter call" (Who will "go"? was the invitation) was interrupted by a baby dedication with smiling parents having photo ops with Carter Conlon.  
-----

Babies are dedicated every second Sunday of each month in TSC. As to Ps. David's warning, the church has been aware of that (and constantly reminded) since it was first preached more than 10 years ago. Can there not be joy and smiling faces even in times like these? Your concerns may be valid but there should be caution when we base our judgment

on the externals.

**Re: - posted by growingholly, on: 2009/3/10 15:35**

um, krispy, please forgive me here, but i'm not the "go off" type...yikes! i just meant that i should go and ask politely and talk with them, should have clarified that. i came in here with tears, and that is because i feel that this is a real and open community where we can be however we feel. but it wasn't anger, and i don't really go off..i'm pretty mellow in my dealings with others, i strive for love and kindness. do i fail? yep. sure do. and that makes me sad. but praise God, He is kind to shape me to be sweet to people and realize i may not have all the facts. (and even if i ever did, i still am called to be kind and loving for the sake of the Name)

plus i really take seriously my call to respect men in all circumstances, regardless of my agreement or non-agreement with them. sorry if i gave you or anyone else any impression otherwise.

that was surprising to see you write, so i'm way sorry if i made it seem that way. that rebukes me which is a good thing, to really consider what impression i may give to others.

i'm glad to learn from people here. it's really nice that everyone can chip in and help. or confuse me more (haha!). but mostly help.

but i stand firm in my confession, it was sin for me. the pattern is laid out plainly in the Bible and i need to follow it.

:-)

**Re: , on: 2009/3/10 15:55**

Quote:  
-----\*\*\*edit\*\*\* so i am really convicted of this: i really should have gone to the church first before posting, truly, that was sin. so i confess this before you all. i'm sorry for it and hope to never repeat the error.  
-----

Sis, you DID come to "The Church" with this. We're not separate from TSC or any other true "church". You came to those who may know TSC best and members that even attend there for feedback.

NO condemnation. Someone could post a mp3 of Rhodes sermon - because they & we are responsible to "the world" for what we allow to be preached.

No condemnation Holly, please.

**Re: , on: 2009/3/10 16:23**

Amen Holly, always go as you are led by the Lord and you will never go far wrong.....Frank

**Re: - posted by growingholly, on: 2009/3/10 16:46**

thanks for your love, all of you.

:-)

**Re: , on: 2009/5/2 2:58**

I am SO glad you posted this Holly. I Finally got a chance to go searching for the mp3 of this message.

I do believe Rom 8:28 and this message is just what I needed to hear NOW. :-D Praise GOD!!!

Thank You GOD, for this thread.

(<http://media.tscnyc.org/mp3/20090308S2.mp3>) Neil Rhodes - A Time of Harvest - 3/08/09