

## Course 134

### **Apostasies, Heresies, Errors and the Pseudo-Gospel**

*An apostolic teaching of the Global School of Ministry - UK*

#### **1. Prologue: The King and His Domain**

The central issue concerning the subject matter of this course is the fact that the Kingdom of God is a reality in every respect. The Kingdom has an absolute Monarch and Potentate who answers to no one and is not obligated to explain Himself, His Word or actions to anyone. He is an absolute in Himself. By His own free will, God has given us access to Himself in and through Himself in the unique personality called Jesus Christ. That we are His children and called to enjoy His gracious gift of eternal life and a family relationship does not in any way negate His stature nor does it give us license to twist His Words!

The Kingdom also has a Constitution. By this we mean a set of rules guiding the conduct of life of its citizens. The Word of the King is absolute and certain. It contains instructions on how to live; what to do to please Him and the principles to guide our journey on this side of eternity. By Himself, God chose to elevate His Word above His very name and even bound Himself by a Covenant to watch over His words to ensure their performance. The Word of God is not subject to private, personal interpretation otherwise it would not be His Word!

The Kingdom consists essentially of two primary groups of people. The first is the King alone. The second is His Domain which defines the extent of His Dominion. The Collins Dictionary defines domain as “land under one ruler or government”. A King is nothing without subjects who make up His Domain and are His Dominion. The Collins Dictionary defines dominion as “control or authority”. In other words, those who are true citizens of the Kingdom of God are those who are subject to His will as expressed in His immutable Word!

Whenever anyone becomes too intelligent to accept the simplicity of the thesis above, the spirit of rebellion sets in. This is the case with the ongoing intellectualization of the Kingdom of God through injection of humanistic concepts. According to the Collins Dictionary, a rebel with the verb rebelling or rebelled is “1. To fight against the ruling power 2. To reject accepted conventions of behaviour 3. A person who rebels 4. A person who rejects accepted conventions of behaviour”. When rebels congregate and start a movement which rejects what the authority has put in place to regulate life, the outcome is called rebellion. The spirit of rebellion is very prominent in most preaching and teachings of this generation as the concept of liberalism secures a beach head in the hearts of those who reject the narrative of the Bible.

The spirit of rebellion is contagious. It does not just consume its victim. It actively reaches out to ensnare others and suck them into the way of perdition until its ultimate purpose is accomplished. As saints jump on board the various doctrines, ideas and ideologies of fellow human beings who have deliberately rejected the authority of the Word of God over their lives, this course will be used of the Holy Spirit to restore those who can still be restored and stand in judgement against those whose rebellion is beyond recall.

## **The original rebel and his life mission.**

Isaiah 14: 12-17 and Ezekiel 28: 11-17 tell us how Lucifer rebelled against God and was cast out from his exalted place in heaven. As he saw various visions of events past, present and future, John the beloved was enabled to see what happened when Lucifer fell. Many people have tried to interpret this scripture variously. However, a careful reading of all relevant scriptures will reveal that the scripture below is a fair representation of what happened with Lucifer and the fallen angels with him after his rebellion.

### **Revelation 12:7-9,12**

<sup>7</sup>And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels,

<sup>8</sup>And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.

<sup>9</sup>And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.

Genesis 3 picks up the story of Satan's invasion of the earth realm. The way he is described and how Satan craftily twisted the Word of God in Genesis 2: 15-17 to deceive Eve needs to be re-examined because it is still on that same basis that he operates. It boils down to the basics: a rebel will always try to suck in those who are careless into his/her rebellion!

### **Genesis 2:15-17**

<sup>15</sup>And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.

<sup>16</sup>And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat:

<sup>17</sup>But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

### **Genesis 3:1-7**

<sup>1</sup>Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

<sup>2</sup>And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:

<sup>3</sup>But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

<sup>4</sup>And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

<sup>5</sup>For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

<sup>6</sup>And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

### **General Introduction and Scope of the Course**

Just last weekend, a single man with a misguided intellectual mindset disobeyed a central command of Jesus concerning the timing of the End. Relying on His intellect, this single man was able to convince a large number of people, even outside his ministry that the Rapture would occur on a fixed day in May. Many lives are broken and some permanently destroyed including a woman who allegedly committed suicide because of one man's error.

Considering the fact that there are several hundreds of thousand ministers with misguided, humanistic concepts that are wide off the mark of truth, it becomes compelling that GSoM Course 134: Apostasies, Heresies and the Pseudo gospel be downloaded in this season.

The course will cover a wide gamut of ideas and concepts which deviate from the central message of Jesus. It will be used of God to pin point teachings and practices which are, in real terms, expressions of rebellion by humans.

x. Definition of terms: Error, Apostasy, Heresy, Pseudo-gospel

Apostasies that are ravaging the Church

Errors that are rife in the Body

Heresies that have been glorified

X What it means to be turned over to a reprobate mind

Various manifestations of the pseudo-gospel including the prosperity messages, liberalism, relative truth; dangerous prayers, etc.

In so doing, let us remember the words of Jude verses 3-4:

### **Jude 1:3-6**

<sup>3</sup>Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

<sup>4</sup>For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

2. Definitions/basic explanations

As we begin this critical course of study, it is necessary to be on the same page concerning some of the key terms: Error, Heresies, Apostasy and the pseudo-gospel.

**2.1 Error:** Wikipedia offers the most gracious definition of error and we can then apply it to the subject matter: An 'error' is a deviation from accuracy or correctness". An error occurs when an individual deviates from the accuracy of the Word of God when preaching, teaching or writing a book. Because of our finite minds, everybody can make a mistake on any issue. Error however comes into being when a mistake is not corrected and rather is accepted as truth and people live off it.

The nature of the Word of God and eternal consequences of getting the Word and the Spirit right or wrong is too great to be trifled with! God will not at any time countenance the growing spirit of liberalism which takes out the fundamental basis of His word which is its immutability. The moment saints buy into the theory that whatever you believe about God and His Kingdom is right, what will follow is Babel!

## **2 Peter 1:20-21**

<sup>20</sup>Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

<sup>21</sup>For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

**2.2 Heresy:** Let us again resort to Wikipedia to set the stage for further discussion. **Heresy** is a controversial or novel change to a system of beliefs, especially a religion, that conflicts with established dogma.<sup>[1]</sup> It is distinct from apostasy, which is the formal denunciation of one's religion, principles or cause,<sup>[2]</sup> and blasphemy, which is irreverence toward religion.<sup>[3]</sup> The founder or leader of a heretical movement is called a **heresiarch**, while individuals who espouse heresy or commit heresy, are known as **heretics**. Heresiology is the study of heresy.

Real heresy is based on departure of the absolute truth of the Word of God as documented in the Bible. Interestingly, various religions including Christian sects have branded any departure from their dogma and acceptable statements of faith as "heresy". This is self-serving however and in no way diminishes the central fact that Jesus did not come to set up a religious system. He rather came to restore mankind to a living, loving relationship with God based on acceptance of His sacrifice at the Cross of Calvary. Relationship with God is however not to be confused with lawlessness. Jesus Himself made it clear in His epic conversation with the woman at the well of Samaria that relationship with God must be based on two core pillars: in spirit and in Truth.

## **John 4:23-24**

<sup>23</sup>But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

<sup>24</sup>God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

Any time you notice a substitution of the Truth of the Holy Scripture with the ideas and concepts of a mortal, let your spiritual antennae be alive to the fact that heresy may be unfolding! Beware of preachers or teachers who would labour to shake your confidence in the written word because they claim to have a new revelation. "Thus says the Lord" should

explain and expound “it is written” never to substitute it. It was with this approach that Jesus defeated Satan at the temptation in the wilderness!

**2.3 Apostasy:** We will generously cite some insights from Wikipedia to highlight this very dangerous state of being which many people seem bent to pursue with all vigor:

**Apostasy in Christianity** refers to the rejection of Christianity by someone who formerly was a Christian. The term apostasy comes from the Greek word *apostasia* ("ἀποστασία") meaning defection, departure, revolt or rebellion. It has been described as "a willful falling away from, or rebellion against, Christian truth. Apostasy is the rejection of Christ by one who has been a Christian...."<sup>[21]</sup> Apostasy is a theological category describing those who have voluntarily and consciously abandoned their faith in the God of the covenant, who manifests himself most completely in Jesus Christ.<sup>[31]</sup> "Apostasy is the antonym of conversion; it is deconversion."<sup>[1]</sup>

The Christian understanding of apostasy is "a willful falling away from, or rebellion against, Christian truth. Apostasy is the rejection of Christ by one who has been a Christian...."<sup>[24]</sup> "Apostasy is the antonym of conversion; it is deconversion."<sup>[25]</sup> The Greek noun *apostasia* (rebellion, abandonment, state of apostasy, defection)<sup>[26]</sup> is found only twice in the New Testament (Acts 21:21; 2 Thessalonians 2:3).<sup>[27]</sup> However, "the concept of apostasy is found throughout Scripture."<sup>[28]</sup> *The Dictionary of Biblical Imagery* states that "There are at least four distinct images in Scripture of the concept of apostasy. All connote an intentional defection from the faith."<sup>[29]</sup> These images are: Rebellion; Turning Away; Falling Away; Adultery.<sup>[30]</sup>

- Rebellion: "In classical literature *apostasia* was used to denote a coup or defection. By extension the LXX<sup>[31]</sup> always uses it to portray a rebellion against God (Joshua 22:22; 2 Chronicles 29:19)."<sup>[30]</sup>
- Turning away: "Apostasy is also pictured as the heart turning away from God (Jeremiah 17:5-6) and righteousness (Ezekiel 3:20). In the OT it centers on Israel's breaking covenant relationship with God through disobedience to the law (Jeremiah 2:19), especially following other gods (Judges 2:19) and practicing their immorality (Daniel 9:9-11). . . . Following the Lord or journeying with him is one of the chief images of faithfulness in the Scriptures. . . . The . . . Hebrew root (*swr*) is used to picture those who have turned away and ceased to follow God ('I am grieved that I have made Saul king, because he has turned away from me,' 1 Samuel 15:11). . . . The image of turning away from the Lord, who is the rightful leader, and following behind false gods is the dominant image for apostasy in the OT."<sup>[30]</sup>
- Falling away: "The image of falling, with the sense of going to eternal destruction, is particularly evident in the New Testament. . . . In his [Christ's] parable of the wise and foolish builder, in which the house built on sand falls with a crash in the midst of a storm

(Matthew 7:24-27) . . . he painted a highly memorable image of the dangers of falling spiritually."<sup>[32]</sup>

- Adultery: One of the most common images for apostasy in the Old Testament is adultery.<sup>[33]</sup> "Apostasy is symbolized as Israel the faithless spouse turning away from Yahweh her marriage partner to pursue the advances of other gods (Jeremiah 2:1-3; Ezekiel 16). . . . 'Your children have forsaken me and sworn by god that are not gods. I supplied all their needs, yet they committed adultery and thronged to the houses of prostitutes' (Jeremiah 5:7, NIV). Adultery is used most often to graphically name the horror of the betrayal and covenant breaking involved in idolatry. Like literal adultery it does include the idea of someone blinded by infatuation, in this case for an idol: 'How I have been grieved by their adulterous hearts . . . which have lusted after their idols' (Ezekiel 6:9)."<sup>[30]</sup>

Speaking with specific regards to apostasy in Christianity, Michael Fink writes:

Apostasy is certainly a biblical concept, but the implications of the teaching have been hotly debated.<sup>[34]</sup> The debate has centered on the issue of apostasy and salvation. Based on the concept of God's sovereign grace, some hold that, though true believers may stray, they will never totally fall away. Others affirm that any who fall away were never really saved. Though they may have "believed" for a while, they never experienced regeneration. Still others argue that the biblical warnings against apostasy are real and that believers maintain the freedom, at least potentially, to reject God's salvation.<sup>[35]</sup>

**2.4: The Pseudo-Kingdom gospel:** This is the general phrase for all doctrines encapsulating philosophies of human beings concerning what Jesus came to accomplish. They are pseudo because they do not capture the fundamental intent of God, are defective in their narration of the Kingdom message and present a make believe to those who buy into their world-view. If there is any single phrase which captures the main content of the pseudo-kingdom gospel it is this: the kingdom of man! The reason is that all variations of this cancerous growth on the Body of Christ basically aim to make man the reason why God exists!

### Mistakes

It must be noted that any human being can make mistakes. In preaching, teaching or writing, someone can make a mistake based on a mis understanding of the meaning of a passage or the interpretation. If such a person is truly of God, the Holy Spirit will reveal the mistake, convict the vessel unto repentance and restitution is made immediately.

