

TOLERANCE? INTOLERANCE?

Which does God require of His people?

Glen C. Robertson

- “Be wise! Don’t be gullible! Protect yourselves!”
- Christians are DIFFERENT from the world;
Christians have super powers: Supernatural power!
- Why do we condemn sin, and preach righteousness?
 1. PREACH REPENTANCE TO THE SINNING CHRISTIAN!
 2. PREACH REPENTANCE TO THE UNSAVED PERSON!
- Speak to us smooth things!

THE BYWORD among the unsaved today is, “Tolerance;” the unsaved community declares loudly that they are, purportedly, “tolerant and accepting of everyone.” The unsaved community defines tolerance as accepting everyone, of every race, religion, gender, “sexual orientation,” etc. And, in so doing, as in these first two sentences, they make a subtle switch or transition from a definition of, “tolerance of people,” to being a definition of, “tolerance of sin,” the old, “bait-and-switch,” scam! They do this so that when one condemns a sin, they will be accused, rather, of hating the sinner! The Christian’s intolerance of sin is made to appear as an intolerance or hate for a person or a specific group, or for a type of people! After all, didn’t Jesus say, “Judge not that ye be not judged?”

1 Judge not, that ye be not judged.

...

5 Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye.

Matthew 7:1,5 The BIBLE

Jesus’ purpose was to preach against sin, and one of those sins was hypocrisy. Jesus wasn’t condemning the preaching against sin; on the contrary! Among the other things Jesus was preaching against here was **hypocrisy!**

23 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithes of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

24 Ye blind guides, which strain at a gnat, and swallow a camel.

25 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye make clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, but within they are full of extortion and excess.

26 Thou blind Pharisee, cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also.

27 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness.

28 Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity.

Matthew 23:23-28 The BIBLE

Jesus wasn't condemning the preaching against sin; He was saying, "When you preach against sin, you'd better make absolutely sure that you, yourself, aren't committing the same sins you're preaching against, or you're condemning yourself!"

1 Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things.

2 But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things.

3 And thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God?

...

21 Thou therefore which teachest another, teachest thou not thyself? thou that preachest a man should not steal, dost thou steal?

22 Thou that sayest a man should not commit adultery, dost thou commit adultery? thou that abhorrest idols, dost thou commit sacrilege?

23 Thou that makest thy boast of the law, through breaking the law dishonourest thou God?

24 For the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles through you, as it is written.

Romans 2:1-3, 21-24 The BIBLE

"Be wise! Don't be gullible! Protect yourselves!"

But because the Christian knows that God Is love, and requires that His people love everyone, if the Christian hasn't recognized the antiChrist's dishonest bait-and-switch of definitions, the sincere Christian is of course is made to feel guilty, and to shut up about the evilness of sin! Jesus said:

8b ... for the children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light.

Luke 16:8b The BIBLE

11 Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.

II Corinthians 2:11 The BIBLE

Brethren and friends, we are told repeatedly in Scripture to be wise, and not gullible. Jesus warned us,

16 **Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents,** and harmless as doves.

17 But beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues;

18 And ye shall be brought before governors and kings for My sake, **for a testimony against them and the Gentiles.**

Matthew 10:16-18 The BIBLE

Because of these schemes of the devil, our Heavenly Father warns and demands of us to be wise, and to examine all things, rather than simply, gullibly accepting everything that has the merest scent of supposed Godliness:

1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

I John 4:1 The BIBLE

21 Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.

22 Abstain from all appearance of evil.

I Thessalonians 5:21-22 The BIBLE

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

...

9 But they shall proceed no further: for their folly shall be manifest unto all men, as theirs also was.

10 But thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience,

...

13 But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

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

II Timothy 3:5, 9-10, 13-14 The BIBLE

11 These (*people*) were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the Word with all readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

12 Therefore many of them believed; also of honourable women which were Greeks, and of men, not a few.

Acts 17:11-12 The BIBLE

22 Do not put hands on any man without thought, and have no part in other men's sins: keep yourself clean.

I Timothy 5:22 The BIBLE

18 Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth Him not.

Malachi 3:18 The BIBLE

I Timothy 5, in this way, cautions us to not commission for the ministry ("put hands upon") anyone who has not been carefully considered and vetted. We are told that if we neglect such precautions we might end up abetting them in sin!¹

¹ See also I John 1:10-11

Christians are DIFFERENT from the world; Christians have super powers: Supernatural power!

