

General Topics :: church rebuked

church rebuked, on: 2007/3/26 10:49

Many of you have heard of an incident on Feb. 18th at Kensington Main Campus 12 noon service where two people (Josef Urban and Lina Torres) stood up and began to quote Scripture and preach the word of God. They both felt it necessary to speak out in objection to the video that was played that mocked Jesus and also to object to the false gospel and false Jesus that is preached at Kensington.

If you were disturbed, shaken or upset at the aforementioned incident — YOU SHOULD BE! - your soul is in grave danger! The message that is preached at Kensington and the false Jesus that is taught will, according to Scripture, lead your soul to hell. This is not about a mere difference in theology, but about your very soul. Your soul is in GREAT and SERIOUS danger at Kensington! But we ask you not to just take our word for it but take the time to explore some of the writings and sermons of some of the most respected men in Christianity today and from the past. Please don't dismiss this warning... your soul depends on it. RUN FOR YOUR LIFE FROM KENSINGTON AND THEIR TEACHINGS!!!

Article found here:

<http://www.obeyjesus.net/why.htm>

Re: church rebuked - posted by iansmith (), on: 2007/3/26 11:29

Why do we preach so much against other Christians when there are millions around the world who have never heard the name of Jesus?

Philippians 1:15-18

Quote:  
 ----- 15 Some indeed preach Christ even of envy and strife; and some also of good will:  
 16 The one preach Christ of contention, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my bonds:  
 17 But the other of love, knowing that I am set for the defence of the gospel.  
 18 **What then? notwithstanding, every way, whether in pretence, or in truth, Christ is preached; and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice**  
 .  
 -----

Are you rejoicing that Christ is preached, even by someone who may not necessarily believe the same things you do, or out of wrong motives... Paul, wrapped in chains could rejoice that the name of Jesus was being preached even though the preachers were filled with all kinds of evil and sin. We sit and judge churches, preach against them, if you have that much of a problem with *that* church, don't go there!

And when you find the perfect church, don't go there either, you'll just end up messing it up.

**Re:, on: 2007/3/26 11:41**

Quote:  
-----Why do we preach so much against other Christians  
-----

Why do you assume that because people gather in a building on Sunday morning with the word "church" written on it that they are Christians?

Warning people that the message they're hearing is "another gospel" and based on "another jesus" seems biblical when called to do so.

Quote:  
-----We sit and judge churches, preach against them, if you have that much of a problem with \*that\* church, don't go there!  
-----

Someone should have told Jeremiah not to go and preach against the temple crowd if that were the case, it would have saved him a lot of grief and heart ache.

In Christ - Jim

**Re:, on: 2007/3/26 11:48**

Would you have given the same advise to Jeremiah or some of the other prophets? After all the priest and the prophets of that day probably had some of the message right..even if they weren't living it.

Paul was rejoicing because the GOSPEL was preached....even though the motives in doing so were wrong. Nowhere do you find Paul rejoicing over a false Gospel. A Gospel that cost nothing, no repentance needed, and that embraces the world.

If you read the rest of Paul's letters he wasn't one to just let sin go on:

21What will ye? shall I come unto you with a rod, or in love, and in the spirit of meekness?

Do you not believe God would send people to rebuke and correct? Have you ever read the life of George Fox? Was he in error?

**Re: - posted by InTheLight (), on: 2007/3/26 12:02**

Quote:  
-----Why do we preach so much against other Christians when there are millions around the world who have never heard the name of Jesus?  
-----

I understand your thinking here but, if we are to apply this logic then we must question why Jeremiah, for example, wasn't sent to speak to the Gentile nations instead of Judah. You see, God has always worked through a church, a corporate expression of His glory. When that expression is corrupted it needs to be rebuked and restored in love. Isn't this what Jesus did with the churches in Asia?

Quote:  
-----Are you rejoicing that Christ is preached, even by someone who may not necessarily believe the same things you do, or out of wrong motives.  
-----

Indeed Paul could rejoice that Christ was preached even if only part of the gospel was preached, but, in his letters he clearly spoke out against contention, envy, strife, and pretense which was the manner of the preaching he was referring to in Philippians 1. I think Paul's point is that God may make use of such things even though the speakers themselves may be disqualified. However, a full expression of Christ is what God desires. Therefore, in love and compassion, seeking to restore, such preachers will be rebuked.

In Christ,

Ron

**Re: - posted by iansmith (), on: 2007/3/26 12:02**

There is probably a remnant in that church, just as there was a remnant during the times of the prophets and during the time of George Fox. There are probably also people among your congregation that are damned, and many 'hell-fire, bible beating' preachers who haven't been sealed for the day of judgement.

My point is simply this, why do we preach against other churches when there are people outside of our church, outside of that other church that have never heard the Gospel.

