

ANACHRONISM!

Christianity is totally out-of-step with Modern Society!
“For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness”

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WHEN A CHRISTIAN preaches against such things as Sodomy, Feminism, Fornication, and Divorce, he is out of step with modern Western liberal culture. He is drastically out of step with the 'Spirit of the Times.' He has failed to gain the favor of modern society. He is an anachronism, old-fashioned, and out-of-place. A dinosaur. A joke. He and his message have no place in modern society; they're unwelcome and unwanted, thank you very much.

Which is exactly as God intended.

That is precisely what Jesus wanted!

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

4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

James 4:4 The BIBLE

2 For thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God, and the LORD hath chosen thee to be ***a peculiar people unto Himself***, above all the nations that are upon the earth.

Deuteronomy 14:2 The BIBLE

18 And the LORD hath avouched thee this day to be ***His peculiar people***, as He hath promised thee, and that thou shouldst keep all His commandments;

Deuteronomy 26:18 The BIBLE

14 Who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify **unto Himself a peculiar people**, zealous of good works.

Titus 2:14 The BIBLE

9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, **a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of Him** Who hath called you out of darkness into His marvellous light:

I Peter 2:9 The BIBLE

The Foolishness of the mysteries of the Gospel

18 **For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness**; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

19 For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.

20 Where is the wise? where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?

21 For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.

22 For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom:

23 But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness;

24 But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.

25 Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

26 For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called:

27 But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;

28 And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are:

29 That no flesh should glory in His presence.

30 But of Him are ye in Christ Jesus, Who of God Is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

I Corinthians 1:18-30 The BIBLE

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.

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

I Corinthians 2:6-16 The BIBLE

10 And the disciples came, and said unto Him, Why speakest Thou unto them in parables?

11 He answered and said unto them, Because **it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given.**

12 For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath.

13 Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand.

14 And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive:

15 For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

16 But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear.

17 For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them.

Matthew 13:10-17 The BIBLE

While some preachers today offer to the world more of the same (of what the world has: worldliness), the man of God, however, is commissioned by Christ to preach the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, those things that the world cannot understand, because they do not have the Holy Spirit, and which they must therefore receive, through **faith, and a desire for holiness!**¹ We cannot, we must not, dumb-down our Gospel for the purpose of making it more palatable and easy to be received by those who cannot understand it due to their lack of the Holy Spirit! Because, no matter how much we attempt to make the mystery of the Gospel understandable to the unsaved, they cannot understand it; they do not have the Holy Spirit! And they will not receive it if they are not willing to repent of and turn from all their sins. And if we try to dumb-down the message of the Gospel and to make salvation easier we are simply offering them less! Less than salvation and less than right relationship with Christ. The more we attempt to be like the world to draw them in to Christ, the less we have to offer the world, and the less there is to draw them. Our Heavenly Father wishes to draw people to Him, by offering them **him**, by offering them something **different** and diametrically **opposite** to the world, not by offering them the same as the world!

¹ 10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: **a good understanding have all they that do His commandments:** His praise endureth for ever.

Psalms 111:10

And we offer them no more by preaching to them churchianity – the customs of our own particular church tradition. We are called only to preach Jesus, and Him crucified. “Ye must be Born Again!”

2 Thus saith the LORD, Learn not the way of the heathen, ...
3 For the customs of the people are vain

Jeremiah 10:2-3 The BIBLE

6 ... Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition.
7 Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias² prophesy of you, saying,
8 This people draweth nigh unto Me with their mouth, and honoureth Me with their lips; but their heart is far from Me.
9 But in vain they do worship Me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

Matthew 15:6-9 The BIBLE

1 And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God.
2 For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and Him crucified.
3 And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling.
4 And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:
5 That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

I Corinthians 2:1-5 The BIBLE

Peace

Jesus contrasted Himself with the Evil One:

10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I Am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

John 10:7-10 The BIBLE

Jesus came that people might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. But that life and peace is so, only when it is peace with God. Otherwise, like oil and water, antiChristians will repel it. Jesus said,

34 Think not that I Am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword.
35 For I Am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law.
36 And a man's foes shall be they of his own household.
37 He that loveth father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.

Matthew 10:34-37 The BIBLE

Jesus changes the sinful *status quo*, changes the way things are: He changes sinful man from reflecting man's values to reflecting God's values. And then He seeks to maintain and increase in His children that same peace and Godliness.

2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;
3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

² "Isaiah"

4 There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;
5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism,

Ephesians 4:2-5 The BIBLE

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.

II Timothy 3:14-15 The BIBLE

Satan, on the other hand, “the thief,” comes to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. And he does that by appearing to wish to maintain a ‘peaceful’ sinful *status quo*, keeping people and things the way they are, not “rocking the boat:” reflecting **man’s** values, and accepting everything, just the way it is. For example:

5 But the Jews which believed not, moved with envy, took unto them certain lewd fellows of the baser sort, and gathered a company, and set all the city on an uproar, and assaulted the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people.

