

# The Bulletin

## Meeks St. Church of Christ

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May 13, 2018

### “What’s So Wrong About False Teaching?” #3

By Brian Meade

Because we live in world where so many are accepting false ways as true and right, it can be tempting to think that it just doesn’t matter anymore to God. After-all, there are so many areas of disagreement about doctrinal issues like: whether to worship God with an instrument or not? Whether to tithe or not to tithe? Whether to believe that we are saved by faith alone or not? And even whether Jesus was really born of a virgin or not? And the list goes on and on about doctrinal differences— so much so, that some people are tempted to say things like, “*What’s so wrong if we want to believe something different from other churches or the Bible?*” *We are not hurting anyone!*” But is that true? False doctrines are actually more harmful to people than firing a gun in their direction. It is because of the dangerous impact that it has on people’s lives, for now and eternity!

#### **(5) False Teaching Makes Our Work & Worship Vain.**

I am not very fond of very carefully building something, only to see it knocked down or destroyed in a moment of time! It makes you feel like all the time and painstaking effort was for nothing. That’s why I don’t have any interest in building a house of cards in my house, because I know of a three-year-old that would love to knock them down!

We can also spend valuable time in the service of what will ultimately be— completely wasted in following false doctrines. All that time will NOT be beneficial to us because the false doctrines of men are not what Jesus wants us to build our lives upon.

Jesus wants us to build on the foundation of what is truth and right, which is on the solid rock of His teaching— not man’s! Jesus said in relation to this, “*Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock. “And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded on the rock. “Everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not act on them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. “The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and it fell—and great was its fall.”* (Matthew 7:24-27)

If we build on something other than Christ’s words, we are only building a house of cards that will only fall in the Judgment Day. Because Baptist doctrine, Pentecostal doctrine, Methodist doctrine....etc— all share some common elements of error such as: salvation is by faith-alone, Premillennialism, the rapture, unity in diversity, miraculous healing by “fake healers” of today, and instrumental music in the worship of the church (not an exhaustive list).

Jesus said in Matthew 15:7-9, “*You hypocrites, rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you: ‘This people honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far away from Me. ‘But in vain do they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the precepts of men.’ ”* If the doctrines and commandments of men made by the Jews of Jesus’ day made their worship vain, what about those who do the same today? If men design and command their own creeds and manuals for



worship that differ from the New Testament way, are they not acting in parallel to those Jews Jesus was condemning for such behavior? Do we plainly see, as we should, how dangerous false teaching is to our faith in God? It is not innocent or harmless to believe and practice error instead of the truth. Jesus said in just a few sentences later, in Matthew 15:13, *“But He answered and said, “Every plant which My heavenly Father did not plant shall be uprooted.”* Jesus compares what these Jews were teaching, as the doctrines and precepts of men, to plants in a garden that will one day be uprooted and discarded. And my friends, that is precisely what God will do with every false creed, every false opinion, and every false teaching or doctrine that men have devised themselves! All men will know that Calvinism, Premillennialism, Sabbatarianism, Liberalism, Catholicism, Denominationalism, and such like false notions will be a part of plants that will be uprooted at the Day of Judgment! All the time, energy, zeal, and devotion spent in promoting and building these, soon to be discarded, false teachings will all be for nothing!

#### **(6) False Teaching Creates Disunity and Division.**

One of the greatest tools Satan has used to suppress and hide the truth is to create divisions among followers of Christ by false teaching. When men disagree and divide the church over matters of human preference and error, rather than what the Bible actually says, they are playing right into the hands of the Devil. Satan wants men to be so confused and discouraged by such divisions, that they never find the truth! Thus, He works hard to cause such divisions!

But the fact remains, that the church that Jesus built was never meant to be divided up into sects and denominations (John 10:16; Ephesians 4:4). And as shocking to many who are wrapped up in denominational concepts— we are to ALL believe, teach, and preach the SAME doctrine, the doctrine of Christ!