Paul could rejoice, because despite the fact that these men's motives were wrong, that their hearts were filled with deceit, that they were preaching a compromised gospel, the gospel was still being preached.

You see, when we talk about Jesus we are opening a door, even if someone doesn't know what he's talking about God can still use that opportunity. I went to that church's website and I didn't find anything that jumped out at me as heretical or worth preaching against -just because they don't preach about Jesus the same way that you do doesn't mean they're wrong. And even if they are wrong, they may get some people to open up their bibles -and I want to make one thing straight.

If you put a bible in someone's hands, they could hear lukewarm and heretical sermons all their lives, but if they dig into the word they're going to meet the creator of the universe -a holy and mighty God that transcends human churches and human preaching. If that church, even if they preach a compromised gospel is putting bibles in the hands of people then they're taking at least one step in the right direction.

If that church is getting people to think about Jesus, even if they're not getting the whole picture, that's a door that Jesus is going to use to enter their lives -at least some of them.

**Re: - posted by myfirstLove (), on: 2007/3/26 12:10**

Paul warned about another Jesus being preached.

Shouldn't you be weeping that they made a mockery out of Jesus? That they were laughing at ill humour against God?

Why aren't you grieved and in brokenness that Jesus was mocked by those who profess to be His children? It is better to be mocked by the lost, that don't know the truth than by those who claim to know the truth.

Where is your heart?

**Re:, on: 2007/3/26 12:17**

Sure...people get saved in lukewarm churches. However, just because God works good doesn't mean the error should be overlooked. I think your statement that we need to be preaching to those who have not heard the gospel instead is wrong. It's not a matter of "need" it's a matter of what God is leading one to do. If God's leading one to go to the streets and preach..then go do it. If God's leading one to go rebuke a church...then go do it.

If one is sitting in a church and they are mocking Christ then stand up for Christ.

When I see brothers and sisters, who stand up for Christ, I am thankful. They refuse to let others "christians" mock Jesus and shame His name. I see believers who are concerned for God's Glory and God's sheep more than the acceptance

of men.

I pray God would raise up more believers to confront the false Gospel being preached in many churches. May God find men He can use to wake up those who the "church" is lulling to sleep.

**Re:, on: 2007/3/26 12:37**

I guess I should state that I am loosely involved with this, as these are members of my fellowship who are coming against our local megachurch. I can tell you that hundreds of people from Kensington are downloading Ray Comfort, Paul Washer, and David Wilkerson messages on false conversion and false grace because of this.

I thank God someone came and rebuked me for listening to Joyce Meyer and gave me a Ray Comfort sermon to listen to. God used it to radically change my lukewarm walk.

I was able to spend 3 1/2 hours last night with a small group leader from Kensington who emailed us about the incident. He was cut to the heart over what the Lord spoke through me to him. He is meeting with a large group of people today from Kensington to explain what's going on and hopefully have them examine themselves because they are a lukewarm group in general.

Glory be to God for any fruit that comes through this.

in Christ - Jim

**Re: - posted by iansmith (), on: 2007/3/26 12:44**

myfirstlove,

I am grieved for the sake of Jesus... over millions all over the world who are being cast into an eternal hell without a chance to ever hear the name of Jesus.

Several years ago there was a TV show in Britain that had a comedic portrayal of Jesus, do you know who got it taken off the air? I'd like to answer 'the Christian church.' No, it was Muslims! Muslims complained that the television show was making a lewd portrayal of one of their prophets!

It pains me that we preach Jesus as a 'buddy,' someone that we can poke fun at, someone to hang out with. Not that Jesus wasn't those things, but in the description of Jesus in Revelation is an entirely different story. We are told that we are able to approach the throne with confidence, but John, the one whom Jesus loved fell down as dead.

Revelation 1:10-

Quote:  
-----10I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,  
  
11Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.  
  
12And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks;  
  
13And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.  
  
14His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire;  
  
15And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters.  
  
16And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.  
  
17And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last:  
  
18I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.  
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Even though John had a close relationship with Jesus in his human form, John could not stand when he encountered the glorified Jesus! This is not someone to be mocked, or made fun of... he isn't your buddy and certainly isn't going to find the humor in any video that portrays him without reverence.

But we cannot forget that Jesus is also grace, and though our eyes have been open to respect him in this way, we should not condemn those who haven't seen him this way. A lot of people get hung up on the love of Christ and never grow in their faith... we're so quick to rebuke to cut someone down when we should be admonishing them for the sake of their spiritual growth.

One of the best sermons I've ever heard on the nature of the glorified Christ in revelation was given by Mark Driscoll at Mars Hill Church in Seattle. Many people are pretty tough on Mars Hill because of its lax teachings on music, drinking, clothing etc... but when I visited I heard a sermon about Jesus that knocked me down to my knees.

