

## General Topics :: Pastoral Malpractice

### Pastoral Malpractice, on: 2008/5/6 16:31

I would consider pastoral malpractice among the greatest treasons a minister can commit against the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Unfortunately, it is practiced weekly without inhibition.

What do I mean by pastoral malpractice? I mean ministers who stand and preach a gospel other than God's rightful need for punitive justice against our sin and His wrath being appeased by pouring out upon Christ judgment intended for us. He in turn sets us in right legal standing before Himself, through faith in what Jesus has done, while simultaneously giving to us His holy righteousness.

Regrettably, too many evangelical churches have become centers for motivational speaking where congregants learn that "God helps those who help themselves;" that sin is something that keeps us from reaching our full potential, not an infinite offense against the Creator who demands from His creation unblemished righteousness.

The Apostle Paul tells us that humans inherently know we are separated from God by our sin and we try to suppress that truth through drugs, sex, greed, power, alcohol, etc. Sadly, too often when desperate individuals arrive in our churches looking for a solution they get messages about how to improve their lives or their relationships, but the Gospel is absent in the remedy. J.I. Packer, in his quintessential work, "Knowing God," correctly writes:

"We have all heard the Gospel presented as God's triumphant answer to human problems — problems of our relation with ourselves and our fellow humans and our environment. Well, there is no doubt that the Gospel does bring us solutions to these problems, but it does so by first solving a deeper problem — the deepest of all human problems, the problem of man's relation with His Maker. And unless we make it plain that the solution to the former problems depends on the settling of this latter, we are misrepresenting the message and becoming false witnesses of God."

The reality is that fewer people are showing up in our churches to get even a watered-down Gospel because the age of attractional evangelism is rapidly dying, as recent research shows. It is not enough to throw the doors open and shout at the culture, "Come in." Gospel malpractice goes beyond the pulpit and is a trait of a complacent church that limits the mandate of the Great

Commission to an invitation to come when we are clearly told to "Go!"

How contemporary is Paul's letter to Timothy?

"But know this: difficult times will come in the last days. For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, unloving, irreconcilable, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, without love for what is good, traitors, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, holding to the form of religion but denying its power" (2 Timothy 3:1-5).

I believe with every fiber of my being that the transformation of the church lies within the pages of the Bible. If individuals and churches are going to become effective incarnational witnesses in the culture, we must dig in. Paul, again to Timothy, says: "You have known the sacred Scriptures, which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work" (2 Timothy 3:15-17).

How my heart pleads with God to transform our churches to being training and equipping centers that send people out in to culture to be Jesus' ambassadors. I'm not talking pious moralists who point people to their sins, but servants who through humility and loving relationships point people to an all-sufficient Savior.

We must meet people in their context, but we must share the Gospel. Morality does not reconcile people to God; it comes s through the Gospel of Christ.

unknown author

**Re: Pastoral Malpractice, on: 2008/5/6 16:38**

I'll agree with this... however, I've sat in churches that did nothing but preach the same salvation message week after week after week... to the same people... week after week... etc.

There are 66 books in the Bible, and ALL are inspired by the Holy Spirit, and profitable for exhortation, etc....

That's why I like Calvary Chapel's expository way of teaching. Start in Genesis and go line by line. And all of scripture points toward Jesus.

Yes, preach righteousness... yes, remind people that this isn't about us, it's about Him... but teach the WHOLE counsel of God. Calvinist like Packer and the author of this piece you posted sometimes get tunnel vision and only harp on their particular doctrine... over and over.

I say... teach it all!

Krispy

**Re:, on: 2008/5/6 17:06**

Amen Krispy, I agree with the whole 66 books being taught and studied as well. There are many examples and guidance for us for now and eternity there. Jesus is all through the Old Testament, it just requires the Holy Spirit (born again) (saved) to see HIM.

**Re: - posted by Compton (), on: 2008/5/6 17:12**

Quote:  
-----Calvinists like Packer and the author of this piece you posted sometimes get tunnel vision and only harp on their particular doctrine.  
.. over and over.  
-----

Speaking of tunnel vision and harping.... ;-)

MC

**Re:, on: 2008/5/6 17:40**

and the author of this piece you posted sometimes get tunnel vision and only harp on their particular doctrine... over and over.

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And how many articles have you read this guy wrote to compare it to? If you have point to make just spit it out brother.

**Re: - posted by tjservant (), on: 2008/5/6 17:48**

Quote:  
-----Speaking of tunnel vision and harping....  
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No doubt.