Thankfully, we have the Spirit of God to assist us and to guide us into all truth.

13 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.

14 He shall glorify Me: for He shall receive of Mine, and shall shew it unto you.

15 All things that the Father hath are Mine: therefore said I, that He shall take of Mine, and shall shew it unto you.

John 16:13-15 The BIBLE

26 These things have I written unto you concerning them that seduce you.

27 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.

I John 2:26-27 The BIBLE

This wisdom and guidance comes only from the Holy Spirit, Whom our Heavenly Father places within each Christian when we become Born Again. For this reason, it is wisdom and guidance *not available* to the nonChristian. The unSaved person *cannot understand* the leading and guidance of the Holy Spirit, and cannot be led by Him the same way, nor to the same extent, and therefore cannot come to the same conclusions and understanding as will come to the Christian automatically after salvation.

5 That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

6 Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought:

7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:

8 Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him.

10 But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which Is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

15 **But he that is spiritual judgeth all things**, yet he himself is judged of no man.²

² 8 The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

John 3:8 The BIBLE

16 For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct Him? But we have the mind of Christ.

I Corinthians 2:5-16 The BIBLE

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 7:17 The BIBLE

While the Holy Spirit leads us into all truth, with wisdom and understanding not available to the person who does not have the benefit of Him in their life (the unSaved/nonChristian), He also puts within the Christian a **revulsion** for all things unholy, impure, and unGodly (*a revulsion and dislike that the unSaved person has not been given*).

4 Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of you:

I Peter 4:4 The BIBLE)

104 Through Thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way.

Psalms 119:104 The BIBLE

113 I hate vain thoughts: but Thy law do I love.

Psalms 119:113 The BIBLE

7 For my mouth shall speak truth; and wickedness is an abomination to my lips.

...

13 The fear of the LORD is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.

Proverbs 8:7, 13 The BIBLE

3 I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me.

Psalms 101:3 The BIBLE

Why do we condemn sin, and preach righteousness?

We preach the Gospel/righteousness because Jesus did, and because Jesus told His servants to do so also!

1) PREACH REPENTANCE TO THE SINNING CHRISTIAN!

The Christian's first responsibility is to, "His Own," to his fellow Christian! Scripture tells us to purge sin out of one's own life (so that one is not a hypocrite, while preaching), and to purge sin out of the church! We are told to rebuke and correct their sin, otherwise they will feel emboldened to continue. When we do lovingly rebuke their sin we encourage them to repent and quit.

2 And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you.

3 For I verily, as absent in body, but present in spirit, have judged already, as though I were present, concerning him that hath so done this deed,

4 In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ,

5 To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

6 Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump?

7 Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened.

For even Christ our Passover Is sacrificed for us:

8 Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

9 I wrote unto you in an epistle not to company with fornicators:

1 Corinthians 5:2-9 The BIBLE

11 But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat.

12 For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within?

13 But them that are without God judgeth. Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person.

I Corinthians 5:11-13 The BIBLE

10 A man that is an heretick **after the first and second admonition reject;**

Titus 3:10 The BIBLE

15 These things **speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority.** Let no man despise thee.

Titus 2:15 The BIBLE

Our rebuke discipline and discipline of the sinning Christian may involve separating them from the Body of Christ for a while. Otherwise, their insistence on continuing to sin may:

- a) Embolden them to continue in their sin;
- b) Embolden other Christians to continue in their own sin;
- c) Embolden other Christians to join in their sin;
- d) Nullify other Christians' attempts to preach repentance to the unsaved!

2) PREACH REPENTANCE TO THE UNSAVED PERSON!

The Christian's responsibility after salvation is to separate himself from sin, and to separate himself the same kinds of relationships that he had with sinners before his salvation. He of course will not immediately separate himself from his old friends, but if he has truly repented of his sin, and his sinful ways, he will discover, very quickly, that he will lose his very desire to continue with them, *if it means doing the same things that he did previously*. He may even find that he no longer enjoys spending time with them at all, or they may discover the same about him. And certainly he should separate himself from anyone who is likely to be a bad influence or to tend to draw him back into sin!

