

AN UNLIKELY ENEMY

John 1:12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name.

If a person has difficulty understanding the identity of Jesus Christ while endeavoring to pursue God in New Testament scriptures, they certainly will not know when it is God speaking or if and when it is man speaking.

Subsequent to this personal theological conundrum will also be a reflection of continuous confusion and tension between the pulpit and the pew. Their lack of revelation regarding the true nature, purpose, and identity of Jesus Christ consistently leaves that person in a spiritual fog, as it were. Consequently, they oftentimes essentially become a deaf person. Having eyes, they see not, and ears, they hear not.

Herein lies the most difficult challenges for ministry and a task that the carnal and blind professional “Christian” resents - the criteria and requisite for kingdom acceptance and the pursuit of the spiritual. “For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God” (Romans 8:14). But to the all-wise professional blind Christian, “...the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness...” (1 Cor. 1:18).

This residual stress between pew and pulpit can oftentimes be traced back to the very beginning of one’s root system. Perhaps even their birthplace. They accepted by faith an ideal of Jesus Christ without ever discovering through spiritual knowledge the revelation of Jesus Christ. Henceforth, there was never a foundation laid during their spiritual genesis to press into the kingdom. Stunted in their spiritual development, they ultimately found themselves in a silent war with the pulpit. The quagmire exists simply because they have no clue when it’s God speaking or when it’s man. The historical and normative response is inherently (as can be expected) disastrous.

As Christ came unto His own but was rejected, and as light came into darkness yet never comprehended; thus, the anointed pulpit becomes a battering ram to the carnal. The mouthpiece of God becomes the perpetrator of all things religious, and seeing the carnal man loves religion, as where a spiritual man loves the spiritual, there will be unavoidable spiritual chaos.

The rhetorical yet probing question from Paul remains to this day... “Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?”

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