Error will result from an uncorrected mistake! No preacher or teacher should be proud to the degree that infallibility is assumed. Infallibility is ascribable to God alone!

### Proper Preparation.

While the Lord is desirous of more labourers in His field for harvest, He is not about to change His standards to accommodate a free for all entry into ministry of the Word! God

requires that those who respond to His call should submit themselves for training by the Holy Spirit and saints who are already disciples 2 Timothy 2:2. The training that God demands is one which centres on the heart to produce transformed character and renewed mind. The renewed mind is able to comprehend divine truth with simplicity of heart. If any wannabe preacher or teacher has no testimony of an experiential encounter with the King, His Word will be little use to him/her. That is why diligent life long study and submission to the Word is non-negotiable! Those who refuse to study the Word and diligently understand the context of each provision may well mess up the Word as ALL doomsday preachers have got it wrong, always!

### **2 Timothy 2:15-19**

<sup>15</sup>Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

<sup>16</sup>But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness.

<sup>17</sup>And their word will eat as doth a canker: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus;

<sup>18</sup>Who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some.

<sup>19</sup>Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

God knows how tragic it will be for neophytes to lead His flock:

### **1 Timothy 3:6**

<sup>6</sup>Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.

God is equally not about to allow people blinded by the thick veil of religion to lead His people into perdition.

### **Matthew 15:14**

<sup>14</sup>Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.

One of the most distressing things posted on the internet regarding doomsday predictor Harold Camping was his encounter with a distraught young lady. According to the account, this lady was convinced she was living in sin and was confused about her fate regarding the May 21 catastrophe predicted by Mr. Camping. She suggested that suicide may be a way out. The transcript was a disgusting revelation that Mr. Camping was not representing Jesus Christ. He made to lead the lady to Christ but rather weakly suggested that she should beg God to make her be one of the 200 million who will be spared! Even a babe in Christ should have made a pitch for salvation of that poor soul in real crises to the point of nursing suicidal thoughts!

The Tongue(and fingers!)

The tongue (and these days, the fingers) represent our primary means of communicating what is good or bad; what is of God or what is of the devil or the flesh and what will build up or tear down. God wants our tongue to be used in a wholesome manner for good.

### **James 3: 5 -12**

<sup>5</sup>Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!

<sup>6</sup>And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.

<sup>7</sup>For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind:

<sup>8</sup>But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.

<sup>9</sup>Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God.

<sup>10</sup>Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be.

<sup>11</sup>Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter?

<sup>12</sup>Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh.

This is why saints are commanded to be conservative in use of the tongue. As a matter of reality, the vaulting desire to teach others is expressly forbidden, lest the tongue be used to offend.

### **James 3**

<sup>1</sup>My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation.

<sup>2</sup>For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body.

### **James 1:26-27**

<sup>26</sup>If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain.

Wanted: Witnesses to faithfully communicate the gospel of the Kingdom

It is not just ability to preach, teach or throw sound bites which excites listeners that God is looking for! Apollos was a mighty orator in the Word but had only half knowledge, until Priscilla and Aquila took him in and mentored him into the full truth! Acts 18:24-26. God is looking for vessels who abide in Him and His Words abide in them for it is such that can be truly productive within the context of the specific call of God on their lives. John 15:1-8 - 16. It is such people who are able to be Ambassadors of Jesus, witness to Him and proclaim the

full gospel of the Kingdom without agenda or preference Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-20.

### **3. No eternal security for the rebellious**

There are some who posit that once someone is saved, that person is permanently secured in Christ, no matter what he or she does subsequently. This dangerous doctrine is one of the reasons why some live carelessly and make Grace seem like a cheap proposition. Grace is truly free but certainly not cheap! The grace of God poured out to us came at a heavy price – the incredible love of God which caused Him to be incarnated as man and the shedding of divine blood after extreme torture and most painful death at the hands of His own creatures!

Even though God loves the whole world and paid the price of salvation of all, not everyone embraces that free gift of eternal life. In the same way, even though the Life Gate has been opened for many to come in, God does not force any one in His Kingdom to remain therein! Satan was once in the Kingdom as Chief cheer leader of the Most High! Adam was once the apple of the eye of God until the day he and Eve chose a new master. The fact that anyone in the Kingdom can backslide, go into error and apostatize or fall away is hinged on a central truth in the dealing of God with man: He always respects the will of man!

### **Hebrews 6:4-9**

<sup>4</sup>For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost,

<sup>5</sup>And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come,

<sup>6</sup>If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.

<sup>7</sup>For the earth which drinketh in the rain that cometh oft upon it, and bringeth forth herbs meet for them by whom it is dressed, receiveth blessing from God:

<sup>8</sup>But that which beareth thorns and briers is rejected, and is nigh unto cursing; whose end is to be burned.

<sup>9</sup>But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak.

### **Hebrews 10:26-39**

<sup>26</sup>For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins,

<sup>27</sup>But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.

<sup>28</sup>He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses:

<sup>29</sup>Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden underfoot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?

<sup>30</sup>For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people.

<sup>31</sup>It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

<sup>32</sup>But call to remembrance the former days, in which, after ye were illuminated, ye endured a great fight of afflictions;

<sup>33</sup>Partly, whilst ye were made a gazingstock both by reproaches and afflictions; and partly, whilst ye became companions of them that were so used.

<sup>34</sup>For ye had compassion of me in my bonds, and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods, knowing in yourselves that ye have in heaven a better and an enduring substance.

<sup>35</sup>Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward.

<sup>36</sup>For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

<sup>37</sup>For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry.

<sup>38</sup>Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man drawback, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

<sup>39</sup>But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.

The Second Epistle of Peter was written to warn saints of false teachers and prophet. Some of them were once in the faith but fell off owing to covetousness or after twisting the Word of Grace God released though Paul the Apostle:

## **2 Peter 2**

<sup>1</sup>But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

<sup>2</sup>And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.

<sup>3</sup>And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.

<sup>4</sup>For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;

<sup>5</sup>And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;

<sup>6</sup>And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrhah into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly;

<sup>7</sup>And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked:

<sup>8</sup>(For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds;)

<sup>9</sup>The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:

<sup>10</sup>But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous are they, self-willed, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities.

<sup>11</sup>Whereas angels, which are greater in power and might, bring not railing accusation against them before the Lord.

<sup>12</sup>But these, as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things that they understand not; and shall utterly perish in their own corruption;

<sup>13</sup>And shall receive the reward of unrighteousness, as they that count it pleasure to riot in the day time. Spots they are and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you;

<sup>14</sup>Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children:

<sup>15</sup>Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;

<sup>16</sup>But was rebuked for his iniquity: the dumb ass speaking with man's voice forbad the madness of the prophet.

<sup>17</sup>These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever.

<sup>18</sup>For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error.

<sup>19</sup>While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.

<sup>20</sup>For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.

<sup>21</sup>For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them.

<sup>22</sup>But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.

Anyone who believes the fallacy that salvation is eternally secured in spite of the quality of life someone lives is already in error and will produce children of error! The time has come when those who are in Christ will base their faith on His Words and not what a theologian, long dead postulated! It is time to allow Arminius, Calvin and great theologians and thinkers of old to take their deserved rest so that we can concentrate on the Word, not their interpretations! As we shall see in this treatise, the theology you build your spiritual life upon is of critical import. If it is false, the foundation is false. If it is true, the foundation is solid. We can only build upon the only sure foundation: the Word of the Lord!

### **Matthew 7:24-27**

<sup>24</sup>Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

<sup>25</sup>And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

<sup>26</sup>And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:

<sup>27</sup>And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.

### **Jesus and His Words constitute ONLY frame of Reference!**

As Jesus was getting ready to complete His assignment on earth, He found it fit to show the inner circle of His disciples, a glimpse of who He is. He took them to a high mountain and was transfigured before them. In that state, Moses and Elijah appeared also and were in dialogue with Him. Peter, in a moment of excitement blurted out: “Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias.”

In response, The Father spoke expressly from heaven to the hearing of all including the celestial beings:

### **Matthew 17**

<sup>5</sup>While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.

The reaction of the disciples and the fact that both Moses and Elijah disappeared is very instructive:

<sup>6</sup>And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their face, and were sore afraid.

<sup>7</sup>And Jesus came and touched them, and said, Arise, and be not afraid.

<sup>8</sup>And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no man, save Jesus only.

For the second time in three and half years, The Father found it necessary to publicly affirm Jesus. The first time was at the beginning of His public ministry during the baptism of John in River Jordan

## **Luke 3:21-22**

<sup>21</sup>Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that Jesus also being baptized, and praying, the heaven was opened,

<sup>22</sup>And the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased.

Why would Abba do such a thing two times? The simple answer was that He needed to drive home an extraordinarily important fact. Moses was an intimate friend of God and even had the privilege of speaking with Him face to face. Moses received the Law at the hand of God on the Mountain and was revered by Israel as the Law Giver so much that the glory of God that rubbed off on his face needed to be covered with a cloth so that the people could relate with him. Till today, the veil of Moses covers the heart and minds of majority of the Covenant people of God. As long as that veil remains, they cannot receive the fullness of the ministry of Jesus!

Elijah was perhaps the most outstanding of all the prophets of Israel. Even though his protégé, Elisha went on to be used in double miracles than him, Elijah still retained his pre-eminence. He it was who alone confronted allegiance to Baal who was the chief idol of his day. Elijah had such intimate relationship with God and so jealous for His glory that he asked God to spare him the pain of seeing idolatry on such a mass scale by taking him home. To illustrate the degree of Elijah's intimacy with God, a chariot of fire was sent to take him away from this world! 2 Kings 2: 1-11.

These two men, representing the Law and The Prophets were seen by Peter as in the same class as Jesus. The Father had to step in decisively to say NO to such a proposition! The Father said expressly: "HEAR YE HIM". In effect, Abba declared: Jesus alone is mediator of the New Covenant!

## ***Hebrews 1***

<sup>1</sup>God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,

<sup>2</sup>Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

<sup>3</sup>Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high:

This same Jesus came to fulfil (not abolish) the Law and the Prophets in His own Body that would be broken at the Cross!

## **Matthew 5:17**

<sup>17</sup>Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

That fulfilment came by the sacrifice of Himself to be the Sin bearing offering of the whole world. In whom, all the shadows and types which fill the Old Covenant found expression in a human.

## **2 Corinthians 5:21**

<sup>21</sup>For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

The New Covenant between God and the redeemed had one distinguishing factor: it was to be written onto the fleshly tables of the hearts of humans rather than a cold piece of stone. The New Covenant was superior to the Old because the Mediator was superior and the seal of the Blood of the Lamb was greater than that of the ordinary animals Moses used to sprinkle. Please see Hebrews chapters 5,6,7,8,9,10,11.

Some people have mistakenly projected the New Covenant as weak and a license to sin. It is obvious that such people do not understand how far superior it is!

Matthew 5:18-20

<sup>18</sup>For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

<sup>19</sup>Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>20</sup>For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.

A sample of how superior the Word given by Jesus is to that which was given by Moses is found in Matthew 5:21 – 48. The Law Giver of the New Covenant clearly set forth the superiority relative to the requirements of the Old Covenant! The Kingdom life in Christ is hall marked by the righteousness of God we receive as a free gift by grace through faith. As we respond to this unspeakable gift, our heart is knit together with His and we acquire the very attitude of hatred of sin which marked Him out:

## **Hebrews 1:9**

<sup>9</sup>Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

This heart disposition is the basis of holiness unto the Lord, the basis of our continued walk with Him.

## **The Two Pillars of the New Covenant**

In summing up the proposition of today, here is the core: Jesus is the frame of reference for all who will live in the New Covenant! From Him proceed two immutable Pillars of the New Covenant:

## **1). His Words are the Law of the New Covenant.**

To be a preacher or teacher of the Word, your core assignment is to communicate the Truth of the New Covenant as articulated by Jesus. His Sermons, parables, illustrations and stories are all aspects of the awesome Truth of the New Covenant. Some of the things Jesus spoke were hard for the first disciples to understand. When He arose therefore from the dead, Jesus spent 40 days doing an intense School of Ministry to teach them principles of the Kingdom of God in the now and in the age to come Acts 1:1-3.

Thereafter, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to take His place as Comforter, Teacher and guide Acts 2:1-39. The Holy Spirit began to break down the awesome Words of Jesus and give clarity. Thus armed, the Apostles wrote various epistles. To ensure that certain aspects of Kingdom truth are not missed out, Jesus had to personally come down from heaven to arrest Saul of Tarsus Acts 9:1-19. To this very man, Jesus revealed the mystery of the Church as His Body of saints in this present era, how they should be governed, lifestyle to be lived and how the end will come. Whenever people project an anti-Church spirit, let your spiritual antennae be up, as the followers of Harold Camping may have discovered too late!