Maybe I'm lax with this other church because I'm willing to see them with grace, or because I'd rather be on the mission field than accusing my fellow believers.

Search your heart this morning and see if you are right with Christ, if you have a full understanding of his grace and mercy before you seek to admonish someone else over their lack thereof. Test yourself in light of the Spirit and scripture, cleanse your own heart of any unrighteousness.

I firmly believe that Paul was light years ahead of me when he wrote the words I have already written from Philippians... although this doesn't mean that I can't live a higher dimensional life like him. He didn't let other people's lack of faith stumble his own. We also have to remember that he PLANTED these churches that he was writing to (except for the one in Rome) and that he had authority to rebuke them, and to warn them against false teachers.

When you have been raised up to leadership in a congregation, then you have the task and the burden to rebuke the church -and it's a burden, sometimes it seems like many people take pleasure in rebuking others... I firmly believe that Paul grieved and prayed for hours before saying one word or penning one line of scripture.

I love Leonard Ravenhill, I can say Amen after almost every paragraph that he's ever written... but he was in a role of spiritual leadership, he was a Pastor to Pastors... most of the preaching that we hear by him was done in his 70's and 80's, he was a man who spent two or more (usually more) hours in prayer a day... one of the greatest lines I've ever read from him is, **'We never pray about the folks that we gossip about, and we never gossip about the folks that we pray for.'**

Even if these people were right in rebuking this church, have we prayed for this church or do we just glory in the rebuke that they were given, do we \*cheer\* for the rebuker... or are we praying for the rebuked. Where is our heart? We say that we want them to experience genuine salvation, a full gospel... when you read this did you stop to think and pray for this congregation? Did you put them on your prayer list? Did you even think to pray for them at all? **Sure their salvation is important, but is it important enough for you to spend even 15 seconds in prayer for?** I hope you can see that I'm frustrated!

Re:, on: 2007/3/26 12:48

Quote:  
-----I was able to spend 3 1/2 hours last night with a small group leader from Kensington who emailed us about the incident. He was cut to the heart over what the Lord spoke through me to him. He is meeting with a large group of people today from Kensington to explain what's going on and hopefully have them examine themselves because they are a lukewarm group in general.

Glory be to God for any fruit that comes through this.

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Praise God! Let's all be praying!

Re: - posted by iansmith (), on: 2007/3/26 12:50

jimdied2sin,

Praise the Lord! I will definitely make sure to pray for you and your time with the small group leader from Kensington.

Megachurches are not inherently bad... just like a cruise ship is not inherently bad, when it's on course everyone on board is on course... but if it strays from the narrow path than it takes many more with it than a smaller churches -but we shouldn't deceive ourselves, there are thousands and thousands of small churches that are in error also, and if you add up their membership they would rival any mega-church.

In this way a mega-church can even be a blessing, because if the true Gospel is preached (and it is at some mega-churches) then thousands of believers can be equipped and given the same vision -not that God needs our numbers.

With this specific church there has been a challenge to get on course, we need to pray that the Spirit intervenes and sets these believers back in line with His Word, on the narrow path.

Re:, on: 2007/3/26 12:54

Quote:

-----Praise the Lord! I will definitely make sure to pray for you and your time with the small group leader from Kensington.

But don't you see brother...if this would have been up to you none of this would have ever happened. Some of the people would still be coasting on in their false hope lukewarm state.

Re:, on: 2007/3/26 13:02

Paul was clearly talking about motives when he said to rejoice that the **gospel** was being preached. For instance, some preachers preach the gospel for what the Bible calls "filthy lucre", or money. That's their motive. Paul basically says "who cares if money is their motive? Truth is truth, and God's Word does not come back void."

However, Paul speaks very **strongly**, and in no uncertain terms, against those who preach another Christ. He said if another man, or even if an angel appears preaching another Christ, we are to **reject** them. Paul said very clearly that we are to **mark and avoid** those who cause divisions by preaching unscriptural doctrines.

A proper understanding and perspective on scripture goes a long way in clearing up these misunderstandings. Scripture is very clear on this issue.

We can not be "live and let live" when it comes to false doctrines, because it will lead to death for many. I do not rejoice that the JW's are preaching their gospel, nor should I rejoice about some "church" not preaching the truth of the gospel, even if they call themselves Christians. The Mormons call themselves Christians. Calling yourself a Christian doesn't make you a Christian any more than calling yourself a hamburger makes you a hamburger.

Krispy

Re: church rebuked - posted by Compton (), on: 2007/3/26 13:32

I think someone had posted a link to these films a few weeks ago. The description from the article...

"During the service, a video was played that portrayed a very blasphemous image of Christ driving out the moneychangers from the Temple as a satirical joke. It seemed to be a very old film out of which the sound was removed and voice-over effects were placed on it. As "Jesus" in the film was flipping over tables in a humorous way, they had his voice saying terrible things like "Sinners", and "You're going to hell!" in a very mocking way to make it all a big jest.

