"If you at all forget Yahweh your God, and walk after other gods ... you shall surely perish." (Dt. 8:19)

NO OTHER GODS

MISTAKEN IDENTITY

Imagine, if you will, that a dinner is held to honor you. The master of ceremonies walks on the stage up to the microphone and speaks to the large crowd. He begins describing your achievements with a list of reasons this event is being held in your honor. But, to your dismay, his list of achievements and accolades are of someone else entirely. He is not describing you. He got your name right, but beyond that the person being described is not you.

How would you feel? Would you feel honored? Would it seem to you that the announcer and the guests know you? Or would you surmise that they don't know you at all?

Would you stand and come forward to be acknowledged? Or would you instead escape out the back door and avoid the hypocrisy?

The point of my illustration is this: you must know more than a name in order to know someone. In the above example your colleagues know your name, but they have no clue who you really are. If they have no knowledge of your life, your personality, or the things for which you stand, then they don't know you. They think you are someone else.

- 32. So they feared Yahweh, and made for themselves of the lowest of them priests of the high places, which sacrificed for them in the houses of the high places.
- 33. They feared Yahweh, and served their own gods, after the manner of the nations.

2 Kings 17:32-33

17. Nevertheless the people did sacrifice still in the high places (i.e., to idols), to Yahweh their God only.

2 Chron. 33:17

Here we see Israel worshipping strange gods and calling them "Yahweh."

13. And I have seen folly in the prophets of Samaria; they prophesied in Baal, and caused my people Israel to err.

- 4. I will also stretch out my hand upon Judah, and upon all the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and I will cut off the remnant of baal (lords) from this place, and the name of the chemarims (priests) with the chief priests;
- 5. And them that worship the host of heaven upon the housetops; and them that worship (idols) <u>but swear by Yahweh</u> and that swear by malcham (kings);

Zeph. 1:4-5

Israel was mixing baals (lords) and chemarims (priests) with the worship of Yahweh ... all the while claiming to worship Yahweh. This is like churches today with false doctrines, teaching the ways of Zoroaster and Mithras while calling it the worship of Jesus.

- 22. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in your name? and in your name have cast out demons? and in your name done many wonderful works?
- 23. And then will I declare to them, I never knew you ...

Mtt. 7:22-23

WHO IS WORSHIPPED IN AMERICA?

3. You shall have no other gods before Me.

Exodus 20:3

Who or what do Americans worship as god? Well, let's see ... Americans worship many gods. One god that Americans love has his headquarters in outer space. This god plans to send most of mankind to burn alive in a fiery hell but take a few select ones to his safe place in outer space.

Some Americans worship a triune god made up of three separate entities but somehow, mysteriously, is only one god. They believe this to be the God of Israel in spite of the fact that Moses stated in Dt. 6:4, "Hear, O Israel: the LORD your God is ONE LORD" (not three).

This popular triune god is mysterious by design, and those who believe in him must do so blindly for he is occult in nature and impossible to understand. But churchgoers

Jer. 23:13

profess to trust and believe in this god even though they can't know or understand him.

Yet another god worshipped by Americans is a mean, spiteful one that required the annihilation of all mankind because they were prone to error. He held this against all men in spite of the fact that he created them this way. So he demanded blood sacrifice as a bribe to let them live. However, his lust for blood was eventually satisfied when a bunch of religious devils in Jerusalem brutally tortured and murdered his son.

Some Americans believe in a god who created men, and then permitted an evil god called "Satan" to invade, overpower, and ruin them. Meanwhile, as that evil god was wreaking havoc with mankind, the creator god stood by doing nothing. Then the creator god cursed mankind and held them accountable for being defeated by the evil god who was immortal and had supernatural powers.

Americans have another god they call "Jesus." He once masqueraded as a man. He also claimed to be his own father. He fought and was defeated by an evil god they call "Satan." He then pretended to die, but made himself appear later to his followers to tell them he was retreating to outer space and leaving them on their own. But he promised to return at some undisclosed time in the distant future.

Some Americans believe this depressing tale in spite of the fact that the real Jesus (not this one) stated that He would never forsake us (Heb. 13:5), and that He would be "with us to the end of the age" (Mtt. 28:20).

There is yet another god that Americans worship ... the god they call "government."

You say government is not a god?

Well, let's see. A god is a lawmaker. Thus, whoever you accept as your lawmaker is your god. That is an undeniable axiom: a universal principle.

So ... who do Americans accept as their lawmaker? Government! Right?

They certainly don't acknowledge the true Creator God as their Lawmaker, now do they? No, they insist on men creating their laws for them ... but they don't like to call them gods.

Under this statist theology the West refers to itself as "the Christian West." Even murdering, lying, blaspheming presidents/politicians call themselves Christians. Thus, the Beast System of the west, the epitome of wickedness, is called "Christian" by an ignorant world. Democracy is also equated with Christianity even though the principles of Democracy are the perfect tools of the Dragon/Serpent system ... the very worst blasphemy on planet Earth.