## **2). His life is the frame of reference of how we are to live**

Apart from dying for the sins of the whole world, Jesus also came to model the life of sons in the Kingdom of God. At the core of how Jesus lived was one simple truth: He regarded Himself as “sent” and therefore live entirely according to the will of the Father. Jesus had no self or personal agenda other than to please the Father!

### **John 5:30**

<sup>30</sup>I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.

### **John 6:38**

<sup>38</sup>For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.

This disposition was vividly illustrated at the Garden of Gethsemane. There, in great distress of soul over the searing torture and pain which lay ahead, Jesus prayed three time to know if the Father would let the cup pass away. Convinced beyond any shadow of doubt that it was indeed the will of Abba for Him to go through the gruelling passion and death, Jesus arose and concentrated on the joy set before Him – the expectation that out of His pain, many sons would come to glory and the Crown of Lordship over all realms! Matthew 26:36-46; Hebrews 12:1=2; Philippians 2: 5-11.

Jesus is the only ONLY SURE FOUNDATION of Doctrine and Life!

### **1 Corinthians 3:10-15**

<sup>10</sup>According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.

<sup>11</sup>For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

<sup>12</sup>Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;

<sup>13</sup>Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

<sup>14</sup>If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.

<sup>15</sup>If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

Every Error, Heresy, Pseudo-gospel and Apostasy will therefore be an expression of a departure from or negation of the Teachings and Lifestyle of Jesus Christ! If you are an Overseer by whatever title chosen or teacher of the Word, the valid question is this: how far are your teachings in conformity with the Words and life of Jesus Christ? A defective creed will lead people away from the Kingdom. The Kingdom is accessed and maintained on the basis of the work of the Holy Spirit who enables saints to maintain an excellent relationship with God as a living Father and the Truth of Him and His Kingdom to which they are called. Whoever tells you that what you believe is not important, that person has put you on an express way to Hell!

#### **John 4:24**

<sup>24</sup>God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

#### **Doctrines, Dogma and degrees of error -1**

The entirety of the Word of God constitutes TRUTH. Because of our finite minds and limited capacity to comprehend, the TRUTH of God is broken down into small bits. Those small bits which combine to make the whole TRUTH are called DOCTRINES OF THE WORD. In other words, Doctrines are building blocks of the whole TRUTH. Doctrines are sound when based on scripture alone and represent the body of knowledge of the mind of God concerning all that pertains to life and godliness. Doctrines are like provisions of the Constitution of the Kingdom of God to guide us on how to live on this side of eternity. To be an able minister of the New Testament, we need to understand the doctrines of the Word of God and teach them faithfully, without fear or favour!

Over the years, Satan has sought to impose his own set of doctrines on saints. Where he is not able to do this frontally, Satan tries to corrupt the connotation of doctrine to present it as something religious or negative. What is certainly religious and negative however is another concept altogether called DOGMA. A dogma is the belief system of a group of religious people or sect which they hold onto tenaciously without examining its merits in the light of Truth. In other words, a dogma is a "DOCTRINE OF MAN" or corruption of the opposite which is sound doctrine!

Contrary to what some modernistic teachers would have us believe, doctrine is a biblical term. Its connotation can further be gleaned from this survey from the Old and New Covenants:

1. **Deuteronomy 32:2**  
My **doctrine** shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew, as the small rain upon the tender herb, and as the showers upon the grass:  
Deuteronomy 32:1-3 (in Context) Deuteronomy 32 (Whole Chapter)
2. **Job 11:4**  
For thou hast said, My **doctrine** is pure, and I am clean in thine eyes.  
Job 11:3-5 (in Context) Job 11 (Whole Chapter)
3. **Proverbs 4:2**  
For I give you good **doctrine**, forsake ye not my law.  
Proverbs 4:1-3 (in Context) Proverbs 4 (Whole Chapter)
4. **Isaiah 28:9**  
Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand **doctrine**? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts.  
Isaiah 28:8-10 (in Context) Isaiah 28 (Whole Chapter)
5. **Isaiah 29:24**  
They also that erred in spirit shall come to understanding, and they that murmured shall learn **doctrine**.  
Isaiah 29:23-24 (in Context) Isaiah 29 (Whole Chapter)
6. **Jeremiah 10:8**  
But they are altogether brutish and foolish: the stock is a **doctrine** of vanities.  
Jeremiah 10:7-9 (in Context) Jeremiah 10 (Whole Chapter)
7. **Matthew 7:28**  
And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his **doctrine**:  
Matthew 7:27-29 (in Context) Matthew 7 (Whole Chapter)
8. **Matthew 15:9**  
But in vain they do worship me, teaching for **doctrines** the commandments of men.  
Matthew 15:8-10 (in Context) Matthew 15 (Whole Chapter)
9. **Matthew 16:12**  
Then understood they how that he bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the **doctrine** of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.  
Matthew 16:11-13 (in Context) Matthew 16 (Whole Chapter)
10. **Matthew 22:33**  
And when the multitude heard this, they were astonished at his **doctrine**.  
Matthew 22:32-34 (in Context) Matthew 22 (Whole Chapter)
11. **Mark 1:22**  
And they were astonished at his **doctrine**: for he taught them as one that had authority, and not as the scribes.  
Mark 1:21-23 (in Context) Mark 1 (Whole Chapter)
12. **Mark 1:27**  
And they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, What thing is this? what new **doctrine** is this? for with authority commandeth he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him.  
Mark 1:26-28 (in Context) Mark 1 (Whole Chapter)

13. **Mark 4:2**  
And he taught them many things by parables, and said unto them in his **doctrine**,  
Mark 4:1-3 (in Context) Mark 4 (Whole Chapter)
14. **Mark 7:7**  
Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for **doctrines** the commandments of men.  
Mark 7:6-8 (in Context) Mark 7 (Whole Chapter)
15. **Mark 11:18**  
And the scribes and chief priests heard it, and sought how they might destroy him: for they feared him, because all the people was astonished at his **doctrine**.  
Mark 11:17-19 (in Context) Mark 11 (Whole Chapter)
16. **Mark 12:38**  
And he said unto them in his **doctrine**, Beware of the scribes, which love to go in long clothing, and love salutations in the marketplaces,  
Mark 12:37-39 (in Context) Mark 12 (Whole Chapter)
17. **Luke 4:32**  
And they were astonished at his **doctrine**: for his word was with power.  
Luke 4:31-33 (in Context) Luke 4 (Whole Chapter)
18. **John 7:16**  
Jesus answered them, and said, My **doctrine** is not mine, but his that sent me.  
John 7:15-17 (in Context) John 7 (Whole Chapter)
19. **John 7:17**  
If any man will do his will, he shall know of the **doctrine**, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.  
John 7:16-18 (in Context) John 7 (Whole Chapter)
20. **John 18:19**  
The high priest then asked Jesus of his disciples, and of his **doctrine**.  
John 18:18-20 (in Context) John 18 (Whole Chapter)
21. **Acts 2:42**  
And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' **doctrine** and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.  
Acts 2:41-43 (in Context) Acts 2 (Whole Chapter)
22. **Acts 5:28**  
Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your **doctrine**, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us.  
Acts 5:27-29 (in Context) Acts 5 (Whole Chapter)
23. **Acts 13:12**  
Then the deputy, when he saw what was done, believed, being astonished at the **doctrine** of the Lord.  
Acts 13:11-13 (in Context) Acts 13 (Whole Chapter)
24. **Acts 17:19**  
And they took him, and brought him unto Areopagus, saying, May we know what this new **doctrine**, whereof thou speakest, is?  
Acts 17:18-20 (in Context) Acts 17 (Whole Chapter)

25. **Romans 6:17**  
 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of **doctrine** which was delivered you.  
Romans 6:16-18 (in Context) Romans 6 (Whole Chapter)
26. **Romans 16:17**  
 Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the **doctrine** which ye have learned; and avoid them.  
Romans 16:16-18 (in Context) Romans 16 (Whole Chapter)
27. **1 Corinthians 14:6**  
 Now, brethren, if I come unto you speaking with tongues, what shall I profit you, except I shall speak to you either by revelation, or by knowledge, or by prophesying, or by **doctrine**?  
1 Corinthians 14:5-7 (in Context) 1 Corinthians 14 (Whole Chapter)
28. **1 Corinthians 14:26**  
 How is it then, brethren? when ye come together, every one of you hath a psalm, hath a **doctrine**, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. Let all things be done unto edifying.  
1 Corinthians 14:25-27 (in Context) 1 Corinthians 14 (Whole Chapter)
29. **Ephesians 4:14**  
 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of **doctrine**, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;  
Ephesians 4:13-15 (in Context) Ephesians 4 (Whole Chapter)
30. **Colossians 2:22**  
 Which all are to perish with the using;) after the commandments and **doctrines** of men?  
Colossians 2:21-23 (in Context) Colossians 2 (Whole Chapter)
31. **1 Timothy 1:3**  
 As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other **doctrine**,  
1 Timothy 1:2-4 (in Context) 1 Timothy 1 (Whole Chapter)
32. **1 Timothy 1:10**  
 For whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for menstealers, for liars, for perjured persons, and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound **doctrine**;  
1 Timothy 1:9-11 (in Context) 1 Timothy 1 (Whole Chapter)
33. **1 Timothy 4:1**  
 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and **doctrines** of devils;  
1 Timothy 4:1-3 (in Context) 1 Timothy 4 (Whole Chapter)
34. **1 Timothy 4:6**  
 If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good **doctrine**, whereunto thou hast attained.  
1 Timothy 4:5-7 (in Context) 1 Timothy 4 (Whole Chapter)

35. **1 Timothy 4:13**  
Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to **doctrine**.  
1 Timothy 4:12-14 (in Context) 1 Timothy 4 (Whole Chapter)
36. **1 Timothy 4:16**  
Take heed unto thyself, and unto the **doctrine**; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.  
1 Timothy 4:15-16 (in Context) 1 Timothy 4 (Whole Chapter)
37. **1 Timothy 5:17**  
Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and **doctrine**.  
1 Timothy 5:16-18 (in Context) 1 Timothy 5 (Whole Chapter)
38. **1 Timothy 6:1**  
Let as many servants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honour, that the name of God and his **doctrine** be not blasphemed.  
1 Timothy 6:1-3 (in Context) 1 Timothy 6 (Whole Chapter)
39. **1 Timothy 6:3**  
If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the **doctrine** which is according to godliness;  
1 Timothy 6:2-4 (in Context) 1 Timothy 6 (Whole Chapter)
40. **2 Timothy 3:10**  
But thou hast fully known my **doctrine**, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience,  
2 Timothy 3:9-11 (in Context) 2 Timothy 3 (Whole Chapter)
41. **2 Timothy 3:16**  
All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for **doctrine**, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:  
2 Timothy 3:15-17 (in Context) 2 Timothy 3 (Whole Chapter)
42. **2 Timothy 4:2**  
Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and **doctrine**.  
2 Timothy 4:1-3 (in Context) 2 Timothy 4 (Whole Chapter)
43. **2 Timothy 4:3**  
For the time will come when they will not endure sound **doctrine**; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;  
2 Timothy 4:2-4 (in Context) 2 Timothy 4 (Whole Chapter)
44. **Titus 1:9**  
Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound **doctrine** both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.  
Titus 1:8-10 (in Context) Titus 1 (Whole Chapter)
45. **Titus 2:1**  
But speak thou the things which become sound **doctrine**:  
Titus 2:1-3 (in Context) Titus 2 (Whole Chapter)
46. **Titus 2:7**  
In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in **doctrine** shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity,  
Titus 2:6-8 (in Context) Titus 2 (Whole Chapter)

47. **Titus 2:10**  
Not purloining, but shewing all good fidelity; that they may adorn the **doctrine** of God our Saviour in all things.  
Titus 2:9-11 (in Context) Titus 2 (Whole Chapter)
48. **Hebrews 6:1**  
Therefore leaving the principles of the **doctrine** of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God,  
Hebrews 6:1-3 (in Context) Hebrews 6 (Whole Chapter)
49. **Hebrews 6:2**  
Of the **doctrine** of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.  
Hebrews 6:1-3 (in Context) Hebrews 6 (Whole Chapter)
50. **Hebrews 13:9**  
Be not carried about with divers and strange **doctrines**. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein.  
Hebrews 13:8-10 (in Context) Hebrews 13 (Whole Chapter)
51. **2 John 1:9**  
Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the **doctrine** of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the **doctrine** of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.  
2 John 1:8-10 (in Context) 2 John 1 (Whole Chapter)
52. **2 John 1:10**  
If there come any unto you, and bring not this **doctrine**, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed:  
2 John 1:9-11 (in Context) 2 John 1 (Whole Chapter)
53. **Revelation 2:14**  
But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the **doctrine** of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication.  
Revelation 2:13-15 (in Context) Revelation 2 (Whole Chapter)
54. **Revelation 2:15**  
So hast thou also them that hold the **doctrine** of the Nicolaitanes, which thing I hate.  
Revelation 2:14-16 (in Context) Revelation 2 (Whole Chapter)
55. **Revelation 2:24**  
But unto you I say, and unto the rest in Thyatira, as many as have not this **doctrine**, and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak; I will put upon you none other burden.  
Revelation 2:23-25 (in Context) Revelation 2 (Whole Chapter)

**Passages and references are sourced from the website of Bible gate way .com**

### **Classification of Doctrines**

We can safely classify ALL doctrines which are preached, taught or lived by on earth today into three broad categories.