I'm glad these people protested this film. Even though Jesus' name was mentioned, this video's malignment of the scriptural account of Jesus cleansing the temple and the lack of respect shown for the savior is a huge step in the wrong direction. Even many unbelievers start out knowing better than to snicker and giggle about God.

If the church you attend ever resorts to such vulgar pandering to the crowd, defecting from Her first Love to win the chuckles of carnal people...I might suggest a different strategy than protesting. You might calmly stand up, quietly walk out of the sanctuary, and make your way down the hall to the breaker box for the building where you would cut the power to the sanctuary. Besides peacefully ending the unhealthy defacement of God's Word, the sudden darkness would serve as a useful metaphor for the spiritual condition of that place.

MC

**Re: - posted by murdog (), on: 2007/3/26 14:00**

Saints,

When the Laodicean church is being rebuked by the spirit for its lukewarm condition; Jesus doesn't say to them "run for your lives", instead he tells them to "buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of the nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see."

"As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten; be zealous therefore, and repent.

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock: if ANY man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me."

To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne."

"He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches."

Notice how Christ couples his righteous indignation with longsuffering and gentleness.

In verse 16 he is ready to spew the lukewarm out of his mouth and then in verse 20 he is willing to sup with them who repent.

Murray

**Re: - posted by iansmith (), on: 2007/3/26 14:04**

Well I think the heart of this is a difference in view on our parts -what you see as them worshipping a different Jesus, implies that they have no relationship with the real Jesus. Whereas I would extend them the benefit that they are in a state of immaturity and spiritual ignorance. I don't think it's one or the other, I think it's probably a mix of both. We need to be careful to tell believers they're not saved, and we also need to be careful not to say to unbelievers to grow up. Unbelievers need to be saved and believers need to grow up.

When we go around saying, 'well they're not worshipping the real Jesus,' you might as well go around chopping people up! Paul had a chopping ministry, Barnabus had a healing ministry -the church needs them both!

Among my local church I'm known for being, 'serious.' There are others among my congregation who stay away from me because I confront the way that they're living their lives... I could get the wrong notion that these people are lost, or I could just realize that they're immature. I'm immature too... my answer before was to confront them and show them their speck, but it turned out most of the time I was walking around with a plank in my eye. Even though my motives were right, and my observation was correct, my actions were completely wrong.

I acted like a Paul, but God wants me to be a Barnabus! It may be different for you.

The video in question was probably the one released by Vintage21, a Acts 29 member church (a church planting ministry of Mars Hill church in Seattle).

Mars Hill, although they are a mega-church, preaches an unflinching Gospel, with a correct biblical Jesus. Vintage 21, related through its ministry to Mars Hill released those horrible videos... and obviously someone made a mistake of playing



g them at Kensington.

If we were to look at it without discernment we would blanket all three of these churches with condemnation... but that would be error. We need to realize that there are unbelievers and believers in these congregations. Mature and immature. We have been given a view to see their mote, but we also have to be careful how we approach them because we could have a plank in our own eye of unlove or condemnation.

That is why prayer is so important, and why I quoted Leonard's quote on gossip. Although seemingly unrelated I think it is directly applicable... if we're praying our motives will be purified. Leonard Ravenhill said that prayer was a great detergent! Prayer cleanses us not only of our sin, but helps us to see the beam in our eyes and seek repentance before we seek to admonish anyone else. Prayer will also prepare us to confront others with their sin, because we will have their best in mind.

My greatest fear is that someone will say all the right things to a church in admonishment but be doing it for all the wrong reasons. Leonard Ravenhill rebuked the church but he wanted to see revival, he wanted to see Jesus glorified. We can so easily emulate him and his rebuking of others but for our own glory, for our own pride, to prove that we are a macho christian and our view of Jesus is best... that is what I have seen in myself and what I have to repent of.

**Re: - posted by Compton (), on: 2007/3/26 14:06**

Quote:  
-----In verse 16 he is ready to spew the lukewarm out of his mouth and then in verse 20 he is willing to sup with them who repent.  
-----

Good word Murdog.

Thanks,

MC

**Re:, on: 2007/3/26 14:15**

Quote:  
-----In verse 16 he is ready to spew the lukewarm out of his mouth and then in verse 20 he is willing to sup with them who repent.  
-----

Jeremiah 51: (also see Babylon in Revelation)

39 But while they are aroused,  
I will set out a feast for them  
and make them drunk,  
so that they shout with laughter—  
then sleep forever and not awake,"  
declares the LORD.

40 "I will bring them down  
like lambs to the slaughter,  
like rams and goats.

