



"Hate the bad, love the good, and establish justice in the gate." (Amos 5:15)

SHOULD WE LOVE THE WICKED?

CONFUSED TEACHERS

Churchgoers today are taught that Christians should love everyone including those who hate Christ. They are taught to love the wicked, forgive them, and not resist them.

Anyone can see that this strategy isn't working. Loving and befriending the wicked only confuses Christians and enables the wicked to continue practicing their crimes undeterred. James tells us to *"resist the devil (one who hurts you) and he will flee from you."* (James 4:7). That advice does make sense.

Shouldn't we rather love our families and brethren, and especially our children, and protect them from the wicked who would prey upon them?

WE ARE TO BE SEPARATE

14. *Be you not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship has righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion has light with darkness?*

15. *And what concord has Christ with belial? or what part has he that believes with an infidel?*

17. *Wherefore come out from among them, and be you separate, says the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,*

2 Corinthians 6:14-17

The Scripture is clear. God does not want us befriending or fellowshiping with the ungodly. We are NOT to love the wicked. Rather, we are to love those who love the Lord, and help protect them from their enemies.

God's law, as stated in the Ten Commandments, is clear. We are to separate from sinners and those who reject God. But churches tell us we are to love the wicked and overlook their wickedness. Churches teach that God's law was wrong. They go on to teach that Jesus did away with God's laws, and reversed the principles of God's laws.

Churches teach pure nonsense. No wonder churchgoers are losing their faith in God. They are told that God reverses his teachings and that He gave us bad law.

THE LOGOS

Jesus is **"The Logos"** as stated in John 1:1. "Logos" is the Greek word for "true communication." Thus, Jesus is God's special Communication to man. What does Jesus communicate to man? He communicates God's truth - the truth that Israel rejected when they rejected God and chose to join with ungodly nations (1 Samuel 8). God sent prophets and eventually his Son to exhort Israel to repent of their errors and return to God. Those were attempts to communicate truth, love, and good will, and tell Israel, again, what Moses had told them: i.e., to know and love God. But most people rejected God's light (Luke 20:9-15).

The churches are dead wrong when they portray God as a mean tyrant, and then tell us that Jesus (his Son) is the opposite - that He loves and forgives everyone, including the wicked.

Well, that in essence is what the churches teach. It is nonsense. Yahweh is a loving God - He loves his creation. And God's Son, Jesus, was sent to express his Father's love for us. The Old Testament tells us time after time that God loves us.

7. *Yahweh did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because you were more in number than any people; for you were the fewest of all people:*

8. *But because Yahweh loved you, and because He would keep the oath which he had sworn to your fathers, has Yahweh brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.*

Deuteronomy 7:7-8

34. *O give thanks to Yahweh; for He is good; for his mercy endures for ever.*

Psalms 106:1

3 For I am Yahweh your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour: ...

4. Since you were precious in my sight, you have been honored, and I have loved you: ...

5, Fear not: for I am with you ...

Isaiah 43:3-5

3. I have loved you with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn you.

Jeremiah 31:3

God even went to the extreme measure of sending his Son the "Logos" (Communication) to explain his love for us. Jesus communicated love - God's love - to us.

7. Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loves is born of God, and knows God.

8. He that loves not, knows not God; for God is love.

9. In this is manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sends his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.

10. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He first loves us, ...

John 4:7-10

4. But God, being rich in mercy, through his great love wherewith He loves us,

Ephesians 2:4

To demonstrate the absurdity of church teaching, they are taught that in the future God is going to judge these same enemies and send them to a "burning hell" to be tortured and burned alive, in never-ending agony. No wonder churchgoers don't believe the Bible - because the churches have taught them that the Bible is ridiculous, and God is ridiculous.

Did God teach Israel to separate themselves from the wicked and then reverse Himself in the New Testament and send his Son to instruct us to forgive and love them? Did He contradict Himself? Had his law been wrong? Did He do away with his law?

Jesus said: "Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all is finished."

Matthew 5:18

God does not tell us to treat the wicked the same as we treat brethren. He does not tell us to forgive and love the criminals so they can continue hurting our brethren and our children.

Poor translations and teachers of the Bible together have undermined men's faith in God. The message that is commonly taught by churches and preachers simply doesn't make sense. The sincere Bible student typically comes to the Bible with good intentions - to learn of God and find truth. But poor translators and false prophets have

perverted the words of God. Church doctrine tells them to love those who hate God and deceive our children.

Their impression is that God's word is confusing and contradictory. They are told to "just believe" regardless of how confused they are. They are told that they don't have to understand, and that the Bible doesn't have to make sense to them. They are just supposed to believe.

But believe in WHAT? That God is a joker? That He cannot be trusted? In order to believe in something you must at least know what is being said.

People are told that Jesus loves them (which is true) and that they must have faith in Him (which is also true). But then they are taught conflicting precepts handed down from church tradition and false teachings that don't make sense, and this leaves the people confused and struggling to try to have faith in things they don't understand.