1. **True and wholesome:** A true doctrine is one which is consistent with the revealed will of God in His Word. It is a part of the whole TRUTH of the Word of God. For this reason, it can be said to be sound or wholesome. Knowing and believing sound doctrine is not enough. As a matter of fact, knowing too many doctrines without receiving the grace to live out what is known will lead to spiritual pride. Knowledge puffs up when not accompanied by a commensurate life! For this reason, those who know and understand the Word are under a divine compulsion to seek the Grace of God to internalize the same words (let the doctrines be made flesh by the operation of the Holy Spirit on the mind, will and heart of the saint as he/she yields to the process through meditation, prayer and willingness to submit).

When the Word is thus engrafted in a meek heart, it renews the mind and changes the world-view. In effect, the Word of doctrine acts like water which washes away the old filth of culture and engrafts the mind of Christ. When this transformation happens, the saint becomes mature in the knowledge of Christ and does not struggle to obey His Word no matter how tough it seems! Romans 12:1,2; Ephesians 4:23; Colossians 3:16; 2 Timothy 2:15; 2 Timothy 3: 15-17; Psalm 1:1-3; Joshua 1: 8

### **2 Timothy 3:16**

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for **doctrine**, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

### **2 Timothy 4:2**

Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and **doctrine**.

### **2 Timothy 4:3**

For the time will come when they will not endure sound **doctrine**; but after their own lusts shall they hearken to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

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Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound **doctrine** both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.

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## **2 John 1:10**

If there come any unto you, and bring not this **doctrine**, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed:

2. **False and Fatal:** These are doctrines that are unbiblical and therefore not part of the TRUTH. They may be based on the ideas of man at the prompting of Satan. The ultimate objective of false doctrine is to deceive humans to believe a lie and thus miss the blessed eternal destiny with God. Satan missed his estate with just one sin which was so foundational that no place was found for him in heaven again. Jesus called Satan the “father of lies”. From his depraved mind, Satan manufactures all kinds of ideas which he suggests to the mind of saints and sinners alike as thoughts and ideas. To the degree such thoughts and ideas will lead humans to build their faith on falsehood, Satan’s work is complete.

## **1 Timothy 4:1**

Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and **doctrines** of devils;

## **Hebrews 13:9**

Be not carried about with divers and strange **doctrines**. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein.

Hebrews 13:8-10 (in Context) Hebrews 13 (Whole Chapter)

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Revelation 2:13-15 (in Context) Revelation 2 (Whole Chapter)

## **Revelation 2:15**

So hast thou also them that hold the **doctrine** of the Nicolaitanes, which thing I hate.

Revelation 2:14-16 (in Context) Revelation 2 (Whole Chapter)

## **Revelation 2:24**

But unto you I say, and unto the rest in Thyatira, as many as have not this **doctrine**, and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak; I will put upon you none other burden.

Revelation 2:23-25 (in Context) Revelation 2 (Whole Chapter)

One chief tool in the arsenal of Satan is to plant a tare in the physical “church” and quietly build up a media image of his minister. Over the years, Satan empowers his minister to preach, teach or author books with some fanciful ideas that tickle the ears of humans who are seeking for solutions to their psychological, emotional, financial and esteem needs. The enemy begins to position the fellow as an authority. People get hooked to his/her line of reasoning and take on board all that is preached as truth! Before long, a cult has been built around the fellow complete with all the concepts borrowed from the world – image makers, press agents and a plastic lifestyle as an icon or celebrity. Living up life, so to say, this person becomes the new frame of reference for his/her followers and Jesus is left behind! The words of their idol carry more weight than the words of Jesus. At this stage, the blinded followers are pretty much in the bag and can believe and do everything their idol tells them, including

denial of the divinity of Jesus; denial of the capacity of sin to deprive saints of their security in Christ and many other blatant lies of the enemy.

### **Matthew 13:24-30; 30-43**

<sup>24</sup>Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field:

<sup>25</sup>But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way.

<sup>26</sup>But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also.

<sup>27</sup>So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares?

<sup>28</sup>He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up?

<sup>29</sup>But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them.

<sup>30</sup>Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

<sup>36</sup>Then Jesus sent the multitude away, and went into the house: and his disciples came unto him, saying, Declare unto us the parable of the tares of the field.

<sup>37</sup>He answered and said unto them, He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man;

<sup>38</sup>The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one;

<sup>39</sup>The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels.

<sup>40</sup>As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world.

<sup>41</sup>The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity;

<sup>42</sup>And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

<sup>43</sup>Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

### **3. Toxic:**

By toxic, we mean the potentials of a doctrine to cause some discomfort or avoidable difficulty on a saint who believes in it. A doctrine can be toxic without being fatal. This happens when denominational interpretations or opinions of humans interfere with the exactitude of the Word of God and people grow into such interpretations as a

lifestyle. When Jesus returns, all who are truly in Him and have allowed His Words to transform their lifestyle will make it in the end even if some of the things they believed and taught were not 100 percent correct. Toxicity levels vary for different doctrines. The fact that saints at any particular time may not know everything 100 percent is expounded in these scriptures:

### **Deuteronomy 29:29**

<sup>29</sup>The secret things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law.

Paul the Apostle was to amplify this message in 1 Corinthians chapter 13:

### **1 Corinthians 13:11-13**

<sup>11</sup>When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

<sup>12</sup>For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

<sup>13</sup>And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.

That is why the Lord wants us to focus on the three enduring graces and virtues, with special emphasis on love. Let everything we hear, preach, teach or do flow out of true love of God and love of all people. Love of God is a strong security against Apostasy, Heresy, Error and the pseudo-gospel! Love of God however is not a feeling but is actively proved by obedience to His Word. It is impossible to claim to love God and yet believe a lie about Jesus from Satan or the human mind!

### **John 15:9-15**

<sup>9</sup>As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love.

<sup>10</sup>If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.

<sup>11</sup>These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.

<sup>12</sup>This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.

<sup>13</sup>Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

<sup>14</sup>Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.

<sup>15</sup>Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.

We may not know all things concerning God and His Kingdom in the now but our hearts should be right with Him 24/7!

## **The Rapture: 1 Doctrine, 3 Interpretations!**

A typical example is the issue of the Rapture or Catching Away of Saints. Three main approaches have developed based on clinging to various provisions of scripture. There those who believe in the

**Pre-Tribulation Rapture.** This school of thought teaches that shortly before the Second Coming of Jesus, He will appear in the air and with the great shout of the archangel, call His Church out of this world before the Man of Sin, the anti-Christ emerges as world ruler who will be used by Satan to unleash great pain on Israel and Christians who were left behind. These are based on various scriptures such as 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 and 1 Corinthians 15: 50-58.

### **1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

<sup>1</sup>But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.

<sup>2</sup>For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.

<sup>3</sup>For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.

<sup>4</sup>But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.

<sup>5</sup>Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

<sup>6</sup>Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.

<sup>7</sup>For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.

<sup>8</sup>But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.

<sup>9</sup>For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,

<sup>10</sup>Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him.

<sup>11</sup>Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.

The **Mid-Tribulation** group teaches that the saints will be raptured in the middle of the Great Tribulation when the full identity of the Anti Christ becomes manifest.

### **2 Thessalonians 2:1-12**

<sup>1</sup>Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him,

<sup>2</sup>That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand.

<sup>3</sup>Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

<sup>4</sup>Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

<sup>5</sup>Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?

<sup>6</sup>And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time.

<sup>7</sup>For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way.

<sup>8</sup>And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

<sup>9</sup>Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,

<sup>10</sup>And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

<sup>11</sup>And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:

<sup>12</sup>That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

The **Post-Tribulation** group on the other hand posit that saints will live through the Great Tribulation, be preserved by the Lord supernaturally and be raptured thereafter.

All three groups believe in Salvation by Grace through faith in Jesus Christ alone. All three groups believe in the eternal destiny of the righteous and the wicked and are agreed on the essential components of the Kingdom of God. They all believe that true saints in Christ will be raptured out of this world at a certain time. The issue of toxicity works out thus: Pre-tribulation keeps saints on the cutting edge of preparedness for Jesus to return at any time. If their version is true, they stand greatly to make it in the largest possible numbers because what you believe in will determine how you live. If however this interpretation is not correct, many pre-tribulation saints will enter that dark chapter of human history inadequately prepared for what they will meet!

On the other hand, the Mid-Tribulation saints are a little more laid back concerning rapture readiness. Their mindset is already formed that the rapture needs not be an obsession until the Anti-Christ emerges on the world scene. They are better equipped to live through the Great Tribulation. Some have actually started creating their own independent economic systems shunning banks and finances options like car notes, mortgages; stockpiling food and basic necessities in secret shelters and shunning ministry in public places in favour of home cells. The shortcoming here is that many may be caught by surprise if the rapture is a pre-tribulation occurrence.

Saints should not engage in abusive hurling of stones over when the rapture will occur. Our emphasis should be to live for God and found in Him 24/7; loving and trusting in Him with all our hearts translated into a life that is lived in obedience to His Word; loving all mankind

and the saints in a special way. We are also called to make the ministry of reconciling the lost to God a core lifestyle and being the best we can be with the callings and gifting He invested in us either in pulpit, service or market place ministry. We do all these in a milieu of watching and praying, not knowing the exact day and time of His soon return! These are the things we should concentrate in getting saints to live out so that no matter when Jesus returns, we will be found in Him! Jesus made it clear that His Second Coming will be swift and sudden. Our emphasis, for the sake of unity of the Faith should be on personal preparedness rather than splitting hair over things outside our control!

#### **Matthew 24:36-44**

<sup>36</sup>But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.

<sup>37</sup>But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

<sup>38</sup>For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark,

<sup>39</sup>And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

<sup>40</sup>Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

<sup>41</sup>Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

<sup>42</sup>Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.

<sup>43</sup>But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up.

<sup>44</sup>Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.

#### **18. Critical Assaults of the True Gospel of the Kingdom: Main Sources of Errors, Heresies, the Pseudo-Kingdom and Apostasies**

Fresh from the South African Embassy where I picked up a visa for a mission in June, I boarded the Tube at the Embankment Underground station east bound for Elm Park where we live. The train had hardly gone far when around Mansion House the hand of the Lord came upon me about 12.10pm today, Monday, May 27. As I began to write down what He was saying on the back page of a slim Gideon's Bible, the output was amazing! In a few minutes, the Lord downloaded the core sources of most of the errors, heresies, pseudo-kingdom postulations and apostasies which fill both cyberspace and many cities across the world.

As I was about to write "Critical Threats", I found that the Lord preferred the word "critical assaults". Curious, I wanted to know why the Lord did not want me to use the word "threats". The Lord referred me to two scriptures which describe the nature of His Kingdom.

In Matthew 16:18, Jesus told Peter that the gates of hell cannot prevail against His Church.

## **Matthew 16:18-19**

<sup>18</sup>And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

<sup>19</sup>And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

In effect, the gates of hell will assault the Church in each generation. Gates of hell include all doctrines that Satan and his demons will try to foist on saints either directly or through manipulation of the mind of carnal humans. In effect, there is a guarantee of God that such assaults will fail. The Lord then took me to the Book of Hebrews 12 to show the nature of the Kingdom to which we are called and made citizens and Ambassadors by the Blood of Jesus.

## **Hebrews 12:28-29**

<sup>28</sup>Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear:

<sup>29</sup>For our God is a consuming fire.

Those who insist on twisting the Word of God to suit their personal fancies had better beware because the Judge of the whole earth is a consuming fire! While He is patient and long suffering, God does not suffer gladly those who pervert His holy Words to suit their personal theologies! The Lord began to speak further as we rode the London Underground Train.