41 "How Sheshach will be captured,  
the boast of the whole earth seized!  
What a horror Babylon will be  
among the nations!

42 The sea will rise over Babylon;  
its roaring waves will cover her.



43 Her towns will be desolate,  
a dry and desert land,  
a land where no one lives,  
through which no man travels.

44 I will punish Bel in Babylon  
and make him spew out what he has swallowed.  
The nations will no longer stream to him.  
And the wall of Babylon will fall.

45 "Come out of her, my people!  
Run for your lives!  
Run from the fierce anger of the LORD.

46 Do not lose heart or be afraid  
when rumors are heard in the land;  
one rumor comes this year, another the next,  
rumors of violence in the land  
and of ruler against ruler.

47 For the time will surely come  
when I will punish the idols of Babylon;  
her whole land will be disgraced  
and her slain will all lie fallen within her.

**a REAL church rebuke - posted by iansmith (), on: 2007/3/26 14:30**

Either Give Us A Revival—Or A Funeral

Did you know that in the lifetime of the average American they will be presented the Gospel hundreds of times, and often take for granted the treasure they're being offered.

There are hundreds of millions of people in some of the most horrible physical conditions in the world who are crying out for a relationship with God, but they aren't being answered because we're still here, in America.

Revival and Missions go hand in hand. Do we want to raise up a generation for the Lord? What do we raise them up for? To storm the gates, to save the lost... or to fill the pews of our local church. Are we raising up prayer warriors and frontier missionaries or are we more concerned with making converts that tithe faithfully.

There is revival in the world right now, I can name multiple countries that are currently experiencing revival around the world... but none of them speak English. America is still digging it's grave.

What we need is mature believers, what we need are missionaries and prayer warriors! You want to rebuke a church... find out how many of their congregation has ever considered missions. Find out how much time their average member spends a day in prayer. Even among our 'best' churches we might still find that compared with the biblical and historical examples of our faith we fall so short!

The Moravians used to go to the mission field expecting to die -this was more than symbolic, it was a regular practice for them to pack all their belongings for the trip in a coffin.

The Moravians knew about prayer, they experienced revival and a move of the Spirit that maybe no other church since has come close to... and what did they do? They went out! They didn't just stay in their quaint little German hamlet, they went to the ends of the earth with the Gospel as the first protestant missionary movement. Their lives were planted on the mission field, their sacrifices were a pleasing aroma to the Lord.

In comparison, American Christianity even at some of our 'best' churches is still a stench to the Lord. Instead of seeing o

ourselves in the view of our fathers of Faith, or comparing ourselves with the Gospel accounts of the early church we compare ourselves with the churches around us, and we look pretty good! But we're a stench to Him in our smugness! Here we are throwing mud at each other arguing over who has the true Gospel -if we were visited by Paul Washer's peruvian congregation they may say that neither of us has the Gospel.

There is more persecution among believers today than at any other time in history... maybe not in America, but there are people dying for the sake of the Gospel all around the world. Yet even the 'best' American Christians would rather debate about KJV vs. NIV, or Jesus' portrayal in films in some church in Detroit than get down on their knees and pray for a world dying without Jesus. Remember, Sodom Had No bible... and most Americans have heard the Gospel hundreds of times and there are bibles in every hotel room that prostitution occurs. We, the church of America are going to be responsible for this generation at the judgement.

'This generation of believers is responsible for this generation of souls around the world.' -Keith Green.

**Re: a REAL church rebuke, on: 2007/3/26 14:58**

Quote:  
-----Here we are throwing mud at each other arguing over who has the true Gospel -if we were visited by Paul Washer's peruvian congregation they may say that neither of us has the Gospel.  
-----

Brother Ian,

I know this is often the case, that people will "complain" about this or that in the church and do nothing but you are WAY YYYYYYYYYYYYYYYY of the mark on your application of this to what is happening in Detroit.

I will write only about brother Josef, both as to not puff myself up, and because he was primarily involved in the initial "incident" at Kensington. Brother Josef is a MIGHTY prayer warrior who prays for hours at a time, fasts for days at a time and preaches in the most dangerous parts of inner city Detroit where even the police won't go... literally.

He does all this because of a burning passion for the Glory of God and a love for the poor souls who are in bondage and need to be liberated from the powerless Gospel they have heard about all of their lives. In fact, he is currently on his honeymoon, probably in Mexico, preaching the good news to violent, highly dangerous drug cartel and gang members.

I write this to rebuke the subtle, false accusations you have made in your previous post and because Josef is a dear brother whom I love greatly. When the next Josef walks into your congregation with a prophetic word from God, please don't be so quick to dismiss him with the preconceived notions that you have.

