

## **“You’re Preaching the Wrong Gospel ... “**

Sometimes I will hear a preacher or Bible teacher, and I want to shout: “You’re preaching the wrong gospel ... and you’re keeping people away from the Lord!”

The “fire and brimstone” message preached by many churches today is largely responsible. Thinking they are doing a service to God in threatening and warning the lost with the threat of eternal damnation, these preachers are, in fact, keeping people away. Yes, there will be those that respond to the threat, but many will hear the message and think: “These church people have no idea what they’re talking about.”

Think about it ... A very limited lifetime, with a very unlimited punishment, having nothing to do with how you’ve lived your life, but only upon your making one decision ... either believing in Jesus Christ or not. One man has 95 years to make the decision ... another has only 17 before his life is cut short. One is raised in a Christian home, with his every activity revolving around the church ... another is raised in Iraq where he feels only the cultural pressure to accept Islam as the only way to God. Yet, when it comes down to it, it’s all in the making of one decision ... regardless of how you live.

If this is what God’s Word taught, I would agree that we would have no choice but to believe it. And this is what many churches earnestly believe today, because this is the truth as it has been passed down to them.

But this is **not** what the Bible teaches at all!

We have “dumbed down” the truth by placing more emphasis on easy-to-read translations and study Bibles that feed us the truth without our having to think or study. But think about it ... we are only believing things that have been fed to us. Our entire theology (our “thinking about God”) has been handed to us. Methodists are taught to think like Methodists ... Lutherans like Lutherans ... Roman Catholics like Roman Catholics ... and so on.

And many live their lives inside a small Christian circle without thinking there may be some truth to be found in other circles ... or that perhaps some of what they’ve been handed is not correct. The churches and preachers and teachers determine truth, and hand it to us ... no different than in Jesus’ day when the Pharisees did the same.

### **But the False Gospel is Keeping People Away!**

The problem is that the churches of our day teach from the Bible, and on many points they are correct ... But this does not mean that they are correct in every teaching!

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And when it comes to the subject of “eternal damnation” the churches of today are **most certainly in error** ... and while some are still coming to the truth thru their teachings, many are kept away by the “incorrect gospel” they preach.

To be Christ’s Ambassadors as we are called to be (2 Corinthians 5:20) we must be sure we are proclaiming not our own message, but Christ’s message. We must take this seriously, and we must be sure we are proclaiming correct things about God.

To teach that God is willing to cast many into endless torment (an infinite time period) because they failed to make a correct decision in this short lifetime (a finite time period) is to blaspheme God! It is to teach that God is unwilling, or unable, to cure every sinner of his/her rebellion. It is to place more emphasis on the will of mankind than the will of God. It is to take what Christ has accomplished on the Cross and mitigate the accomplishment.

**And this wrong message being proclaimed today is keeping people away from Christ! Thinking they are doing God a service by warning souls of an endless torment, earnest Christians are keeping people away from salvation.** Many in the church today are ambassadors proclaiming a message of their own making, instead of proclaiming the message given to us to proclaim by God Himself.

And all because we do not take the time to study the Word of God in earnest, and are willing instead to accept a “package of truth” handed to us by others.

Visit our web site at [www.graceevangel.org](http://www.graceevangel.org) and invite others to do the same. As for back issues of our newsletters. Order my book, “At the End of the Ages ... the Abolition of Hell” from your local bookstore or from our web site. I did not write the book to make money or to become famous, but instead to lay out the evidence from the Bible showing God’s intent to one day save all of His creation. Other more scholarly works are also available, but I suggest you read this book first as I have attempted to keep it basic and easy-to-understand.

Christian brothers and sisters beware ... and be sure you are really proclaiming truth as revealed to us by God in His Word. “Endeavor to present yourself to God qualified, an unashamed worker, correctly cutting the word of truth” (2 Timothy 2:15).

- Bob Evely -

## **Kentucky Bible Conference in February**

We will be hosting the second annual Bible Conference in the Lexington, Kentucky area on February 27-29, 2004. The announcement, with directions and lodging possibilities, is being sent to all on our distribution list. Write to [bob@graceevangel.org](mailto:bob@graceevangel.org) with any questions you may have.

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