Saints, let no one confuse you with sensible nonsense! The Word of God is not for private interpretation! It is to be received with meekness and humility in a heart and mind that is surrendered to the Sovereign rule of the King of Kings.

## **1 Peter 2:1-5**

Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings,

<sup>2</sup>As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

<sup>3</sup>If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

<sup>4</sup>To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious,

<sup>5</sup>Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

Let us hear what the Lord is saying about the 7 critical assaults:

## 1. Christian religion:

Christian religion developed in Europe after the simple original gospel shifted base from Jerusalem to Rome and later other cities of the Continent. As the marriage of Church and State was effected by those who wanted to help God, a new reality dawned. The simple gospel which essentially provided an open door for the individual sinner to become a saint on the basis of the shed Blood of Jesus which created a living relationship with the Father was replaced by a complex set of regulations that culminated in a radical revision of the concept of the Church to be a religion.

From the spiritual reality of all those who are saved by grace through faith in Jesus, the new paradigm needed addition of all kinds of requirements designed to sustain the emergent organization. A new priesthood based on the Aaronic or Levitical concept replaced the simple priesthood of all saints. With their special colors and robes, the new priesthood required classification according to the extent of territory and human populations that the priests would cover. The larger the territory and the greater the socio-political influence, so would the priests need Cathedrals that were prestigious enough.

To finance these complexities, elaborate schemes designed to enslave the people and get money were established as well as a record system which captured every detail of life – from birth through baptism, confirmation, marriage and death. This is how money became a major factor in “church” work. Truly, the backslidden religious order was the original “Big Brother” watching you. No one escaped the microscopic attention to detail!

The Protestant movement endeavoured to break out of some of these shackles. Unfortunately, the break was not total. Over time, the emergent Protestant movement denominated around their human founders and their interpretations of the bible. Retaining some of the features of Rome, they soon tilted towards the old wine skin of religion in order to sustain their organizations.

One key failure of most of these Christian religions was the fact that they so glamorized heaven in life and in death to the degree that most adherents were not told much about the present phase of the Kingdom of God. Many who were truly saved in that era basically “lived to die”. They marked their time, so to say, waiting for when they would go to heaven to receive rewards for their just behaviour on earth. This trend was reflected in the beautiful hymns composed in that era.

Even when the Holy Spirit visited and breathed life into those deficient systems, humans always found a way to bring back the old wineskin of religion. Over time the stifling spirit of religion caused the Holy Spirit to depart and leave humans to their own devices. In some cases, ludicrous concepts of the role of the identity of the Church and its role were birthed.

Some sects denounced education as carnal and worldly; some specifically denounced Christian participation in the major professions. In some countries, many saints ended up as teachers and civil servants in low and at best mid level jobs. With few entrepreneurs, distaste for wealth, many saints of those generations were clearly incapable of affecting their generations. In some countries, Christian Pentecostal and charismatic groups made their camp on the edges of cities and villages to avoid contact with sinners and consequent “pollution”. The charge of Jesus for saints to be the Salt and Light of their communities was basically ignored. Matthew 5:13-16.

The religious spirit also attacked the identity of Christians in another subtle way. Very few had proper understanding of the fact that salvation brought true liberty and that they were now saints of God! Many therefore laboured to please God through various works of the flesh and in the process, made their salvation of non effect.

In real terms, Satan used the spirit of religion to lay the greatest booby trap for those who were repulsed at its stench. Tomorrow, we shall discuss how that revulsion was hijacked by the enemy to throw a sucker punch at the unwary!

Manipulated by the Adversary, the spirit of religion also pointedly targeted women to put them out of action. Knowing that the Sovereign Lord by Himself had endowed women with a special capacity to love righteousness and hate evil, religion preferred to rely on the events of Eden to paint women as perpetual villains. In the process, the fact of the incarnation of Jesus in the womb of a woman and the fact that women were the first to see him after sticking with Him till the end is discounted! Till today, there is this notion among many religious people to view any zealous woman in Church as having a hidden agenda to seduce men! This bizarre disposition effectively neutralized the awesome capacity of between 55 – 60 percent of the Kingdom. For the most part, women were excluded from ministry. Where they were accepted, glass ceilings were artificially imposed so that they could not rise to certain levels of service.

Taking scriptures out of context, male chauvinism fed a complex which presented this low road of religiosity as a biblical doctrine. Without comparing scripture with scripture, women were made second class citizens of the Church world. No one cared to ask whether redemption had any gender bias. No one also bothered to inquire if the Holy Spirit discriminates against women when imparting callings and spiritual gifts. Since no one questions cannons of Church Councils, this situation persisted till today. Perhaps only less than 25 percent of all movements which claim they are of Christ are actually tapping fully into the incredible resource God deposited into women. The Lord graciously opened up to the Global School of Ministry a proper understanding of the Pauline commands regarding women which religious people took as license to exclude women in ministry. For a detailed understanding of the true interpretation of those provisions of scripture, please send an email request for our free teaching resources: 1. The Ascension Office Gifts 2. Women in Ministry 3. Concerning Spiritual Gifts. Send an email request to [ariseoffice@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ariseoffice@yahoo.co.uk) and they will be sent to you, free of charge!

## **2. The Pseudo-Kingdom Gospel**

At the opposite end of the spectrum, Satan has raised the pseudo-kingdom gospel ostensibly to fight the spirit of religion. But it is here that Satan has shown his hand as truly an adversary of Jesus Christ as well as Truth.

The pseudo-kingdom movement is the smartest trick in the bag of Satan to deceive the elect. Satan did not fight the Truth from outside but rather went for the jugular, from inside the Church! Targeting young professionals who were fervent and seeking answers to the ineffectiveness and poverty they saw and very intelligent ministers who rejected the dreary picture that religion painted of the gospel, Satan began to offer them a tantalising proposal. Under this scheme, the entire narrative of the gospel of the Kingdom was remodelled to create what is, to all intents and purposes, another gospel entirely.

By going for their intellectual minds, many who were in the faith and in ministry have now been re-programmed to spear head an entirely different gospel which is built on a separate set

of values. This paradigm shift is cleverly masked by sound bites and lingo which confuse those they target. Take Matthew 6:33 for instance. When you quote that scripture alone, you are engaged in intellectual mischief. Matthew 6:33 is part of a body of truth from verse 19 – 34 where Jesus was making the clear case that true saints must come into a place of complete trust in God to take care of their temporal needs as He has already guaranteed to care for His own. Within the context of the entire gospel message, Jesus is in effect offering all saints a real deal: die to self, completely embrace the Salvation in Jesus as a holistic package, live for God alone and His Kingdom. In return, God has guaranteed all that pertain to life and godliness! It is a typical pseudo-kingdom manoeuvre to ignore the entire Sermon on the Mount and focus on verse 33 as a spring board to lead people outside Scripture into all kinds of ideas of men.

What are some of the key doctrinal leavens of the pseudo-Kingdom movement that are so dangerously anti-Christ driven? Why should you beware and make sure you are hearing the right message of the Kingdom of God?

### **1. The pseudo-kingdom movement rejects the divinity of Jesus Christ!**

Of course they do not come out boldly to say this. But the entire structure rests on this fundamentally flawed pillar! If they are of God, they would receive the solid testimony of scripture regarding the fact that Jesus is Emmanuel – God among us. Anyone who claims to be in the Kingdom of God on a basis other than the sinless blood of the God-Man, Jesus Christ is suffering delusion of grandeur! The only valid passport of Kingdom citizens is salvation by grace through faith based on the Bloodshed by the Jesus Christ of the Bible. What they accept of Jesus is that He is the Son of God and our senior brother. In effect, Jesus is to them something of a super Prophet and Teacher with an extra-ordinary anointing by the Holy Spirit. For a detailed exposition of the Divinity of Jesus Christ, please request for the free resource GSoM Course 102: Understanding Jesus Christ. Write to [ariseoffice@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ariseoffice@yahoo.co.uk) and it will be sent to you.

### **2. In the pseudo-kingdom movement, the core personality is you!**

In various approaches, the enemy uses the effusion of ideas to feed your ego that this world was created for you to dominate. Certain scriptures like Genesis 1:26-28 are taken out of context to present it as your chief purpose in life. At the end of the day, after about 50 years in which this movement has picked up steam and even mutated into various sub-ideologies, those who have bought their doctrines remain struggling working folks and average business people, while the “kingdom experts” smile all the way to their banks, piling up treasures for several generations of their offsprings! With choice properties across the world, insisting on 5 figure fees to speak at “kingdom conferences”, no one seems to notice the anomaly where the propagators alone are truly blessed, feeding off their loyal clientele who snap up every product they release – at very expensive prices! Have you ever wondered why products of the pseudo-kingdom movement are so expensive? It is the prosperity movement re-invented!

### **3. The Pseudo-kingdom movement downplays salvation by grace through faith.**

This is why they do not consider the Great Commission a necessary activity. They believe that their “kingdom of God” is grown by some arcane revelation known to only some special few. If you want to know about the Kingdom, you need to come to such people. Bottom line is that the spirit of Babylon takes over and you are hooked onto books, DVDs, CDs and teaching resources of these masters!

#### 4. **The pseudo-kingdom movement detests the Bible.**

In their enclaves, they spend valuable time trying to discredit the Holy Scriptures. With rejection of Jesus as God and downgrading of the Word of God, their minds become fertile breeding ground for humanistic ideas packaged as kingdom truth. To say that some are given over to a reprobate mind and may have rejected the real Christ permanently may be stating the obvious!

#### 5. **The pseudo-kingdom movement makes you see the whole purpose of God as earth bound.**

They rarely speak of the hereafter. They rarely speak of what happens when you die. The enemy knows that when these questions engage your heart, you will seek the right Saviour. The word “heaven” is almost detested by the pseudo-kingdom movement. The eternal phase of the Kingdom of God – the real deal is not emphasized because the whole idea is to trap the unwary to chase an elusive takeover of all the heights of society in this present time. Unfortunately, that has not happened yet. One of the nations that is often brandished as a “success story” is laughable, considering the pervasiveness of lasciviousness as a past time and national income earner.

#### 6. **The pseudo-kingdom movement detests the word “Church”.**

Because of their limited acceptance of scripture, they do not realize that the full implication of rejecting the Body of Christ is akin to rejection of Himself.

God will judge all those who have allowed the enemy to cause them to seek another “kingdom” using His name. A day is coming when Jesus Christ will return to this planet in the full splendour of His glory. He will rule and reign as Sovereign Monarch over the whole earth with His headquarters in Jerusalem. All those who have faithfully served His purpose for them in the present phase of the Kingdom will rule and reign with Him as Priests and Kings over the nations. Our priesthood in the now consists of using our callings and spiritual gifts to serve His purpose, not our ambitions. As we preach the gospel, occupying where He placed us in His Name while watching and praying, we state, by our actions, that we are looking forward to His return. Luke 19:10-27.

What we owe those of them that can still be recovered are these: first detach for a season for a spiritual detox from their negative humanistic ideas that masquerade as truth; secondly, in love, engage in intense intercession and spiritual warfare to snatch them out of the hand of the wicked one. Certainly do not patronize their pernicious doctrines or else you become a partaker of their evil ways! Romans 16:17, 18; 1 John 2: 18-27; 2 John:8-11. We owe them love, real love: to pull them out of the path of perdition

### **3. Rejecting the immutability of the Word, these people resort to extra-biblical revelations.**

Truly the Lord is still speaking, even as He spoke of old. The Holy Spirit will never cease to share the heartbeat of Abba and Jesus with saints until He returns. Jesus made it clear The Holy Spirit will NEVER DO however these:

- Contradict what He already inspired men of Old to write. It is IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE Holy Spirit to contradict the Word of God!

Any revelation which directly contradicts any written word is suspect ab initio(from the beginning) as lawyers will say.

- Speak of Himself. Divinity has established a clear pattern of relationship for humans to see. While in the flesh as the Son, Jesus essentially pointed all to the Father. After His ascension, the Holy Spirit was given to explain Christ to those who are His.

### **John 16:12-15**

King James Version (KJV)

<sup>12</sup>I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now.

<sup>13</sup>Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

<sup>14</sup>He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

<sup>15</sup>All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

- Down grade Jesus in the esteem of any human being! One of the functions of the Holy Spirit is to reveal Jesus Christ as God made flesh to saint.
- Allow anyone who is in Christ to remain comfortable with error. The Holy Spirit is the source of discernment. If we are attuned to Him, we will never walk in darkness! 1 John 2:18-27

#### **4. Rejecting the Pure Word, some prefer unbiblical revelations**

We live in an age where many people want to know about the future. The environment is ripe for sorcery, divination and various negative revelations from demonic forces released upon the world to deceive the elect and trap sinners to remain in their state. Whenever “Thus says the Lord” contradicts, “It is Written”, beware and take heed to yourself. Jesus Himself warned His elect to take heed to what they hear.