I understand being skeptical, but don't dismiss everything so quickly.

in Christ - Jim

**Re: - posted by iansmith (), on: 2007/3/26 15:15**

jimdied2sin,

Thank you for your word. Thankfully there are still men in America like Josef, but from my experience those men end up being frustrated and either tone down to end up in the mission field... but it sounds like he's making Detroit his mission field, which is awesome! A lot of Americans say 'well America is my mission field,' yet they wouldn't even look at a gang member, let alone reach out to him with the Gospel.

That is why I believe (as I have already stated) that there is a remnant which is keeping judgement from falling on this nation. In the OT there were 7000 who hadn't prostrated before Baal, there may be more in America today, but the wrath eventually fell on Israel and it may not be far off from America.

**Re:, on: 2007/3/26 15:17**

Ian... spiritual immaturity is one thing, but we're talking about a church that is **teaching** a false Christ, and there is no excuse for this. And scripture makes it very clear how it is to be handled, and it is not up to us go against scripture because of how we *feel* it should be handled. That's called disobedience.

We are not given the right to disobey scripture because what we're saying then is that we know better than God how something should be handled.

If you believe scripture is wrong, then more power to ya, bro. I'd prefer to stick to scripture.

Krispy

**Re:, on: 2007/3/26 15:19**

Ian-

I am with you on much of what you wrote, I just wanted to point out that what is going on in Detroit is not the doctrinal mud slinging that we see so often.

It's true what you said about getting fed up and going to the mission field... I can relate to that in many ways.

In Christ - Jim

**Re: - posted by iansmith (), on: 2007/3/26 15:23**

Krispy,

Paul when he wrote letters to churches that were in horrible sin, churches that he founded, didn't condemn them for worshipping a false Christ. He rebuked them for their spiritual immaturity and lack of growth. He baptised some of them himself, yet there was infighting, different teachings and doctrine and he had to write to correct it. I would say that if he warned about a false Jesus being preached it was 5% of his message when 95% was against spiritual immaturity.

It would be wrong to apply Paul's teachings towards churches with the 5% and ignore the 95%.

**Re: - posted by myfirstLove (), on: 2007/3/26 16:32**

I cannot believe that this is very difficult to understand. If Jesus is first in our lives, if He is our first love how could anybody sit quietly and watch the church mock God?

A person who is filled with God and has the spirit of prayer cannot sit there quietly while those who profess to be Christians laugh at God. The fire of God would burn him from the inside out and cause him to open his mouth and speak the truth, will cause his soul to be in agony, much grief seeing the church in this way, not giving God the glory that is due Him! Will melt his heart and fill his eyes with tears seeing His God being defamed in His house.

That's the problem with church. We tolerate sin! And because the many Christians tolerate sin and fear persecution, the lukewarmers and wolves take over the church. We give the lukewarmers and wolves what they want. Then we wonder why the churches are filled with harlotry.

This is not about petty arguing about cal/arm, gifts, gossip,. If we cannot see the EVIL of mocking and laughing at Jesus, I ask again, where is your heart? You would not even see this kind of mocking and laughing at God among many unbelievers! If we cannot see the outrageousness of this sin and be broken over His name being defiled among the church then Jesus is surely not first in your lives. Surely we do not fear God, but men!

Yes, we are responsible for this generation and if we just sit there and watch the church mock Jesus, the next generation will be worse at handling the word of God. The next generation will embrace all kinds of ill humor against God because this generation puts up with it!

For this generation already puts up with so much falsehood, imagine the next.

Because there are so much falsehood in the church is because there are so many cowardly men who love their life and f

ear loosing face.

I do pray God would raise up more men like Joseph. We need more men who do not fear men, but God alone, who are wrought with holy violence and filled with deep love for God and souls that he is willing to be misunderstood that others may live and know the truth!

**Re: - posted by iansmith (), on: 2007/3/26 16:50**

myfirstLove,

I was shocked and frustrated by those videos as well. I couldn't believe that any church would have created such a thing. I'm not letting them off easy -but I'm also not going to immediately jump to the conclusion that they don't have a real relationship with Jesus either.

Sometimes I do and say horrible things to the people that I love -even things which take weeks, months, years to make right.

Just because a person makes a video that is irreverent doesn't mean they are not Children of God. If they are not that is one thing, but if they are the diagnosis is immaturity, not 'preaching a different Jesus.'

This Sunday my small group leader gave the message at my church and preached a whole hour without saying the name Jesus... the only reference to Christ was in the scripture he started with and in his closing prayers... he preached on renewing our minds and at a glance it almost felt like a psychology class.

Now if I didn't know the man and heard this message for the first time I would assume (wrongly) that Jesus isn't preached in this church -and I would be wrong. It didn't make me any less frustrated, I wanted to drop kick him after the service... but he's my Spiritual leader, and I should be careful which fights I pick. Does the fact that he preached a Christless sermon make him a pagan or the teacher of a different Jesus... no, he just didn't have the right focus Yesterday.