Why is this the case? Here's why. Democracy makes everyone complicit in the sin of idolatry. It is the perfection of the serpent's trick. Remember, whoever makes law is god. The serpent of Genesis 3 convinced Adam and Eve that they could be their own gods and make their own laws ... with no need for Yahweh. The greatest fulfillment of that lie is seen today in what is called "Democracy" ... where everyone participates in making their own laws. Western Democracy is the epitome of serpent politics and theology.

4. And the serpent said to the woman, You shall not surely die:

5. For God knows that in the day you eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and you shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

Gen. 3:4-5

Democracy is man being his own god, knowing good and evil, making his own laws.

OK. I could go on and on describing the strange gods that Americans worship. But perhaps you are getting the picture by now. Americans worship gods of their making. Their gods are created in their imaginations. And, incidently, they generally call all these false gods by the same names: i.e., "God," "Jesus," "Lord," etc.. The churches worship strange gods and call them by names they prefer. This is precisely the thing the prophets warned against – serving false gods while calling them by the name of the true God – some of which I've listed above.

After the time of Moses and the judges, Israel began to welcome foreign gods. This led to Israel's loss of the covenant relationship with Yahweh, as well as her loss of independent nationhood. Israelites were dispersed far and wide. Today, genetic Israelites are scattered world wide, with remnants mainly in western Europe, parts of eastern Europe, England, America, and Australia. Most of these genetic Israelites don't know who they are, and they worship strange gods or have turned completely godless.

The West claims to be Christian when, in fact, their religion is mainly the Persian (Babylonian) religion called "Judaism" that falsely claims to be the religion of Moses. This claim by Jews, then, fuels the church world (derived from Judaism) to worship false gods, make false claims, and follow Jewish fables. They unwittingly call on a multitude of gods they don't really know. The heathen gods of Egypt, Persia, Judea, Greece, Rome, and pagan Europe have all contributed theologies to the current confused mess that Americans follow when they join church groups.

Thousands of denominations of churches today profess to worship someone they call "God." But each of their gods is different. None of the churches, or their gods, are the same. And NONE of them are the true God of creation.

But all churches call their gods by the same names. They call them "God," "Lord," "Yahweh," or "Jesus." That is the common denominator for churches. They all profess to worship the God of Holy Scripture ... but none of them actually do. They follow gods of the Beast System.

Differing definitions of their gods equate to different versions of gods. The churches all claim that the God of Scripture is not their lawmaker. In fact, the church world decries God's laws as having been mankind's biggest problem. They teach that God's laws were a curse to mankind. This leads them to the twisted view of Jesus ... that He "saved" them from God's wrath by doing away with his law. They actually teach that Jesus died to save men from the Creator's law.

Today's church world is an eclectic mix: the result of centuries of confusion and idolatry born of Persian (Babylonian) religion which evolved into Judaism, then into "Judeo-Christianity (Churchianity) with smatterings of Egyptology, Hinduism, Buddhism, Grecian and Roman theology, as well as old European paganism of the Holy Roman Empire.

This abominable mix of heathen religions and politics is now American culture and is wrongly called "Christianity."

As my introduction suggests ... if Yahweh came to dinner to be introduced by Americans, their introduction of Him would be outrageous. It would be foreign and unrecognizable. It would be a strange mix of foreign gods from centuries of foreign religious intermixing.

After such an introduction, Yahweh would declare, "You never knew Me!" Americans don't know the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Neither do they worship Him and his Son, the real Jesus. If they did, the country wouldn't be in a state of lawless, confused godlessness. America would not be ruled by lying perverts in government. And those perverts would not be America's gods, making her laws.

UNKNOWN OR MISNAMED GODS

23. For passing through and observing the objects of your worship, I found also an altar on which had been inscribed, TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. Therefore whom you ignorantly worship, Him I proclaim to you.

Acts 17:23

- Run you to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem, and now see, and know, and seek in the broad places thereof, if you can find a man, if there be any that executes judgment, that seeks the truth; and I will pardon.
- 2. And though they say, "Yahweh lives"; surely they swear falsely.
- 3. Yahweh, are not your eyes upon the truth? You have stricken them, but they grieved not; You have consumed them, but they have refused to receive correction: they have made their faces harder than a rock; they have refused to repent.
- 4. ... they know not the way of Yahweh, nor the judgment of their God.
- 7. How shall I pardon you for this? Your children have forsaken Me, and swom by them that are no gods: when I had fed them to the full, they committed adultery, and assembled themselves by troops in the harlots' houses.

Jer. 5:1-4, 7

The above scenario was in Israel. They kept calling their gods by the name "Yahweh," but they weren't Yahweh. They gave his name to "them that were no gods." They followed strange gods and called them "Yahweh." They lost knowledge of Yahweh, but kept his name. A name means little if you don't know the one behind the name.

The god you follow is determined, not by what you call him, but by how you know him. The same is true with people. You may know my name, but unless you are familiar with me personally, you don't know me.