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

15 And what concord hath Christ with belial (satan)? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?

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

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

II Corinthians 6:14-17 The BIBLE

But, the Christian's instruction from the Lord to separate himself from a Christian engaging in sin is certainly different from how the Lord expects the Christian to live in the world! The Christian cannot isolate himself totally from this sinful world, nor is he expected to! He is commissioned by the Lord to go into all the world and preach the Gospel!

9 I wrote unto you in an Epistle not to company with fornicators:

10 Yet not altogether with the fornicators of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or with idolaters; for then must ye needs go out of the world.

I Corinthians 5:9-10 The BIBLE

15 And He (*Jesus*) said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature.

16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

Mark 16:15-16 The BIBLE

46 And (*Jesus*) said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:

47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His Name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

Luke 24:46-47 The BIBLE

32 I (*Jesus*) came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

Luke 5:32 The BIBLE

18 When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked *man* shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand.

19 Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.

Ezekiel 3:18-19 The BIBLE

So Jesus didn't discount, nor condemn the judgment of sin! Rather, He repeated His requirement that the righteous would condemn sin:

23b ... **the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.**

Matthew 23:23b The BIBLE

2 **Preach the Word;** be instant in season, out of season; **reprove, rebuke,** exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

II Timothy 4:2 The BIBLE

21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

22 And of some have compassion, making a difference:

23 **And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.**

Jude 21-23 The BIBLE

The Christian is commissioned by our Heavenly Father to preach righteousness to both the sinner, and the sinning Christian.

So it is not the sinner that God hates, and commands His servants, His children, to hate, but their sin! In fact, our Heavenly Father has put within each and every Christian, automatically, at their salvation, a love for others, and a hate for sin, itself! These are inherent to the Christian, a part of him; they are what makes him a Christian, a follower of the Holy God! Without this love of others, and hate of sin, the, "Christian's," very, "salvation," is very much in doubt! And so, naturally, the Christian will be repulsed by those who take pleasure in sin! This is unlike the natural inclination of the sinner ...

32 Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but **have pleasure in them that do them.**

Romans 1:32 The BIBLE

Speak to us smooth things!

So the World's clamoring for, "tolerance," is simply a demand for a license to sin. They seek to silence those who would prick the sinner's conscience and make the sin uncomfortable. Sinners err when they attempt to condemn Christians for condemning sin. They quote Scripture incorrectly and interpret it improperly.

10 Which say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophecy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits:

Isaiah 30:10 The BIBLE

And when the unlearned and worldly, "Christian," or liberal preacher, attempts to condemn or silence the Godly person for sharing the Gospel and preaching against sin, regardless of whether they quote Scripture (as satan does³), they speak their own word, and not that of the Lord, and will incur the wrath of God.

17 They say still unto them that despise Me, The LORD hath said, Ye shall have peace; and they say unto every one that walketh after the imagination of his own heart, No evil shall come upon you.

18 For who hath stood in the counsel of the LORD, and hath perceived and heard His Word? who hath marked His Word, and heard It?

19 Behold, a whirlwind of the LORD is gone forth in fury, even a grievous whirlwind: it shall fall grievously upon the head of the wicked.

20 The anger of the LORD shall not return, until He have executed, and till He have performed the thoughts of His heart: in the latter days ye shall consider it perfectly.

21 I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran: I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied.

³ Matthew 4:1-7

22 But if they had stood in My counsel, and had caused My people to hear My Words, then they should have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their doings.

Jeremiah 23:17-22 The BIBLE

And they, the nonChristians, the immature and unlearned Christians, and the secular clergy, will indeed intolerantly condemn you for condemning sin, and for being, "intolerant." The nonChristians will seek to silence those who prick their conscience, and remind them that they are in rebellion against Almighty God, and therefore condemned to hell. The immature and unlearned Christians are, quite simply, immature and unlearned, and able to be deceived by the lies of the devil. And the secular clergy, are either embarrassed of their faith, and trying to somehow, "ooze," the nonChristian into the Church, or they are simply, unsaved/not Born Again!

2 They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that **whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service.**

3 **And these things will they do unto you, because they have not known the Father, nor Me.**

4 But these things have I told you, that when the time shall come, ye may remember that I told you of them. And these things I said not unto you at the beginning, because I was with you.

John 16:2-4 The BIBLE

12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

13 **But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.**

14 **But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned *them*;**

15 And that from a child thou hast known the Holy Scriptures, Which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

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

17 That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

II Timothy 3:12-17 The BIBLE