

IS GOD'S WORD OBSOLETE?

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At one time brethren believed they must do God's will in order to go to heaven. This was not just the arbitrary judgment of men; Jesus said as much: "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father who is in heaven" (Mat. 7:21). Jesus asked: "Why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say" (Luke 6:46). Obviously, professing allegiance to Christ has value only if one obeys his King's commands.

How does one get around obeying the will of God which these passages tell us is necessary? He could ignore them. Many do. They just pretend such passages do not exist. He may just refuse to do them. When people ask how he justifies his rebellion, he may wander off into an irrelevant diatribe about nothing. He may say Christ and his apostles spoke within the context of first century culture, so it is not relevant to people today. He may refuse to say anything. The bottom line is that he refuses to obey the Lord, and he will make no real attempt to justify it.

These are typical ways liberals in the body of Christ respond when they are pressed to explain these and other passages. A liberal is one who looses where God has bound; that is, he attempts to "emancipate" people from the moral laws of God, the revealed plan of salvation, as well as those patterns by which the church is to worship, work, and be organized. Of course, their false teaching about grace, faith, and Calvinism in general requires a rejection of most of the key elements of the gospel of our Lord. Their position on how one is saved, women assuming leadership roles, the work, worship, and organization of the Lord's church, and standard of morality cannot be defended without abandoning the scriptures, and this is what they have done.

Their utter contempt for the verbal inspiration and authority of the scriptures is glaringly apparent. No one who respects and cherishes the Bible as God's revealed will for man ridicules others who do the same, yet these people do. What does that say about them? Jesus said: "Therefore by their fruits ye shall know them" (Mat. 7:20). Was He telling the truth when He said this?

These unbelievers think nothing is worse than trying to follow the pattern for life and worship revealed in the New Testament. If a person quotes book, chapter, and verse as the authority for what he believes and does, he is certain to be scorned. They often call him a "Bible-thumper" (one who uses the Bible as his authority in religion). Their contempt for God's Word and those who treasure and live by it is obvious. They whine about how unloving brethren are who defend the scriptures, but no one is more unloving and vicious than liberals. If you doubt this, just listen to them or read their literature. It is difficult to find people of the world filled with more malice.

They have complained and whined so often that gullible brethren have believed their lies. They never consider how hate-filled and savage these people really are. The cavalier way they treat scripture is blasphemous. Andre Resner, a professor at Abilene "Christian" University, called Mary, the mother of Jesus, a "sexually questionable woman," and Jesus her illegitimate son. The sneering way he told his blasphemy betrays his infidelity. He is one of many infidels who will teach your children if you send them to Abilene. Aren't you

glad they can learn from such a “pious” man? As far as we know, he was not even rebuked. He certainly was not dismissed.

Liberals in the church and in “our” schools have, to a man, refused to defend their false claims. Their attitude toward the authority of God’s Word is seen in their stubborn refusal to obey 1 Peter 3:15: “Sanctify in your hearts Christ as Lord: being ready always to give answer to every man that asketh you a reason concerning the hope that is in you, yet with meekness and fear.” Don’t hold your breath until they do. To make matters worse, any effort to correct their false teaching is considered a personal attack. If we listened to them, no one would ever obey the command to test doctrine (1 The. 5:21; 1 John 4:1); but, of course, that is what they want.

They claim they follow the man, not the plan, but do they really? Jesus’ desire and purpose was to do His Father’s will (John 4:34; Mat. 26:42). That does not appeal to them at all. Jesus left an example, and we are to follow in his steps (1 Pet. 2:21). How can anyone follow Jesus if he refuses to do the Father’s will? Is it unreasonable to expect people to obey the word of God if they claim to follow Christ? Yet, many are so brainwashed by these infidels that any who say Christians are to live by God’s Word are considered “mean-spirited,” “unloving,” and “legalists.”

Jesus said:

He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my sayings hath one that judgeth him: the word that I spake, the same shall judge him in the last day. For I spake not from myself; but the Father that sent me, he hath given me a commandment, what I should say and what I should speak. And I know that his commandment is life eternal; the things therefore which I speak, even as the Father hath said unto me, so I speak (John 12:48-50).

Did Jesus not know that, according to our heretic brethren, men are saved without them “doing anything?” Read Matthew 7:21 again.

Paul charged brethren to “...prove what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God” (Rom. 12:2). How can they do this if they do not live by it? We are told: “Ye have need of patience, that, having done the will of God, ye may receive the promise” (Heb. 10:36). John said: “...He that doeth the will of God abideth for ever” (1 John 2:17). Why require this if it is unnecessary? Jesus had the answer to the liberal’s problem when he said: “He that is of God heareth the words of God: for this cause ye hear them not, because ye are not of God” (John 8:47).

The liberal rejects the teaching of Christ and His apostles. He claims it is not binding today. I feel sorry for him. His faith has been shipwrecked. Now, his faith is anchored on the shifting sands of human wisdom. Yet, one day he will stand before the Lord he despised and rejected. Will he be condemned or saved? If God’s Word is true, the answer is plain. Do we hate him? No! We love him and would reconcile him back to God.~