6 And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also;

7 Whom Jason hath received: and these all do contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, one Jesus.

8 And they troubled the people and the rulers of the city, when they heard these things.

Acts 17:5-8 The BIBLE

We see this same deceitful tendency to riot in the supposed name of maintaining peace, in the riots of 2020! But, in fact, just as in the riots, satan seeks only to make people and culture evermore sinful than they were before, while claiming to be peaceful!

3 Draw me not away with the wicked, and with the workers of iniquity, which speak peace to their neighbours, but mischief is in their hearts.

Psalms 28:3 The BIBLE

As a result satan’s people, controlled as they are by him (the, “liar, and the father of it,”³) they (being the children of satan, who is the Accuser of the Brethren⁴) are able to condemn Christians for purportedly causing trouble, and destroying the so-called ‘peace.’⁵ Jesus, Himself, said that He came not to bring peace, but a sword.⁶ But that, ‘sword’ of unrest occurs only when satan’s followers resist Jesus, the Prince of Peace,⁷ and follow unrighteousness, rather than the peace of God!

³ John 8:44

⁴ Revelation 12:10

⁵ Acts 17:6

⁶ Matthew 10:34-39

JESUS, THE PRINCE OF PEACE

⁷ 6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and His Name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, **The Prince of Peace.**

7 Of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon His kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

Isaiah 9:6-7

11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, Which Is Christ the Lord.

14 Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:

Hebrews 12:14 The BIBLE

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

II Timothy 3:13 The BIBLE

“But I was Born This Way!”

Yes, we were **all** born into sin; we are **all** born sinful in heart and action. It is our very sinful nature.⁸

2 Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

3 For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me.

4 Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.

5 Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

6 Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom.

7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Psalms 51:2-7 The BIBLE

So sin is sin; it is not acceptable with any excuse; God has a perfect way of life for us all of us. But Scripture tells us that, after the sin of Adam and Eve, we are all born into sin, and we all must repent of all our sins, and turn from them, rejecting the way we were born; that's what being, "Born Again," is. It is not our actions that will send us to hell; if we do not follow Jesus' command to Born Again,⁹ confessing to Him and repenting of our sins and sinfulness, the sinfulness into which we (all) are born, will automatically send us to hell; every one of us! Our actions will merely determine the extent of punishment we suffer in hell. But Jesus came to offer us complete salvation and deliverance from hell!

2 Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

3 For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me.

4 **Against Thee, Thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil** in Thy sight: that Thou mightest be justified when Thou speakest, and be clear when Thou judgest.

5 Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

12 And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

Luke 2:11-14

THE ORIGIN OF SIN

⁸ 18 But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth **from the heart**; and they defile the man.

19 **For out of the heart** proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies:

Matthew 15:18-19

14 But every man is tempted, **when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.**

James 1:14

1 From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even **of your lusts that war in your members?**

James 4:1

⁹ **HOW TO BE BORN AGAIN:** <http://www.Alelujah.com>

6 Behold, Thou desirest **truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part Thou shalt make me to know wisdom.**

7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Psalm 51:2 The BIBLE

So Jesus didn't come to approve of the way people are, and to turn a blind eye to, or tell people to continue in sin; He didn't come to pat people on the back to build up their proud self-esteem, vindicating and accepting whatever they did, and however they were then, or from birth. He came to require that people reject that pride, reject who THEY are, and be changed into HIS likeness by HIS power, not theirs!

24 Then said Jesus unto His disciples, If any man will come after Me, let him **deny himself**, and take up his cross, and follow **Me**.

Matthew 16:24 The BIBLE

8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

9 **If we confess our sins, He Is faithful** and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

I John 1:8-9 The BIBLE

28 Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

29 Take My yoke upon you, and **learn of me**; for I Am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

30 For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light.

Matthew 11:28-30 The BIBLE

Culture

It is recognized by Bible scholars that to correctly and fully understand a Biblical passage we must understand it, first, within the culture of the day in which it was written. But, in unlearned or dishonest Christians, this correct hermeneutical dictate can, and has often provided excuses for two kinds of mis-interpretation of Scripture:

- 1) Unlearned or dishonest people can claim that Scripture actually doesn't say what it says, but in fact means something completely different, something defined, rather, by (what they think or dishonestly claim was) the *original* culture.
- 2) Unlearned or dishonest people can perform a kind of sleight-of-hand trick, in which they say that, as we understand the original cultural context, we must believe that the commandments given by Scripture are in fact only mere descriptions of that culture, and merely commandments to obeyed by ONLY THOSE people, in THAT culture, back THEN. In other words, taking that idea one step further, they claim that not all the Bible is relevant for today!