#### **5. Secular Humanism is the core doctrine of all who reject the divinity of Jesus Christ**

Secular humanism is the doctrine of man. It urges saints to abandon the bible and the Holy Spirit as pillars of our spiritual life in favour of a soul-led spirituality. In this soul led spirituality, we are urged to break down our Kingdom life into just two things: Love God and Love Man. Ordinarily, this looks good enough and seems to tally with what Jesus said. However, the catch is this: the God we are to love is not defined. It therefore can mean anything to anyone. This being therefore is not the same as the God of the Holy Scriptures who is presented so clearly for our understanding.

## 6. Liberalism

Liberalism is another strain of secular humanism. It essentially is the doctrine which advocates that you live the way you like without the “restraint” of the Holy Spirit, the Word or delegated authorities. Liberalism breeds extreme disorder and will feature prominently in the Church of the Last Days as many depart from the true Faith to feed their fancies. Worldliness is the driving force of liberalism. Liberalism is also a driving force behind the feminist movement within the Body of Christ.

## 7. The Emergent and Convergent Movement

These two movements have already begun to gain momentum in the Western World. Their basic proposition is that the narrative of the Bible is defective. They are re-writing the narrative to take away what they perceive as a Jewish cultural slant. Their chief aim is to produce a gospel in which all people of the world will be brothers and sisters. This will involve rejecting and taking away references to the Blood sacrifice of Jesus as the Lamb of God; Rejection of the Truth of Hell and emphasis on this present life. There are various strands of what is generally called the emerging church movement. Like the pseudo-kingdom movement, the divinity of Jesus is rejected. They however see Jesus as a model to be emulated, a fact which drives them to a strong focus on social justice and good works which can confuse many saints.

To understand how far this movement is from the Holy Bible, please read this excerpt of a blog by Crystal Lewis of the emergent village on April 30:

“Torturing someone for eternity is not “justice.” Neither is “banishing them from God’s presence forever.” In fact, I like [Rabbi Max Weiman’s](#) observation that in true justice, the punishment fits the crime. The punishment for a human moral infraction could never logically be “eternal” because we are not capable of committing “eternal sins.” And, Jesus (a Jew) made reference to an ancient concept of justice that involved “an eye for an eye”, which brings to mind the degree to which many (but obviously not all) Jewish people believed that the “scales” should be balanced in the process whenever possible. What’s most interesting is that Jesus went on to teach that holy justice meant abandoning even the eye-for-an-eye idea because in his mind, God would be much more gracious than that—and would expect the same from us.

5. The concept of an all-powerful deity who expects me to forgive 70X7 times when he clearly is unable to do the same is simply beyond my imagination. Frankly, I just can’t believe it. If you read my blog, you know I’m no theologian, so I’m not interested in stringing together a bunch of patristic theory and half-hacked scripture to prove that God tortures people. If there is a God, then surely, his ability to reason, carry out justice, and love us will far exceed any theory or practice we can concoct in this life. And, I don’t think we need a torture theory in order to highlight the beauty of forgiveness.

6. I’ve become convinced that we are attached to the hell doctrine because we don’t know what else to believe. However, from my view that’s not a good enough reason to promote a co-opted theory about an abuser in an underworld that is highly unlikely to exist.

7. Finally—telling someone to worship their torturer is abuse. I don't care how you slice it and dice it. It doesn't matter what kind of package you wrap it in or what kinds of pretty songs you sing about it. There is something unhealthy about a religious experience that has fear at its center. There is something wrong with a religion whose adherents are afraid to leave it because their deity might torture them. And there's something equally wrong when it isn't okay to come out and say that to people without being afraid of the consequences. I think we should re-examine the religious construct we're offering to people and question whether it's healthy... whether it's something we truly want the next generation to believe... and whether we believe it because we want to—or because we're afraid not to."

The Gracious God of heaven will not be intimidated by men who want to re-invent Him after their own image and likeness. Those who want to believe the lie of Satan that He is a difficult task master and that His written words are not sufficient guide to His Kingdom life in the now and in the hereafter and yet want to worship Him are like the man who went to the marriage feast without the right wedding garment.

### *Matthew 22*

<sup>1</sup>And Jesus answered and spake unto them again by parables, and said,

<sup>2</sup>The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son,

<sup>3</sup>And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come.

<sup>4</sup>Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage.

<sup>5</sup>But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise:

<sup>6</sup>And the remnant took his servants, and entreated them spitefully, and slew them.

<sup>7</sup>But when the king heard thereof, he was wroth: and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city.

<sup>8</sup>Then saith he to his servants, the wedding is ready, but they which were bidden were not worthy.

<sup>9</sup>Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage.

<sup>10</sup>So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests.

<sup>11</sup>And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment:

<sup>12</sup>And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless.

<sup>13</sup>Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness, there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

<sup>14</sup>For many are called, but few are chosen.

## **8. Rejection of the Holy Spirit as needful for life and ministry in this age.**

There are many denominations which have excellent doctrines and practices but fail on this critical subject. To reject the Holy Spirit is to walk in darkness! Jesus Himself spoke extensively of the connection of the Holy Spirit and acceptable walk with Him and ministry with Him. To try to live the Christian life without the indwelling Holy Spirit is to recourse to dead works and religiosity Philippians 1:6; Philippians 2:13; Colossians 2:11-23. To also attempt ministry without the power of the Holy Spirit is to engage in fleshly endeavour as Apollos found out in Acts 18:24-28. Please study these texts: John 14:15-20; 25-27; John 16:5-15; Acts 1:4-8

## **9. Rejection of some or all of the leadership office gifts.**

It is interesting how people will reject clear provisions of the Bible and cling to dogma constructed by humans long dead, formulated with the limited light they received while alive. One of such departures from scripture is rejection of the office of Apostle and in some cases, rejection of Prophets. The standard excuse is that these gifts were used to birth the Church and ended with the early church! Another school of thought rigidly suggests that only Jesus could personally appoint apostles!

The truth that is so clear in the word is that Jesus Himself released His office as Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Pastor and Teacher to different vessels in the present phase of the Kingdom for the express purpose of providing the right mix of governmental authority and anointing needful to mature saints to do the work of ministry!

### **Ephesians 4:11-16 (KJV)**

<sup>11</sup>And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

<sup>12</sup>For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

<sup>13</sup>Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

<sup>14</sup>That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

<sup>15</sup>But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

<sup>16</sup>From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love

Any ministry which rejects this express manifestation of Jesus to His Church will be walking in sub optimization and therefore fail to produce saints who are fit for purpose in the Kingdom. As these gifts are deposited and released in the spirit man of saints, they cannot be exclusively reserved for males to the exclusion of women. From the days of the Acts of the Apostles till today, God has chosen people for service according to His Sovereign will and inclination of hearts of vessels, not their gender, race or socio-economic status!

For further understanding of this issue, please request for our free resource: Course 112 Ascension Office Gifts (five-fold) and Course 122: Women in Ministry and Course 114: Leadership in the Household of Faith from [ariseoffice@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ariseoffice@yahoo.co.uk)

**10. Running Ministry according to the principles of Babylon.** There are many who preach and teach sound doctrine but are guilty of imbibing and fostering the culture of Babylon in the Kingdom of God. The spirit of Babylon is manifested with these measures:

**10.1 – Pervading Spirit of the world.** This happens when “churches” look to the world to set the pace. This affects choice of music, dance, ecclesiastical robes, costumes and hierarchy systems that are inherently contrary to the simple gospel of the Kingdom Jesus preached. Jesus was so simple and ordinary that those sent to arrest Him needed Judas to identify Him from a “congregation” of only 12 people!

**10.2 - In the name of being seeker friendly, the foundations of the Kingdom –** the Blood of Jesus; Jesus as the only access to the Father; Sin as absolutely alien to God and other such hot button issues are systematically de-emphasized. Ultimately, people can become church goers for long without being converted in their spirit man and with no record of their names in the Lamb’s Book!

**10.3 – Mammon Worship/Commercialization of gifts, callings and revelations.** Freely, the gifts and callings and revelations of God are received. Ideally, they should be released freely, without copyright restrictions so that saints may be blessed and pass same on to bless many others. When the Lord gives the Word, great should be the company which publishes it Psalm 68:11! If there is any need for funds to run the Kingdom business, materials supposedly from God should be marked with considerate pricing so that the widest possible number of saints can receive them and be blessed thereby. Ungodly emphasis on money usually rebounds on the picture people have of God as an unfaithful and uncaring task master who will send His servants on assignment without making provisions for their welfare and to fund their ministries! On the Last Day, many ministers will answer to the Lord why they made pursuit of money to take pre-eminence.

Babylon has for long, traded in the souls of men under the guise of even “church work” (Please read Revelation chapter 18 in full especially verse 13. Babylon is doomed for utter destruction and the Word of the Lord is: Come Ye Out from amongst her!

## **11. Rejection of Jesus and His sacrificial life as model for leadership.**

Apostasy also occurs when those who purport to be called into ministry and especially leadership conjure various reasons to dump the Jesus model of leadership which is self-effacing and fully sacrificial. Jesus clearly asked us to follow His example and obey His teachings. John 13: 1-17; John 14:21-24; John 15:7-16; Matthew 20: 20-28. Leaders and saints in the Church of Acts had as their main badge of honour, a clear Christ likeness which involves shunning materialism and pursuit of riches so that out of their brokenness, the sweet aroma of Christ would bless multitudes. Acts 4:13; Acts 6:1-7; Acts 11:26; Acts 20:17-35; 2

Corinthians 4:1-15; 2 Corinthians 6:1-10. To charge speaking fees and place various conditions before honouring an invitation to preach is a path which will lead to error and directly contradicts Matthew 10:8.

That pattern has not changed and will never change! Pursuit of wealth for the sake of showing off is the beginning of apostasy in ministry. God can and will bless His ministers and saints. But they must deploy such wealth to expand the Kingdom and not use it to feed their fancies or compete with worldly stars for vain glory! Philippians 3:17-21

Poverty is not advocated here. It is simply that if we cannot pursue God and Mammon! As we seek God whole heartedly, He releases all that pertains to life and godliness, including finances, in His own appointed time to serve us and the Kingdom assignment in our hand! Matthew 6:19-34; 2 Peter 1:3,4. Before He releases such funds, the Lord is at liberty to try us and weigh our motives or even to train us with adversity by allowing us to labour for a season without much resources.

## **12. Putting God and the Kingdom in an exclusive box, subject to human whims.**

God has one Kingdom to which we all are called Ephesians 4:1-6. That Kingdom has just one Constitution, the Bible, with universal application. For that reason, all these are humanistic boxes:

**12.1 – Denominations with their mutually exclusive dogmas and ideologies and practices.** God is calling all of us to teach and practice the truth that our primary affiliations are to the King of Kings and that ALL blood washed saints are our brothers and sisters. What we have are simply different congregations of the One United Church. Our congregations are simply branches of the same tree, Jesus Christ! Any Leader who is not teaching this truth but rather building walls around “his” or “her” congregation is engaged in scattering the flock of Jesus. This does not in any way mean that leaders should allow wolves to come in and tear up the flock. Wolves should be discerned by their fruit and excluded from their nefarious mission Matthew 7: 15-20; John 10:1-16.

**12.2 – Making the physical building the Church.** The Church is simply the redeemed of the Lord. The truth is that where they gather to worship is secondary to their spiritual state. To neglect the spiritual health of the flock while concentrating resources in acquisition, decoration and maintenance of physical structures is a great contradiction and displaced priority. Does this mean we no longer need sanctuaries? The plain answer is a big No! Sanctuaries will be needed as training, equipping and resource centres for empowerment of saints who are then released to affect the community. We therefore “gather to scatter” is the paradigm!

Those who have no sanctuaries can still fulfil the purpose of God by meeting in homes, store fronts, trailer parks, portakabins and indeed anywhere else, including tents and open fields and parks where two or three can gather together in the name of Jesus! Matthew 18:19, 20. Meetings can also be conducted online, with blogtalk radio, facebook, skype and other social media. Let it be said however that no matter how effective we are with virtual media, the King also expects us to congregate with other saints in our localities to ensure effective release of the presence and power of God Matthew 18:20; Hebrews 10:25

### **13. Elevation of ANYTHING above Love of God and pursuit of His Kingdom.**

The way Jesus preached which was emulated by His apostles' shows that the primary purpose for which we are left on planet earth after salvation is to demonstrate our love of God by being wholly consumed with the purpose for which Jesus came. He came to seek and save the lost so that they will become citizens of the Kingdom of God. He has vested us with life, callings, gifts and other special abilities so that we may deploy them to that singular purpose. Luke 19:10-27. Anything which interferes with this pursuit and focus is idolatry. A spouse, child, ambition, career, business or even ministry may be an idol. Matthew 10:32-39; Matthew 16:24-26.