But here's the point. It is not the Bible itself that is causing the confusion and loss of faith. Rather, it is the corrupted translations, the paganized teachers in the churches. They leave people confused and destroy their faith in the Bible. Their faith is being destroyed due to doctrinal contradictions that simply don't make sense.

For instance, the King James Version Bible tells us to hate our enemies:

21. Do not I hate them, O LORD, that hate you? and am not I grieved with those that rise up against you?

22. I hate them with complete hatred: I count them my enemies.

(Psalm 139:21-22 KJV).

Then this same King James Version turns around and tells us that we are to "love our enemies":

43. You have heard that it has been said, you shall love your neighbor, and hate your enemy.

44. But I say to you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

(Matt. 5:43-44 KJV).

This appears to be a contradiction, does it not?

However, the word "neighbor" is from the Greek "pelas" - which means "near." This can mean near in location, or near in friendship or belief. Jesus was merely saying it is easy to love those who agree with you, but we should also love those brethren with whom we may have some differences. In Luke 17:3-4 Jesus taught that we must forgive our brother who has offended us - if he repents. But Paul tells us we are to reject anyone who won't repent: "A man that is an heretic after the first and second admonition reject" - Titus 3:10.

But regarding a brother (a fellow Christian) who is in the wrong, in Matthew 18:15-17 Jesus tells us that if he refuses to repent we are to reject him and consider him a heathen.

The Bible is clear. We are not expected to treat enemies the same as friends. That would be nonsense.

In Revelation we are told to NOT forgive Mystery Babylon. We are to return to her double hatred:

4. *And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that you be not partakers of her sins, and that you receive not of her plagues.*

5. *For her sins have reached to heaven, and God has remembered her injustices.*

6. *Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double to her double ...*

Revelation 18:4-6

Does that sound like God wants us to “love our enemies”? Clearly there are some “enemies” we are not supposed to forgive. Indeed, if we are supposed to love, forgive, and befriend criminals, how then are we supposed to avoid crime? I wonder what churchgoers think we should do about crime? Do they think we should put criminals on trial, then tell them “Never mind, you are forgiven - so you are free to go and continue your criminal activities”? That doesn’t make sense, but it would be the result of church teachings.

This makes the Bible appear to be self-contradicting. And there are many more examples where false prophets have perverted Bible words. Preachers drone on about how we should love everyone in spite of the many verses that tell us to “*Abhor the evil and hold to the good*” - *Romans 12:9*.

Churchgoers generally don’t realize that the preachers are merely cheap actors performing on stage. They are not true scholars. Church preachers repeat what they hear other preachers say, and they try to sound as if they know what they are talking about. But they don’t.

What about the Bible publishers? They are in business for profit. They are not going to print truth. They print what sells.

WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

We should demand truth! We should commit to lots of work and attention to learn what the Bible really says. Isn’t your life worth it? Isn’t it your responsibility to learn truth for your family? We should not be appeased by fake teachers and poor translations. God’s Word makes sense, so we should never accept teachings that don’t make sense. It deserves our attention because it is important.

2. *Proclaim the word (logos); be ready in season, out of season; admonish, rebuke, exhort with all patience and instruction.*

3. *For there will come a time when they will not endure sound teaching; but after their own lusts, having itching ears, they will gather to themselves teachers;*

4. *And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned to myths.*

2 Timothy 4:2-4

Yes, the church business, along with the preachers, prey upon the people - and the people generally like it.

30. *An astonishing and horrible thing is committed in the land;*

31. *The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests rule by their own means; and my people love to have it so: and what will you do in the end thereof?*

Jeremiah 5:30-31

False prophets succeed only if they have willing victims who are gullible and lazy. Ultimately, God holds us, individually, responsible to seek and demand truth. We can’t blame it all on the bad teachers who promote themselves and their churches rather than truth.

HAVE FAITH IN GOD

To learn truth we must have faith in God. We must know that God’s Word (his logos) makes sense. We must know that truth sets us free and makes our life worthwhile.

16. *Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before my eyes; cease to do bad;*

17. *Learn to do good; seek justice, rebuke the oppressor, defend the fatherless, plead for the widow.*

18. *Come now, and let us reason together, says Yahweh: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.*

20. *But if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of Yahweh has spoken it.*

Isaiah 1:16-20

To reason together implies understanding. We cannot reason things we don’t understand. God is not the author of confusion. He wants us - He expects us - to understand Him. What good would God’s word be to us if we could not make sense of it? He sent his Son to give us understanding.

God expects us to devote time and effort in pursuing truth. That includes working with the Greek and Hebrew Bible texts, and not relying on publishers and con men. I hear people say they don’t have time to learn Greek. Well, that’s just not good enough! What that really means is that they just don’t have enough interest. If you are interested you’ll make time to learn truth.