6 He answered and said unto them, Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, **this people honoureth Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me.**

7 Howbeit in vain do they worship Me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

Mark 7:6-7 The BIBLE

15 If ye love Me, keep **My** commandments.

John 14:15 The BIBLE

So some people, even Christians, actually attempt to justify their unBiblical actions or nonactions, their sins, by claiming that the commands of Scripture are merely a reflection of the culture and the times in which the Bible was written! But the Bible isn't a mere anthology or record of ancient Near-Eastern culture! It wasn't Jesus' intent nor His purpose to come to earth to record the culture of His time and to command those around Him to continue to do the same: to continue to follow their culture! The commandments of Scripture are **not** a description of how people lived 2000 or so years ago; the commandments of Scripture are a description of how men did **not** live back then! One does not have to be commanded to do what one automatically already does, or is doing: "Thou shalt breathe," "Thou shalt eat," "Thou shalt sleep!" etc. Commandments are given, rather, to tell men to do things that are **not** being done, things that do **not** come naturally, things that are **against** common culture! It was Jesus' purpose to **defy** the culture of the day, then and now, and to require the same of His followers! So Scripture is given to tell men then and now to live **contrary to current culture**, not according to it! The Bible explains and requires **Jesus' culture**, not men's! So the Bible is just as out-of-step with, and **intentionally** contrary to modern society, as it was when it was written!

2 Why do Thy (*Jesus'*) disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? for they wash not their hands when they eat bread.

3 But He answered and said unto them, Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?

4 For God commanded, saying, Honour thy father and mother: and, He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death.

5 But ye say, Whosoever shall say to his father or his mother, It is a gift (*for the church*), by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me;

6 And honour not his father or his mother, he shall be free. **Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition.**

7 Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying,

8 This people draweth nigh unto Me with their mouth, and honoureth Me with their lips; **but their heart is far from Me.**

9 **But in vain they do worship Me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.**
Matthew 15:2-9 The BIBLE

3 For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, except they wash their hands oft, eat not, holding the tradition of the elders.

4 And when they come from the market, except they wash, they eat not. And many other things there be, which they have received to hold, as the washing of cups, and pots, brassen vessels, and of tables.

5 Then the Pharisees and scribes asked him, Why walk not thy disciples according to the tradition of the elders, but eat bread with unwashen hands?

6 He answered and said unto them, Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me.

7 Howbeit in vain do they worship Me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

8 For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do.

9 **And He said unto them, full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.**

10 For Moses said, Honour thy father and thy mother; and, Whoso curseth father or mother, let him die the death:

11 But ye say, If a man shall say to his father or mother, It is Corban, that is to say, a gift (*for the Church*), by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; he shall be free.

12 And ye suffer him no more to do ought for his father or his mother;
 13 **Making the Word of God of none effect through your tradition**, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye.

Mark 7:3-13 The BIBLE

Jesus **defied** common culture, and commanded **us** to do the same!

"It hath been said ... but ' I ' say unto you ... !"

Matthew 5:21-22 The BIBLE

Matthew 5:27-28 The BIBLE

Matthew 5:31-32 The BIBLE

Matthew 5:33-34 The BIBLE

Matthew 5:38-39 The BIBLE

In other words, **Jesus' mandate from our Heavenly Father was to preach AGAINST what was/is commonly accepted as right and proper.** (And to get murdered doing it!) And, as a result, the instructions that Jesus left us were that we are to, **to this day**, reject and act contrary to the unBiblical and unGodly cultural norms around us, and to follow, religiously, the instructions He left us in His despised, "old-fashioned," Book. And to preach that others, also, should do the same.

The BIBLE Is a shocking Book in which God Himself introduces revolutionary ideas **at odds** with the culture of men in ALL places and at ALL times. As a result, the Bible incited the deaths of not only the incarnation of the One Who Is its source, but of also thousands, if not millions, of its followers then, and of countless multitudes since then. And, extraordinarily, the BIBLE has managed to be just as distasteful and at odds today, with current society, as it has always been. **It is designed to be so, by Almighty God Himself.**

Jesus:

26 Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! for so did their fathers to the false prophets.

Luke 6:26 The BIBLE

34 Think not that I Am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword.

35 For I Am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law.

36 And a man's foes shall be they of his own household.

37 He that loveth father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.

Matthew 10:34-37 The BIBLE

Conclusion

Some today would have us, "make the Church relevant to today's society," to bring them in-line with modern culture, and in this way, "draw more people into the Church." We have done that for years, and, rather than the world's coming to Christ, the world has crept into the Church, until we are very much like them. That is the opposite of what Jesus and His Apostles and followers did! It wasn't by being like the society around them that the Jesus, the Disciples, and the Church made such a revolutionary impact ...

... And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

Acts 2:47 The BIBLE

... upon the world of 2000 years ago!

Trying to be like current society, and to, "make the church relevant to today's society," is why the Church is making so **little** impact upon the world of today! Instead of becoming more like the world, and pursuing them with an offer of little more than they have already, we need to become so much more like Christ, and they will pursue us for so much more than they have now!

12 And they went out, and preached **that men should repent.**

Mark 6:12 The BIBLE

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? 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,

18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be My sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

II Corinthians 6:14-18 The BIBLE