**14. Anti-Semitism.** This is the sin of hating the Jews and despising their need for a secure homeland. Christian religion has a dark track record of anti-Semitism because of the faulty replacement theology formulated in Europe. That theology taught Christians that by rejecting and orchestrating the crucifixion of Jesus, Jews lost their prized place with God. Consequently, the Church has been raised to inherit all the promises in the Old Testament. Adolf Hitler was greatly encouraged in his heinous agenda by proponents of the replacement theology movement including some of the most prominent reformers. A careful reading of Romans chapters 9,10,11 and several texts reveal that God still has an agenda for the Jews which will yet be fulfilled in future.

**15. Judaizers/Rabid Christian Zionists.** On the other side of the spectrum, it is error and possible apostasy to suggest that a blood washed, spirit-filled saint needs to go and learn and practice the cultural lifestyle of Jews in order to please God. From the earliest days of the Church till today, God has made it clear that saints from gentile back grounds are not bound by the ceremonial provisions that guided Jewish life! Acts 11: 1-18; Acts 15: 29; Galatians chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. Jesus Himself showed the limited span of the Old Testament rituals and announced that He came to fulfil those things which were a shadow Matthew 5: 17-20. The truth is that the New Covenant in Christ has a deeper and higher standard of righteousness than the Old Matthew 5:21-48. Today, many saints are misled to believe that they can physically secure Israel through the United States of America. Many are been misled by blind religious leaders to engage in political solutions which effectively get in the way of the Now agenda of God for the Jews. That agenda allows gentile nations to unite in an unholy agenda to destroy Israel and emergence of an Anti-Christ who will purport to be a friend intent to ensure security for Israel. This will trigger the return of Jesus!!! Unconsciously therefore, some saints are working against the return of Jesus by playing the political card. What Israel needs more than anything else at this time is massive investment in intercession, evangelization and discipleship! Of course investments to care for the poor and weak are part of the gospel programme.

### **16. The Two deadly and opposite isms: Chauvinism & Feminism**

Creeping steadily into the gospel movement are two deadly opposite isms: Male chauvinism and Feminism. One of the things Jesus came to do was to break down every middle wall of partition to produce one new man: the son of God who is neither male nor female; Jew nor Gentile, bond nor free Galatians 3:26-29.

Any ministry that fosters divisions of saints into male and female is erroneous and capable of leading into apostasy! Those who believe God has called them to cut down women in ministry are in error. Those females who flaunt their success in ministry as license to dominate and subjugate men are on a slippery path of perdition.

## 17. Syncretism

Syncretism is the mixture of elements of the gospel with various practices including palm reading, astrology and various other practices which have occultic connotation. The heavy reliance on incense, candles, oil and images from the Old Testament including making replicas of such sacred objects such as the Ark of the Covenant is idolatry by other means. Included here are such bizarre practices as using the image of the dove so heavily to represent the Holy Spirit in a way which contravenes the First Commandment.

### Exodus 20:3-5

<sup>3</sup>Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

<sup>4</sup>Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

<sup>5</sup>Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me.

**18. Faulty Foundations in Ministry.** When life or ministry is built on a faulty foundation, the outcome is negative. A foundation is faulty when:

\* A person sets out to start a ministry in a state of strife, quarrels, confusion, recriminations.

\* A person proceeds to start a ministry without making the necessary effort to overcome basic sins or be free from certain bondages such as hurts and wounds in the soul. In that unhealed state with their strong holds, the person begins to minister death rather than life by preaching out of a rotten inner core.

\* Where a minister refuses to undergo a legitimate discipline pronounced by a senior authority designed to receive purging from gross sins such as immorality, fraud, stealing and instead, goes off in a huff to start his/her own ministry.

\* Where the person who is beginning a new ministry does so in a manner which does not meet basic standards of integrity before God and man.

\* Where somebody goes into ministry specifically to make money; achieve prominence or compete with contemporaries.

\* Where a minister operates as an Island, without any authority he or she is subject to. Consequently the minister becomes a virtual emperor, creating and preaching doctrines that are outside the remit of the Scriptures.

\*Where a minister begins to justify a bad personal experience and uses same to distort the doctrines of the Word. If for instance a minister had a failed marriage and went on to obtain divorce, it is very likely that the ministry birthed out of that life experience can be hall marked by easy divorce. Over time, the entire Bible teaching on marriage as a divine union between two saints is repudiated and lost. God Himself elevated His Word above His very name. We should also allow the Word to stand on its elevated pedestal and be subject to it rather than want to subject the Word to our personal experiences. That your marriage failed is no justification to knowingly or unknowing lead other saints along that same route.

\*Please ask the Holy Spirit to search you to identify and convict you of any faulty foundation so that you can cooperate with Him to obtain deliverance before it is too late.

### **Psalm 11:3**

<sup>3</sup>If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?

On the last day, God will judge motives, foundations and practices which undergird ministry!

### **1 Corinthians 3:10-15**

<sup>10</sup>According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise master builder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.

<sup>11</sup>For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

<sup>12</sup>Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;

<sup>13</sup>Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

<sup>14</sup>If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.

<sup>15</sup>If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

It is recommended that while there is still time, ministers should go to God in deep repentance concerning their personal and ministry foundations.

### **The Key Doctrines Satan will always attack**

There are doctrines covering all we need to know about God and how we ought to live in the present age until Jesus returns to set up the Kingdom here on earth. A doctrine is not established with just one thought or verse of scripture. Often, God will say various things about a body of divine knowledge and Truth. He then leads us by the Holy Spirit to compare scripture with scripture until the whole pieces of the jigsaw fit to present a whole.

#### **1. The Doctrine of Jesus Christ**

Let us begin with a survey of the Doctrine of Jesus Christ as very God and very man. It is not for instance enough to believe in Jesus. The question is: which Jesus? In these end times, the question has become very profound because people are preaching all kinds of Jesus! Some are preaching a Jesus who is an angel. Some are preaching a Jesus who is a prophet. Many pseudo-kingdom sects led by some of the most popular writers and commentators who claim to know "Kingdom truth" preach a Jesus who is just the son of God and therefore stops at being merely our senior brother. They believe and teach that He is not God. To avoid losing their followers, they do not approach this subject frontally. They rather do so by emphasizing the error that the Kingdom is about you and not Jesus. Some go as far as to boldly claim that it does not matter what you believe, as long as you can love God and fellow humans.

Sound doctrine of Jesus Christ however clearly articulate His identity as God who was supernaturally incarnated in the womb of a Virgin based on the foreknowledge of God as to what would happen with mankind as well as a consequence of prophecies stretching back to the day of the fall (Rev. 13:8; Genesis 3:15; Isaiah 7:14; Isaiah 9:6,7). Scripture also affirms that He lived in human flesh to feel the pains of mortal mankind in order to be our near Kinsman and faithful High Priest ( Hebrews 2:10-18; Hebrews 4:14-16); Imbued with the Holy Spirit He received without measure at the Baptism of John, He went about doing all manner of God to all men, meeting their every need ( Matthew 3:13-17; John 3:34; Acts 10:38). Jesus shared the principles of the Kingdom and Himself as the ONLY way to reconciliation and relationship with the Father (John 14:6). This biblical Jesus took upon Himself the sicknesses, pain and paid the price for sins of the whole world with His death on the Cross of Calvary (Isaiah 53:1-12; Matthew 8:1-17; 1 Peter 2:24). Three days after His death, He resurrected and after appearing to His disciples and teaching them principles of the Kingdom, He ascended bodily to heaven where He is enthroned with the Father (John 20; 21; Acts 1:1-11). He sent the Holy Spirit to be with all His saints, comfort and guide them through life and empower their witness as His Ambassadors ( Acts 1:8; Acts 2:1-39). That same Jesus will return on a day which no man knows and set up the Kingdom of God on earth (Acts 1:9-11; Matthew 24; 1 Corinthians 15: 50-58) 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11). The real Jesus is the express image of the Father and physical manifestation of divinity (John 1:1-4; John 14:1-11; John 12:44-50; Colossians 1:10-19; Colossians 2: 1-10; 1 Timothy 6:15, 16; Hebrews 1:1-13

Anyone who believes in a Jesus who is not the clearly articulated God-Man in the Bible is obviously on track to believe error and heresy. Because the relationship of that person with God will be resting on lies rather than truth, eternity cannot be guaranteed! The ONLY BLOOD which can wash away sins is the Blood of the God-Man Jesus Christ! The only basis of coming into the New Covenant with God which inducts one into His Kingdom is on the basis of our faith in the finished work of the REAL JESUS! Saints, this is a very serious matter! Please request for the completely free download from God: Course 102: Understanding Jesus Christ by an email to [ariseoffice@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ariseoffice@yahoo.co.uk)

## **What the Word says you should do with any one preaching a different Jesus**

### **Galatians 1**

<sup>6</sup>I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel:

<sup>7</sup>Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.

<sup>8</sup>But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.

<sup>9</sup>As we said before, so say I now again, if any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.

<sup>10</sup>For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.

## **2. Discern and avoid them: Do not receive them and their lies!**

### **Romans 16:17-18**

<sup>17</sup>Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.

<sup>18</sup>For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.

### **2 John 1:7-11**

<sup>7</sup>For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.

<sup>8</sup>Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward.

<sup>9</sup>Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.

<sup>10</sup>If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed:

<sup>11</sup>For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.

This is very serious, saints! Are you “sowing” into any ministry or person who denies the divinity of Jesus and claims He was just a supernatural creation of God? The Lord says, cut off every support for such people and get yourself separated from every soul tie with them. When Jesus returns, only those whose faith and lives are built on the sure foundation that He is God incarnated as Man – Emmanuel – will be secured by Him! Any Jesus other than what the Scriptures present is like a sinking sand!

## **3. Stand up for the Truth: tell them they are in error even if they are great men and women of God! Send them emails, post letters and call them.**

### **Galatians 2**

<sup>1</sup>Then fourteen years after I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and took Titus with me also.

<sup>2</sup>And I went up by revelation, and communicated unto them that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to them which were of reputation, lest by any means I should run, or had run, in vain.

<sup>3</sup>But neither Titus, who was with me, being a Greek, was compelled to be circumcised:

<sup>4</sup>And that because of false brethren unawares brought in, who came in privily to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage:

<sup>5</sup>To whom we gave place by subjection, no, not for an hour; that the truth of the gospel might continue with you.

<sup>6</sup>But of these who seemed to be somewhat, (whatsoever they were, it maketh no matter to me: God accepteth no man's person:) for they who seemed to be somewhat in conference added nothing to me:

<sup>7</sup>But contrariwise, when they saw that the gospel of the uncircumcision was committed unto me, as the gospel of the circumcision was unto Peter;

<sup>8</sup>(For he that wrought effectually in Peter to the apostleship of the circumcision, the same was mighty in me toward the Gentiles:)

<sup>9</sup>And when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given unto me, they gave to me and Barnabas the right hands of fellowship; that we should go unto the heathen, and they unto the circumcision.

<sup>10</sup>Only they would that we should remember the poor; the same which I also was forward to do.

<sup>11</sup>But when Peter was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed.

<sup>12</sup>For before that certain came from James, he did eat with the Gentiles: but when they were come, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing them which were of the circumcision.

<sup>13</sup>And the other Jews dissembled likewise with him; insomuch that Barnabas also was carried away with their dissimulation.

<sup>14</sup>But when I saw that they walked not uprightly according to the truth of the gospel, I said unto Peter before them all, If thou, being a Jew, livest after the manner of Gentiles, and not as do the Jews, why compellest thou the Gentiles to live as do the Jews?

<sup>15</sup>We who are Jews by nature, and not sinners of the Gentiles,

<sup>16</sup>Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.

<sup>17</sup>But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is therefore Christ the minister of sin? God forbid.

<sup>18</sup>For if I build again the things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor.

- 4. Intercede for them and for their victims; war against the spirit of error. We owe it as a strong duty to resist the spirit of error Satan has released into the world to confuse saints and mis-lead them.**
- 5. Rely on the Holy Spirit and the Word made flesh in you for discernment. We need the Holy Spirit 24/7 to avert the real danger of falling away. The great number of Christians that are helpless victims of Satan today attests to this reality.**

### **1 John 2:18-27**

<sup>18</sup>Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time.