STUDY TO SHOW YOURSELF APPROVED

15. *Study to show yourself approved to God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*

2 Timothy 2:15

God offers us light through his word and his Son, Jesus (John 3:19). But most people love darkness so they have “itching ears.” When we look into the Bible and find a reading that appears to be contradictory or confusing, that’s when we must have faith that God’s word is true. Thus, if a translation (like the King James Version) doesn’t make

sense in places, we must know that the fault is not with the word of God, but rather it is the fault of the translation and/or someone's interpretation.

4. ... let God be true, but every man a liar; ...

Romans 3:4

Men, translators, preachers, and Bible publishers lie. God doesn't! Don't let men deceive you. Believe in God. When you are confronted with poor translation or poor teaching turn to God for truth. Dig deep and work to find truth. Truth is like the "pearl of great price" (Matthew 13:46). You must dig for it.

Too many people think truth should come easy and that church teachers are trustworthy. That's just wrong. Truth is available to us if we believe strong enough to pray and dig and work for it. How diligent are you in digging for truth? Do you have faith that God wants you to have truth?

6. Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after justice: for they shall be fed.

Matthew 5:6

The churches' idea of loving their enemies comes mostly from misinterpreted words in the New Testament. The Greek word translated "enemy" is "echthros." "Echthros" can be translated "enemy," but it can also mean a fellow Christian with whom you have a disagreement. In other words, it does not always mean a real bad guy as we think of the English meaning. The same Greek word is also translated "enmity" which simply means to be at odds (resentment; tension; disagreement). We can be at odds with a fellow Christian. He can be an "echthros" who is a good brother with an alternate opinion.

So depending upon the context it may not imply a real bad guy, but only a brother with whom you have a disagreement. In other words, an "echthros" can be someone that you've argued with, but is still a brother in Christ. It can also mean someone who truly wants to hurt or kill you. It depends on the context as to whether it is a bad guy or just a fellow Christian with a disagreement.

There are two Greek words ("kakos" and "poneros") that the KJV translate both interchangeably "wicked" or "evil." Apparently the translators didn't care that the two Greek words were different. "Kakos" actually means "morally bad" or "criminal." "Poneros," on the other hand, simply means "painful" or "troublesome." You wouldn't know this if you only have the KJV version Bible. In Romans 12:17 Paul tells us to not return crime for crime ("kakos for kakos"). Good advice. But the KJV translates it "evil." Then verse 21 tells us to not be overcome by "kakos" (crime), but to overcome "kakos" (crime) with good. This is not mere "poneros" (disagreement between brethren).

To add confusion churches tell us to "love our enemy" ("echthros"). But which kind of "echthros" - a wicked guy? or a brother with whom we are at odds? There is a big difference, but without the Greek you wouldn't know.

We are to forgive an "echthros" brother when he repents. We are not to forgive "echthros" bad guys. You wouldn't

know this unless you studied the Greek.

Jesus did not tolerate the Jews who conspired to kill Him. This is obvious when you read John 8:43-47.

14. Be you not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship has righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion has light with darkness?

15. And what concord has Christ with Belial? or what part has he that believes with an infidel?

16. And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? for you are the temple of the living God; as God has said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

17. Wherefore come out from among them, and be you separate, says the Lord, and touch not the unclean; and I will receive you,

2 Corinthians 6:14-17

James didn't teach us to forgive and befriend the wicked.

4. ... whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

James 4:4

See also Luke. 23:12, and Ephesians 2:14-16.

In Matthew 10:14-15 Jesus said to shake off the dust of our feet and get away from people who reject Him.

In 1 Corinthians 5:1-13, Paul instructs us to renounce the enemies of the ecclesia. He doesn't say we should forgive them and befriend them.

In Titus 3:10-11 Paul tells us that anyone who is a heretic should be rejected because he condemns himself.

God killed Herod in Acts 12:23. Also Ananias and Saphira in Acts 5:5-10. He did not love and forgive them.

Elijah personally killed the priests of Baal in 1 Kings 18.

Ehud killed Eglon, king of Moab, and delivered Israel from bondage - Judges 3:20-21.

David killed Goliath and saved his people. Moses killed the Egyptian who was molesting a fellow Israelite (Exodus 2:11-12).

Jesus instructed his disciples to buy swords to defend themselves. He did not tell them to love their attackers.

The Bible is replete with examples of justice and common sense. Anyone would have to be blind not to see it.

So here's the thing: either we are supposed to forgive and love our enemies, or we are not. It cannot be both ways.

It is absurd for the churches to teach that we are to forgive our enemies, but that God plans to send them to "Hell." The churches teach that God not only doesn't forgive his enemies, He burns them alive and torments them forever. No wonder churchgoers are confused.

Your answers to these issues are in the Bible, but unless you invest your time, your effort, and your faith you won't find them.

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