**Re:, on: 2008/5/6 17:59**

Quote:

tjservant wrote:

Quote:

-----Speaking of tunnel vision and harping....

No doubt.

You've read his articles too.

You know I've noticed when someone disagrees biblically with someone they usually don't confront the one that they disagree with and give scripture references on the particular thread that they disagreed with and on the points of scripture where they did disagree. Why is that? Maybe couldn't find the scriptures to disagree and this is the defense of is it offensive. They usually just makes jabs like them as these last two made. That's ok, I can take it.

**Re: - posted by tjservant (), on: 2008/5/6 18:07**

Quote:

moe\_mac wrote:

Quote:

tjservant wrote:

Quote:

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I was referring to Krispy and his continual harping about Calvinism. Note the bold print in MC's response.

**Re:, on: 2008/5/6 18:18**

Quote:

tjservant wrote:

I was referring to Krispy and his continual harping about Calvinism. Note the bold print in MC's response.

Sorry I apologize for pointing the finger the wrong direction. While I'm here though. I have disagreed with Krispy on some issues, not many though, but Krispy always gives scripture references along with his very creative Texas style lingo and I like that. I like you guys too. God Bless

moe\_mac

**Re: - posted by Compton (), on: 2008/5/6 21:30**

I was just ribbing Krispy. ;-) Actually, in all fairness, he hasn't brought up the issue for quite awhile. :-)

MC

**Re: - posted by KingJimmy (), on: 2008/5/6 22:58**

Funny, I thought the gospel was about the kingdom of God and the man named Jesus who was crucified for my sins and risen after three days? I think issues regarding sin, repentance, righteousness, etc., are secondary to this primary issue. Then comes the other stuff. Sadly, even J. I. Packer has it wrong here.

**Re:, on: 2008/5/7 8:20**

Quote:

-----I was just ribbing Krispy. Actually, in all fairness, he hasn't brought up the issue for quite awhile.  
-----

And I took it as ribbing... no problem. I do harp on Calvinism, but you have to admit that I harp on a lot of things. Let's see... Word of Faith, Bible versions, liberal politics, etc etc...

So even tho I do constantly harp on Calvinism... it's certainly not the only thing I constantly harp on!

We havent had a good Bible version discussion in awhile!

Oh, and I really didnt say anything negative about Calvinism in this thread. Just pointed out that *some* Calvinist preacher s only preach about Calvinsim, as if there wasnt a whole Bible that needed to be preached as well.

Krispy

**Re:, on: 2008/5/7 8:50**

Quote:

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KrispyKrittr wrote:

Quote:

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Krispy

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Yea, I have been guilty of doing a little rubbing on Krispy as well. He is just the kind of guy that can put it back out as strong as it comes in, so I think that's why he catches so much. No one wants to pick on someone seems to be scripturally defenseless, but someone who is a challenge in the scripture. Maybe we do it so we can learn from his highlighting of the truth in love. Truth is love in any sense.

God Bless Krispy

**Re:, on: 2008/5/7 10:12**

Hey Moe! ...that makes me sound like Curly!

One thing I've learned thru life (tho at times I forget I learned it) is that if you're gonna give it out, you gotta be able to take it. I admit that there are times I don't take it well, but most of the time I think I do ok.

The important thing with this forum is that we all realize who the enemy is... and who the enemy isn't. And because I tend to be blunt I know there are some who think I see them as an enemy... and I truly don't. I'm passionate about some things, and if you haven't noticed... it's things that I feel I was duped over when I was first saved. I was deceived by certain preachers, and bought into some things. When I came out of that... I was mad... at myself.

I'm not mad anymore, but feel very passionate when I see people falling for the same things. Sometimes people mistake my passion for me having my dander up... but that's not really what's going on. I just wish that someone had spoken bluntly to me when I was caught up in a lot of deception.

Krispy

**Re:, on: 2008/5/7 13:53**

Quote:

-----Krispy wrote:

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.....  
I understand that's usually the way it works. God takes our past weaknesses and turns them into a testimony. What the devil meant for bad, God turns it around for good. We all have different passions, different gifts some say, but they are all for his purpose. You mentioned a few things in a previous post about Krispy BC that fit me pretty well BC too. Remember what Paul was doing before he started preaching, silencing preachers. Unto him that is able to do exceedingly abundantly more than we can ask or think.  
Love you brother.

**Re: - posted by Compton (), on: 2008/5/7 14:16**

Quote:

-----Love you brother.

Me too. :-)

MC