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Penecostal Denominational Differences - posted by perilous, on: 2007/8/9 3:00

DENOMINATIONAL DIFFERENCES

THOSE WHO WALKED IN THE OLD PATHS PRAYED AND CRIED FERVENTLY IN TEARS. THEY WERE A CHURCH THAT THAT SEEKED GOD'S HOLINESS AND SEEKED GOD'S FACE AND WALKED ACCORDING TO HIS STATUTES AND COMMANDMENTS. BECAUSE OF THEIR SUCCESS IN BRINGING ABOUT A MOVE OF GOD EVERY WHERE THAT THEY WENT BY THEIR PRAYER LIFE AND FERVENCY AND DEVOTION WE TRY TO OBTAIN HIS FAITH BY IMITATING THEIR WALK. THE PATH THAT THEY WALKED IS KNOWN IN THE BIBLE AS "LIVING THROUGH CHRIST", BUT WE PERCEIVED THAT THE REASON THAT THEY SEEN GOD MOVE IS BECAUSE THEY WERE RIGHTEOUS. SO WE PUT ALL OF THESE HEAVY BURDENSOME RULES AND LAWS AND SET STANDARDS REALLY HIGH IN OUR "SELF RIGHTEOUS" EFFORTS TO BECOME HOLY.

WHAT IS HAPPENING IS IF YOU DON'T LIVE UP TO THE STANDARDS OF THE LEGALISTS YOU ARE REJECTED AND MARKED AS A SORT OF "LUKE WARM" CHRISTIAN THAT IS NOT DEVOTED ENOUGH TO GOD AND THEREFORE NOT ONE OF THEM. THEY BELIEVE THEMSELVES TO BE THE "TRUE CHURCH" AND REJECT ANYTHING THAT DOES NOT LOOK, TALK, AND ACT LIKE THEM.

THIS REJECTION CAUSES A HURT THAT SCARS MORE DEEP THAN CAN BE IMAGINED. THE EFFECT OF THIS INJUSTICE IS PEOPLE RUN AWAY FROM FELLOWSHIP AND INFINITELY MORE IMPORTANT, RELATIONSHIP. NOW BECAUSE OF THIS "LEGALISM" THERE IS ESTABLISHED FALSE DOCTRINES OF REBELLION WHICH HAVE LED TO A WATERED DOWN GOSPEL OF ANTI-LAW AND A MISCONSTRUED IDEA OF GRACE. THESE ONES THAT WERE HURT EVENTUALLY BECOME LUKEWARM IN THEIR EFFORTS AND THEREFORE REJECT ANY SIGN OF FERVENCY AND DEVOTION AND SINCERITY AND LABEL FERVENCY, DEVOTION, AND SINCERITY "LEGALISM". IN DOING THIS THEY SEPARATE THEMSELVES FROM ANYONE WHO EVEN OUT OF LOVE WOULD EXHORT THEM TO HOLINESS AND INSTEAD OF LIVING A LIFE POURED OUT TO GOD AND OTHERS THEY ONLY TALK ABOUT IT AS IF IT IS A REALITY TO THEM.

THESE TWO TYPES OF ARGUMENTATIVE DENOMINATIONAL BONDAGE ARE BRINGING SO MUCH CONFUSION AND PUTTING THE FOCUS OF THE CHURCH AS A WHOLE TO "ARE THEY HOLY ENOUGH?", AND "ARE THEY TOO HOLY?" THIS HAS THEREFORE QUENCHED TRUE CHRISTIANITY BY THE HOLY SPIRIT. BY THESE THOUGHTS WE ARE PUTTING RELIANCE ON OURSELVES AND NOT ON GOD. THE RESULT IS WE ARE TAKING AWAY FROM THE SIGNIFICANCE OF FAITH IN HIM WHICH BRINGS ABOUT TRUE AUTHENTIC CHRISTIANITY AND ROBBING GOD OF HIS GLORY.

WE LIKE PETER ARE SINKING IN TO THIS SEA OF DENOMINATIONAL DIFFERENCES AND MAN MADE RELIGION OF RIGHT AND WRONG. LET US TAKE THE HAND THAT JESUS IS REACHING OUT TO SAVE US WITH, HUMBLE OURSELVES, PREFER OTHERS BEFORE OURSELVES AND REALIZE THAT IT IS OUR FAITH AND RELIANCE ON HIM AND GETTING OUT OF THE WAY THAT PERFECTS HIS POWER TO BRING ABOUT RIGHTEOUSNESS AND HOLINESS IN OUR LIVES. WE MUST GET OURSELVES OUT OF THE WAY! WE MUST FOLLOW THE DIRECTION THE CROSS LEADS US. LIVE YOUR LIFE POURED OUT TO GOD AND SUBMIT TO CHRIST WHO IS THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH AND THE SAVIOUR OF THE BODY. LET US LEAVE OUR DENOMINATIONAL DIFFERENCES BEHIND AND BECOME ONE FLESH AS A CHURCH THAT IS FUELED AND LED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Re: Penecostal Denominational Differences - posted by enid, on: 2007/8/9 6:07

Concerning this post, why is it all in capitals?

Is that necessary? It kind of put me off reading it to begin with.

Having read it, it is a rather confusing article.

Whilst seeming to appeal to unity in the Church, it also reads as a monologue of emotion.

Denominations exist, and will always exist, because of certain beliefs ingrained in people.

Amos 3v3, 'Can two walk together, unless they are agreed.'

There was a word missing from the article that I was looking for.

That word was truth. Maybe I missed it.

However, unless Christians are united in the truth of God's word, they cannot walk together.

Hence the varying denominations.

All we have to do is seek God for ourselves.

James 4v8, 'Draw near to God and He will draw near to you....

That is what God wants, for us to draw near to Him in every way possible, and for His glory alone.

God bless.