A god who is falsely perceived is a false god, regardless of what you name him. Gods are defined in the minds of those who worship them. The way one perceives a god defines that god. Yahweh says that if we perceive Him wrongly we cannot worship Him rightly. In which case, using his name to call upon foreign gods is idolatry.

As I said earlier ... using someone's name is not the same as knowing him.

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW GOD?

What have you done to become personally acquainted with God? Beyond calling a name, how well do you know Him? How serious do you take your need to know Him? How much time do you invest in studying God? How much actual study, contemplation and work do you commit to getting to know Him? What position in order of importance on your list of essential things do you place "getting acquainted with God"?

God commands us to not worship false gods. If you are not personally acquainted with Him, how can you be sure you are not worshipping a false god masquerading as the real God? Think about the time and energy you put into entertainment, leisure, hobbies, and chores. Compared to these, how much of your time is spent getting to know God?

Do you consider this issue important, optional, or merely an irritation? Are most things in your life more important to you than getting acquainted with God? How can you follow Him if you don't know Him?

Do you leave it to others to tell you who God is? Is your knowledge of God based upon what you've heard from church sources and church-published versions of the Bible? Do you assume that churches can be trusted to tell you the truth about God? Compared to the time, effort and expense you would put into taking a college course, do you give as much time, effort and expense learning about God?

To repeat ... the question is, "How serious are you about getting to know God?"

WHO CARES?

We're talking about Americans' lack of interest in accurately knowing God. You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink. I can point you to truth, but I can't make you want it. Your personal desire for light must come from inside you. Thus, it is a truism that you are as informed as you deserve to be. So, if you are ignorant it is only because you want to be ignorant and therefore deserve to be ignorant. Truth is available to those who want it. Wisdom cries to us everywhere. But who is listening?

- 20. Wisdom cries without; she utters her voice in the square:
- 21. She utters her voice in the concourse, in the openings of the gates: in the city she utters her words.
- 22. How long, you simple ones, will you love simplicity? and the scorners delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge?
- 23. Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit to you, I will make known my words to you.

- 24. Because I have called, and you refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded;
- 25. But you have set at nought all my counsel, and would have none of my reproof:
- 26. I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear comes;
- 27. When your fear comes as desolation, and your destruction comes as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish comes upon you.
- 28. Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me:
- 29. For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of Yahweh:
- 30. They would have none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof.
- 31. Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices.
- 32. For the waywardness of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them.
- 33. But whoever listens to me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from dread of evil.

Pr. 1:20-33

Wisdom deserves to be heard! God has taken loving care to give man knowledge and everything needed for us to be happy and secure. When we fall, He picks us up and sets us back on our feet, and points us in the right way. He saves mankind repeatedly. He gave us law to keep us free. He sends leaders and prophets to teach us law and truth. He even sent his Logos (Communication) through his Son Jesus to save us from our wayward tendencies. As a loving, caring Father, He wants us to have truth and be free.

When He goes to this much trouble to communicate with us, and bless us, how can anyone not take Him seriously? How can anyone lightly brush Him aside for lack of interest? Truly, only those who prefer ignorance and darkness will refuse to accept the gift of light.

12. ... I am the light of the world: he that follows me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

Jn. 8:12

19. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

Jn. 3:19

Americans are demonstrating that they prefer darkness. Like cockroaches, they scurry away from light. And, strangely, they have the curious habit of calling the darkness "light."

23. But if your eye is evil, your whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you be darkness, how great is that darkness!

Mtt. 6:23

THE MAP TO SUCCESS

- 15. See, I have set before you this day life and good, and death and evil:
- 16. In that I command you this day to love Yahweh your God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments and his statutes and his judgments, that you may live and multiply: and Yahweh your God shall bless you in the land where you go to possess it.
- 17. But if your heart turns away, so that you wilt not hear, but shall be drawn away, and worship other gods, and serve them;
- 18. I denounce to you this day, that you shall surely perish, in that you shall not prolong your days upon the land where you pass over Jordan to go to possess it.
- 19. I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both you and your seed may live:

Dt. 30: 15-19

Who is so uncaring as to take all this lightly? Who is so blind as to disregard the offer of life? Who is so blind that he cannot see that America is dying? Like a smoker with emphysema who clings to his cigarettes, Americans cling to failed ways of darkness, refusing to seek LIGHT!

Americans go to churches ... not to find God, but to find a group. By the same token, Americans follow political parties, not to help the nation, but to satisfy their perceived need to vote and be on a winning team. They are afraid to trust God, so they choose to trust politicians. Bad choice!

IT'S SIMPLE!

Here's the choice. Get acquainted with God, or live in darkness! If darkness and death appeal to you, you can have it. But if you prefer life and light, then choose that!

17. ... Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

Rev. 22:17

- 28. Come to me, all you that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.
- 29. ... learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and you shall find rest to your souls.

Mtt. 11:28-29

Americans had better examine their priorities and get serious about LIFE!

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