If I was his Spiritual leader and recognized the shallowness of his sermon I would have a word with him, but I'm his sheep, so it's quite a different situation.

My whole point is, don't judge so much on appearances, and don't judge a church by one sermon or one video. I'm not forgiving their sin by any means -but we serve a savior that will if they seek his face!

**Re: - posted by KingJimmy (), on: 2007/3/26 17:28**

Next time you should bring handcuffs so that you can be chained to the seat. It'll take them a lot longer to remove you then :)

**Re: church rebuked - posted by LilElvin, on: 2007/3/26 17:46**

would first like to say that I am new to this board and discussion, and I am very privileged and please to be around such a community of believers. My response to this discussion;

I do not like many discussions of this sort because they can breed discord and maybe not understood or realized up front, but they tend to be spoken out of much of our particular selfish desires that are so rooted within us.

I do not claim to be an expert on anything, but I have read most of the posts concerning this subject, and I find that every one of you all posted very significant responses. I would like to add that all of you are right with many of your assessments, but most importantly, what is of utmost importance is what the spirit of almighty God has declared or spoken in your spirit. Whether one feels it lines up perfectly with your theological indoctrination, theological propaganda, and your particular theological presupposition.

I put this in such a way because there are NO scholars in this world that can firmly tell either one of us of the exact particulars that are in scripture because they or ourselves were not there! What I am saying rely upon our gracious Lord Jesus to open and reveal to us the scriptures as pertaining to exactly what a portion of written theology is attempting to convey to our hearts. I perceive that all we "christians" are guilty of trying to make the sacred scriptures do what we want them to

o do based upon our concerns or issues at the time.

I also firmly believe that the Christ is the final authority on all issues of theology. In short, forums tend to create opinions and personal thoughts that turn in to "pissing" matches that never end, or it leaves an uncertain thought in someone else's mind, and it also causes us to think one of us are more wise or of more understanding than the other. Foolish Pride on all of our parts...

Lets be at peace with one another no matter who was wrong.... When it all boils down to it, Jesus commands us to Love whether it be in tenderness or in harsher temperament, it must all be in love. Do not open your mouth before a group, congregation, or even one until you have been propelled by the HOLY SPIRIT who promised to guide us in the truth and to comfort us.

The Holy Spirit has the best answer for the moment, and even as some of you all stated about Jeremiah, and the other prophets, they responded on basis of God's Love. Whether the situation was was awful in there eyes or next to hopeless , they spoke as the scripture states as the Holy Men were moved by GOD.

Briefly on the basis of another gospel, mega churches, small churches, or whatever issue, the spirit will testify in your spirit as to how to deal with these issues.

I say this because we all have an opinion, especially a scriptural "insight" I Cor 14:26, and I firmly believe that all that we believers do should be unto edification, even if it seems as though we are tearing down. God must lead and guide us by his mind which is his spirit on how to see and carry out judgement concerning those issues..

ha shem Yeshua has Messchiach

**Re: - posted by LilElvin, on: 2007/3/26 17:59**

Also Saints,

one of biggest reasons for explaining myself was because we tend to think because something happen particularly in scripture then we are to look at it and respond in like manner or in the same way or ways. We are to be led of the spirit in order to deal with the people, and the different spirits of this world.

We must all remember that when we go alone, we are just that out there on our own with our views, opinions, and attitudes. That part of us must also DIE with our other rebellion and sinfulness.

I believe that if we were to get into the heads or the hearts per say of the the Church giants, Mr. Ravenhill, or one of my favorites David Martin Lloyd-Jones we will realized that these men lost their own views and lives because their own lives, interpretations, and presuppositions are selfish, and it works a sort of witchcraft. Of the which guys and gals we all are guilty...

Ha shem Yeshua ha Meschiach

**Re: - posted by myfirstLove (), on: 2007/3/26 19:54**

Ian, I understand what you are saying, but don't agree.

I've seen that video before too. I was very sicken to my stomach I could not watch the rest.

For anyone to put that video on for the congregation to watch does NOT KNOW Jesus.

You can know if a christian is truly devoted to Jesus by his conversation and the things he watches. If His heart is good, it will show. If His heart is evil, he cannot hide it, it will come out by his action or his conversation.

Now I'm not talking about young believers, but even they should have some sort of conviction, watching that video, if the Spirit lives in them. But this is the leader who put this on, who should know better.

What do you mean he could of not have the right focus today?

I believe Christians can slide back, but to put a movie on mocking Jesus means this person just did not have 1 day of wrong focus, but there has been many days of wrong focus. When a Christian slides back, they slide slowly back. You cannot be filled with Jesus one day then the next day you mock Jesus in front of the whole congregation. No way!

