



Scriptures and Doctrine :: User-Friendly Religion

User-Friendly Religion - posted by LiveforGod (), on: 2007/11/15 20:23

Many so-called believers of today entertain the idea that Christians must conform to the standards of the world in order to win the world. They know that wickedness is flourishing in the earth and that souls need to be won for Christ. However, they realize that many do not want to forsake their sinful ways and give up all to follow Him. Willing to please the world, they conclude that Christianity must be adulterated until it becomes palatable to the multitudes. The Bible, after all, was not written in the 21st century, so surely one need not require the people of today's society to conform to it along every line. They thus create and advertise a new, more user-friendly religion, which allows its converts to speak, act, and dress like the world while easing their conscience in confessing the name and blood of Christ (with the mouth, not the life). Naturally, such a philosophy attracts unprecedented thousands of eager customers, and "believers" are thrilled at the "success of the gospel." There remains, however, a problem. What have the new "converts" been converted to? Christ or merely a gilded form of their old life? Has the world been converted to Christianity, or has Christianity been converted to the world? Paul warns us, "And be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind" (Rom. 12:2). As born again Christians, we have been transformed from our old life of sin and shame to a pure and holy life with Christ. Since our thoughts and affections are now centered on things above, we are no longer interested in fellowshiping with the world or entertaining those "fleshly lusts, which war against the soul" (1 Pet.

2:11). Scriptures such as 1 John 2:15-16 and 2 Tim. 2:4 plainly state that the spirit of the world is at complete enmity with God.

We cannot hope to bring about good by trying to adjust Christ's truth to fit the world.

In the first place,

Christ is unchangeable

(Heb. 13:8). In

the second place, a

changed Christ

could do no good.

Rather than transforming base sinners by His blood into holy people who are fit to spend eternity with a holy God, He would be bringing Himself to their debauched level. Robbed of His holiness and power, He would have nothing to offer them. His saving grace could do nothing worthwhile because it could not save them from anything. His atoning blood could work no pardon, because His unholy sacrifice would be unacceptable in God's sight. God is only good as long as He is holy, and so is His church. He has always been perfect for each need, and He will always remain perfect for anyone in any age.

He needs no alteration to fit the needs of today's society.

The kind of religion sold by a

church reflects what kind of customers

she is looking for. Souls

that are truly seeking Christ will

be willing to give up everything to

please Him. They will not concern

themselves with trying to serve

God and holding onto worldly

pleasures at the same time, and

they will not be attracted by such

a compromising religion. Only

those who are still serving the god

of this world at heart and wish to

profess Christianity only for selfish

gain will be attracted by a

watered-down gospel. Let us not

be guilty of sympathizing with the

spirit of the world to win more

converts. Quality, not quantity of

Christians will lift up the name of

Christ and bring glory to Him.

Some suppose that a little bit

of the world let into the church will render the church more appealing

to the world; more compatible

with today's lifestyle.

While this has proven to draw the

crowds, it is not the Biblical solution.

In God's eyes, a church conformed

to the world is a church won to the world, rather than the world won to the church. Although all have been brought to the same level, it is a lower, not a higher level they have been brought to. In this decrepit state, the church is of no use to the world and of no value to God. It is a transformed, not a conformed people God is looking for.

By: Kara Wiebe

Re: User-Friendly Religion - posted by HisHandmaid, on: 2007/11/17 19:49

Well put.