<sup>19</sup>They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.

<sup>20</sup>But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things.

<sup>21</sup>I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth.

<sup>22</sup>Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son.

<sup>23</sup>Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also.

<sup>24</sup>Let that therefore abide in you, which ye have heard from the beginning. If that which ye have heard from the beginning shall remain in you, ye also shall continue in the Son, and in the Father.

<sup>25</sup>And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life.

<sup>26</sup>These things have I written unto you concerning them that seduce you.

<sup>27</sup>But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

## **2. The Doctrine of Sin, Sinfulness and the Power of the Blood of Jesus**

Sound doctrine recognizes the utter depravity of the human nature and the proclivity to sin. Sound doctrine will present the Blood of the Lamb as the only solution to the sin problem. Those who are saved will be reminded that it is not a theoretical construct but a living reality borne out in real life by the Spirit of righteousness received in Christ Jesus. Sound doctrine will therefore call the people to prove their faith by their holy life. Sound doctrine will never compromise to the degree that “saints” so called live in sin which is a contradiction. Romans 3:21-26; Romans 5:11

## **3. The Doctrine of Salvation by Grace through faith**

Sound doctrine will present Salvation by Grace through faith as a fundamental step into the Kingdom of God. Sound doctrine will never deride this simple but essential truth as many in the pseudo-kingdom movement do. John 3:3, 16; Romans 5:6-11; Romans 10: 6-13; Ephesians 2:1-10;

## **4. The Doctrine of The Holy Spirit**

Sound doctrine will teach people who the Holy Spirit is as God and His pervasive role in the life of saints: revealer of Jesus; He who convicts of sin; transformer of life from glory to glory; the instrument of uniting us with other saints; comforter, teacher and He who empowers saints with callings, gifts and ability to walk in signs, wonders and miracles.

## **5. The Doctrine of The Word of God**

Sound doctrine will place the Word of God in its exalted pedestal – above the teachers, preachers, leaders and saints. It will make it clear to all saints that the Word of God is immutable; was inspired and can be understood by every saint who is yielded to the person and work of the Holy Spirit. Cults will lead people away from the Bible and try to establish them on the words of their

leaders. The pseudo-kingdom movement prefers to serve their members the filtered edition of the Bible laced with humanistic dogma which attract itching ears.

#### **6. The Doctrine of Life as a pilgrimage in this present time and the process of pain, suffering, challenges and difficulties**

Sound doctrine will make it clear that our span of life on planet earth is temporary. That we are told to “occupy, till He comes” will be put in the right context so that saints do not spend their whole lives chasing temporal pleasures and assets. Sound doctrine will teach saints that persecution, misunderstanding, trials, difficulties, challenges are part of the normal fare of the life they are called to live and that the grace of God is ever sufficient to overcome. 2 Corinthians 6: 1-10; 2 Timothy 2: 8-13; 1 Peter 2: 11,12.

#### **7. The Doctrine of the Kingdom of God**

True doctrine of the Kingdom will bring forth the understanding that the future phase of it, when Jesus returns to rule and reign on planet earth is worth every trouble or pain of the present! At the same time, sound doctrine will teach saints that they are in the Kingdom at the present time and need to submit completely to the King who reveals His Presence, Authority and Power in and through them. This will challenge saints to live for Jesus in the now and trust Him completely to provide their every need and that what to eat and drink are not things to pursue as the world does. Matthew 6:19-34; Romans 14:17-19; 2 Peter 1:3,4; Matthew 26: 31-46

#### **8. The Doctrine of Restitution**

Sound doctrine will teach people about restitution. Restitution is the act of demonstrating true repentance for sin by restoring to someone what was taken away. Most sins are against God and fellow humans. While repentance is made towards God, the aspect that injured a human needs to be practically dealt with. It could be a simple apology. If it involved stealing of money or goods, such should be restored to their rightful owners. Luke 19: 1-10

#### **9. The Doctrine of the Second Coming of Jesus and Eternity of the righteous**

Sound doctrine will also clearly teach saints that Jesus is returning again and will induct into eternity both the righteous dead and the living who are found in Him at His appearing. This will be made a major feature of the annual ministry curriculum so that saints walk in the blessed hope that is their inheritance. Matthew 24; Matthew 25.

#### **10. The Doctrine of identity, assignment & mode of operation of Satan, demons and evil.**

Saints have a right to know the person, nature and assignment of the adversary of their souls, Satan and all his cohorts. There are enough facts and light about Satan and his demons in the Word that going into extra-biblical searches may be potentially dangerous. Satan would prefer saints to walk in ignorance about him and his ways. Saints are called to a life of establishing the ordinance of

the Kingdom through faith and spiritual warfare. To keep saints in ignorance is to set them up for Satan to defeat. Isaiah 14:12-17; Ezekiel 28:11-17; Matthew 16:18,19; Ephesians 6:10-18

## **11. The Doctrine of Eternal Hell & the Lake of Fire**

Saints need to know that Satan, demons, Sinners, backsliders, heretics, apostates and unbelievers will ultimately end up in the Lake of Fire as their ultimate reward. Truly God is Love and full of mercy. However, He has appointed that ultimately, everyone will decide their eternal habitations: with Him or with Satan. As scriptures clearly teach, multitudes will choose the way of present pleasure and future pain, some relying on wrong doctrines! Matthew 25:41-46; Galatians 5: 16-21; Revelation 20:7-10; 11-15; Revelation 21: 7-8, 27; Revelation 22:15, 18,19.

Any so-called saint who does not understand and live within the ambit of the Doctrines of the Word of God is actually under the influence of the spirit of Lawlessness which will be a key feature of the end times.

### **1 Timothy 4:1-2**

<sup>1</sup>Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

<sup>2</sup>Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;

### **2 Timothy 3:1-7, 13, 14**

<sup>1</sup>This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

<sup>2</sup>For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

<sup>3</sup>Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,

<sup>4</sup>Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

<sup>5</sup>Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

<sup>6</sup>For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts,

<sup>7</sup>Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

<sup>13</sup>But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

<sup>14</sup>But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them;

## 2 Timothy 4:1-5

<sup>1</sup>I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;

<sup>2</sup>Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and doctrine.

<sup>3</sup>For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

<sup>4</sup>And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

<sup>5</sup>But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.

**X What it means to be turned over to a reprobate mind?** This is the outworking of the omniscience of God. When an individual allows Satan or human reasoning to becloud his/her ability to receive the word of God with meekness, there comes a time when the Holy Spirit decides to depart from the conscience of the individual concerned. In that case, the darkened mind is allowed to remain dark and cannot receive the Light of Jesus. In this environment, the conscience of the individual is seared as with a hot iron. The person who was once in Christ literally forces the indwelling Holy Spirit out since He is the Spirit of Truth and does not strive with anyone. Apostasy or falling away is the logical outcome. Make no mistake about this: many former saints are falling away from the faith as they abandon truth in search of fancy ideas such as denying that Jesus is God made flesh which is the hall mark of the pseudo-kingdom movement, for instance. Romans 1:18-32; 1 Timothy 4:1,2.

Various manifestations of the pseudo-gospel including the prosperity messages, liberalism, relative truth; dangerous prayers, etc.

**...to be continued. Please open your bibles and come with us in a course of study which the Lord will use to prepare you to avert the greatest falling away from Truth which hallmarks this generation! If one single man could deceive millions in 66 or more nations and acquire a media empire worth over \$140million in the process, you can imagine the combined effect of teachers of error, heresy and the pseudo-gospel. Many who were once saved by the grace through faith have fallen away in pursuit of diverse doctrines which titillate the ears! Apostasy is real! Saints, please pray for us daily and wage effectual spiritual warfare on our behalf! Ephesians 6:10-20.**

Convergence: the Tutu doctrine

### God Is Not a Christian

By Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Reader Supported News

02 June 11

***The following is excerpted from the Archbishop Desmond Tutu's new book, "God Is Not A Christian: And Other Provocations." This talk also comes from a forum in Britain, where***

***Tutu addressed leaders of different faiths during a mission to the city of Birmingham in 1989.***

They tell the story of a drunk who crossed the street and accosted a pedestrian, asking him, "I shay, which ish the other shide of the shtreet?" The pedestrian, somewhat nonplussed, replied, "That side, of course!" The drunk said, "Shtrange. When I wash on that shide, they shaid it wash thish shide." Where the other side of the street is depends on where we are. Our perspective differs with our context, the things that have helped to form us; and religion is one of the most potent of these formative influences, helping to determine how and what we apprehend of reality and how we operate in our own specific context.

My first point seems overwhelmingly simple: that the accidents of birth and geography determine to a very large extent to what faith we belong. The chances are very great that if you were born in Pakistan you are a Muslim, or a Hindu if you happened to be born in India, or a Shintoist if it is Japan, and a Christian if you were born in Italy. I don't know what significant fact can be drawn from this - perhaps that we should not succumb too easily to the temptation to exclusiveness and dogmatic claims to a monopoly of the truth of our particular faith. You could so easily have been an adherent of the faith that you are now denigrating, but for the fact that you were born here rather than there.

My second point is this: not to insult the adherents of other faiths by suggesting, as sometimes has happened, that for instance when you are a Christian the adherents of other faiths are really Christians without knowing it. We must acknowledge them for who they are in all their integrity, with their conscientiously held beliefs; we must welcome them and respect them as who they are and walk reverently on what is their holy ground, taking off our shoes, metaphorically and literally. We must hold to our particular and peculiar beliefs tenaciously, not pretending that all religions are the same, for they are patently not the same. We must be ready to learn from one another, not claiming that we alone possess all truth and that somehow we have a corner on God.

We should in humility and joyfulness acknowledge that the supernatural and divine reality we all worship in some form or other transcends all our particular categories of thought and imagining, and that because the divine - however named, however apprehended or conceived - is infinite and we are forever finite, we shall never comprehend the divine completely. So we should seek to share all insights we can and be ready to learn, for instance, from the techniques of the spiritual life that are available in religions other than our own. It is interesting that most religions have a transcendent reference point, a *mysterium tremendum*, that comes to be known by deigning to reveal itself, himself, herself, to humanity; that the transcendent reality is compassionate and concerned; that human beings are creatures of this supreme, supra mundane reality in some way, with a high destiny that hopes for an everlasting life lived in close association with the divine, either as absorbed without distinction between creature and creator, between the divine and human, or in a wonderful intimacy which still retains the distinctions between these two orders of reality.

When we read the classics of the various religions in matters of prayer, meditation, and mysticism, we find substantial convergence, and that is something to rejoice at. We have enough that conspires to separate us; let us celebrate that which unites us, that which we share in common.

Surely it is good to know that God (in the Christian tradition) created us all (not just Christians) in his image, thus investing us all with infinite worth, and that it was with all humankind that God entered into a covenant relationship, depicted in the covenant with Noah when God promised he would not destroy his creation again with water. Surely we can rejoice that the eternal word, the Logos of God, enlightens everyone - not just Christians, but everyone who comes into the world; that what we call the Spirit of God is not a Christian preserve, for the Spirit of God existed long before there were Christians, inspiring and nurturing women and men in the ways of holiness, bringing them to fruition, bringing to fruition what was best in all. We do scant justice and honor to our God if we want, for instance, to deny that Mahatma Gandhi was a truly great soul, a holy man who walked closely with God. Our God would be too small if he was not also the God of Gandhi: if God is one, as we believe, then he is the only God of all his people, whether they acknowledge him as such or not. God does not need us to protect him. Many of us perhaps need to have our notion of God deepened and expanded. It is often said, half in jest, that God created man in his own image and man has returned the compliment, saddling God with his own narrow prejudices and exclusivity, foibles and temperamental quirks. God remains God, whether God has worshippers or not.

This mission in Birmingham to which I have been invited is a Christian celebration, and we will make our claims for Christ as unique and as the Savior of the world, hoping that we will live out our beliefs in such a way that they help to commend our faith effectively. Our conduct far too often contradicts our profession, however. We are supposed to proclaim the God of love, but we have been guilty as Christians of sowing hatred and suspicion; we commend the one whom we call the Prince of Peace, and yet as Christians we have fought more wars than we care to remember. We have claimed to be a fellowship of compassion and caring and sharing, but as Christians we often sanctify sociopolitical systems that belie this, where the rich grow ever richer and the poor grow ever poorer, where we seem to sanctify a furious competitiveness, ruthless as can only be appropriate to the jungle.

<http://www.readersupportednews.org/opinion2/287-124/6126-god-is-not-a-christian>

Concerning the Divinity of Jesus: The Truth and the Lie/fb posts of 28/05/11