Notice what Paul told the Corinthians about the consistency of his message to the churches to which he would preach the gospel, *“For this reason I have sent to you Timothy, who is my beloved and faithful child in the Lord, and he will remind you of my ways which are in Christ, just as I teach everywhere in every church.”* (I Corinthians 4:17) Paul did not preach different messages and doctrines, but the same gospel to both Jews and Gentiles. As a matter of fact, he told Timothy, *“...that you may charge some that they teach no other doctrine.”* (I Timothy 1:3 NKJB)

Paul also exhorted the Corinthians, *“Now I exhort you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be made complete in the same mind and in the same judgment.”* (I Corinthians 1:10) Paul was telling the Corinthians and to us today, that there is no room in Christ’s church for sects, divisions, and contrary ways!

That is why we cannot let error do its damage to the church by dividing brethren! Paul would sternly warn the Roman brethren of such dangers that false teachers can and will do to the unity and harmony of a local church, *“Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them. <sup>18</sup>For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple.”* (Romans 16:17-18 NKJB)

Men can be unified on God’s word only (Amos 3:3; John 17:17-21). False religions and denominational divisions would disappear overnight, if men would let go of error and embrace the truth only!

#### **(4) False Teaching Robs Us of Eternal Life!**

The saddest results of believing and receiving false teaching is that many will be lost in the Day of Judgment! (Matthew 7:20-21; 2 Thessalonians 2:10-12)

The Bible teaches us that because of our involvement with False Teaching:

- (1) It causes us to *“fall away”*— **I Timothy 4:1.**
- (2) We no longer *“have God”*— **2 John 9.**
- (3) It brings upon us *“swift destruction”*— **2 Peter 2:1-3.**
- (4) It causes one to be *“accursed”* by God— **Galatians 1:8-9.**
- (5) We follow the false teacher to *“fall into the pit.”*— **Matthew 15:14.**

For these very reasons, we see that false teaching has terrible consequences for the false teacher and those who *“blindly follow”* the message of error!



**A Women's Bible Class**

will meet monthly at Miche, TN. at the home of  
Chris and Kathryn Callahan the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of  
the Month

**News and Notes:** Sick and recovering: Tim Harris Sr, Tim Harris Jr, Chad Harris, Betty Hurst, Steve Switcher, Gail Armstrong, Nicky Curtis, Janis Johnson, Elmo Wilson, Martha Norvell (in Corinth Rehab), Charlene Newborn, Delain & Robbie Doles, Penny Carmichael, Greg Fields, June Lawson (Lisa Busby's Mom), Mike LaRue, and Eric Potts., Clois Wright, Debbie Keplinger, and Kimberly McCullough.

**Those Who Serve:**

**Sunday Morning 9:00 A.M. Service:**

**Opening Prayer:**

Tim Harris Sr.

**Preaching:**

Brian Meade

**Sermon:**

*"How The Christian Views Death"*

**Auditorium Bible Class: 9:35am**

**Sunday Morning 10:30 A.M. Service:**

Fred Johnson

The Book of Luke (Mike Willis)

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**Sunday Morning 10:30 A.M. Service:**

**Announcements:**

Fred Johnson

**Opening Prayer & Scripture Reading:**

Jerry Kennemur

*Proverbs 31:28-31*

**Song Leader:**

Chris Callahan

**Lord's Table:**

Paul Busby

**Assisting:**

Lee Busby & Adam Harris

**Preaching:**

Brian Meade

**Sermon:**

*"What Mother's Deserve"*

**Closing Prayer:**

Dan Cottrell

**Wednesday Evening: 7:00 P.M.**

**May 16th:**

**Auditorium Bible Class:**

Paul Busby

1 & 2 Samuel (Mike Willis)

*Page 60, Question #9*

**Invitation:**

Dan Cottrell

**Song Leader:**

Daniel Holloway

**Closing Prayer:**

Tim Harris Sr.