If we were truly after God's heart, that video would not be near us. By the leaders showing this video shows that they do not have discernment at all and should not be guiding the sheep.

I pray that the leaders see the deep sin of this and repent in ashes.

What you sow you will reap. Mocking God in front of many, you will be made a fool in front of many.

It is surely God's mercy to send someone to blow the trumpet or else the leaders could fall deeper into delusion. Obviously the leaders weren't listening to the Spirit because they put the video on, that God sent people to show him his error and help the sheep not to fall in the leaders' delusion. That's mercy!

For everybody else, please know that my motive was not to tear anyone down, but exhort others to good works and contending for the faith and to put truth before relationships.

We must obey the first commandment in order to be able to truly love our brethren or else we will be loving them with flatteries, not watching out for their souls, but wanting to please them more than God.

Ian, I want you to know that I am glad that we had this conversation.

Much love, Lisa

**Re: - posted by mary0418 (), on: 2007/3/26 23:45**

Hi everyone,

I was there at Kensington with Josef and Lina when it happened. I didn't stand up and speak, but I did talk to the elders out in the lobby area right after.

You all must understand that we are certainly not coming at these people in a spirit of judgement—we have a deep love and concern for their souls— but more importantly we have a HUGE concern for the glory and the name of our Lord!

That video was a complete mockery and there was no way it could have gone without something being said.

This place is one of those that loves to "push the envelope" I know this because I have attended this place in the past. Actually, I was involved in a small group and was baptized through Kensington. So we are not going into this place not knowing anything about it, or to just start nit-picking at other believers— I really don't like to do that, that is why I never post on these internet forums. I would much rather be out preaching the Gospel to the lost and hurting like we do at least 3 times a week.

People were SHOCKED at the outburst— YES! I think it is exactly what they needed! We have gotten so many views/downloads on the web site and so many responses via email— some of them good— some not so good— like brother Jim's meeting with that guy from there went well— we will be meeting with others from there in the near future PRAISE THE LORD ! but the seekers are being directed to the real undiluted Gospel and the others are being seriously challenged which is definitely a blessing! The Lord is working through this and even if only one person finds Jesus then GLORY TO GOD!

Ian wrote:

I'd rather be on the mission field than accusing my fellow believers.

AMEN!!!! Like I said, we are out on the street 3 times a week in inner city Detroit.

Ian wrote:

I firmly believe that Paul grieved and prayed for hours before saying one word or penning one line of scripture.

You have no idea who you are even talking about. You don't know the prayer life of these Christians—and you don't know their burdens— and I can say in all honesty that they are not those that take pleasure in rebuking others— you should REALLY be careful what you say.

Imagine if all the time that was spent sitting on our computers accusing and being contentious with other believers was spent witnessing on the street or in prayer.....

this post has taken me like 20 minutes or so...you do the math.

We just might have revival!

At least we are out there doing something- reaching out in love to the world.(and it WAS in love) Both in the synagogues and the marketplace. I would really encourage all of you to do the same if you are not already.

God bless you all.

Mary

**Re: - posted by Compton (), on: 2007/3/26 23:56**

Why do simple black and white issues always become gray? The films are evil...what more is there to discuss?

We love the people at Kennington. They are demonstrating a measure of spiritual blindness but hopefully can still see clearly enough to listen to these witnesses in their midst. As Watchman Nee has said, sin can be dealt with at the cross... but spiritual blindness doesn't see the sin. It is not unloving to say so.

They were wrong and got rebuked. What's the big deal? We've all been rebuked many times...it's not the end of the world. I was rebuked this week as a matter of fact. Actually it can be a turning point in your life. This could be a key moment for this church...repentance is the stuff of revivals!

Now regarding the 'questioning' of the motives of the protestors. It doesn't seem very sensible to decry the invisible motives of the people who protested the films, when the visible evil of the films is in plain sight. That seems a bit like straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel. I mean if ever bad motives become as plainly visible as those videos, then we can deal with that. In the meantime we can't be responding to everyone's imagination instead of simply responding to what is real. In our dealings with one another, let's just stick to the facts as they are without any x-ray pretense.

Besides, Kennington won't die from this public paddling. They're big boys.

God bless Kennington...He must love them to send them some brave and faithful witnesses to rebuke them to their face..which is certainly the very antithesis of gossiping! Ian is right when he says there is a remnant in this wayward nation showing that God is merciful to us all.

MC

**Re: - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2007/3/27 8:41**

LilElvin,

I think your posts are confusing. You are speaking out of both sides of your mouth: saying one thing on one hand then turning around and saying another which appears to be in conflict with each other.

I still am not sure what the point of your post is...

But let me say this I admire anyone who will stand up in front of a large gathering and speak out for my Savior. That was very courageous, very brave! There are very few brave Christians in this US of A!

Blessings,

ginnyrose