

Constitutional Conflicts

Most American Christians are conservative in their politics. Why? Because they favor minimal governmental authority, or involvement in society. They are, therefore, loyal to their national constitution—which principles embody their conservative values.

But, they are not loyal, or faithful to the gospel doctrine of their scriptural constitution--some principles of which, they do not literally believe.

Why wouldn't it bother Christians to be party to such a contradiction? Politically conservative, yet biblically liberal; at least in the area cited above.

I realize this accusation would offend them, and they would deny it being true. But, they have not proven their liberal interpretation, because it cannot be scripturally validated. The contrasting doctrinal concept is illogical, and indefensible. It is the “gospel” according to man; not God!

A comparative example of holding a literal position in scripture, would be to avoid extending the application of the subject beyond its basic contextual meaning. That is, deal with the specific wording grammatically, but determine the underlying principle logically, which might not be readily understood on the basis of a particular passage alone, but in conjunction with other scripture relating to the subject. Martin Luther very fittingly said, regarding scriptural interpretation: ‘Are we not to be logicians, more than grammarians?’

This is the only reliable way to ensure “rightly dividing the word of truth”. That being “comparing scripture with scripture”. The key is diligent study. There are no shortcuts to learning sound doctrine.

An illustration of a presumptuous, inadequate method of doctrinal interpretation, would be the following case: the simple word “whosoever” is automatically assumed to mean every human being, coupled with the word “believeth”, which is taken to mean that anyone in their natural sinful, unspiritual state can believe the gospel, and become a Christian.

This misinterpretation (if not manipulation) of the literal gospel, became the basic premise of the false concept of universal, free will eligibility for salvation, known after the reformation era as Arminianism, in contrast to Calvinism. The latter, summarized by the acronym “TULIP”, denotes salvation as God’s election of a certain number of persons, who are made Christians by his direct, independent, and irresistible grace; at his appointed time.

Admittedly, the liberal view of the foregoing controversy is plausible on its face, according to customary use of the key words in question. But the true meaning of biblical doctrine is not decided on the basis of grammar, unless there are no alternatives to the meaning of particular words. Such is not the case with the subject discussed herein. Context must always be recognized and established in the study of scripture.

A simple overview of the setting and basis of the John 3 scenario cannot be ignored, overlooked, or denied in determining the literal meaning of that passage, revealing a key distinction of God's plan of salvation—that being the inclusion of Gentiles with his chosen nation, Israel.

No good student of scripture would disregard context, if he really wanted to be sure of accurate interpretation. But that is what every liberal, Arminian advocate does in his specious treatment of various fundamental gospel principles. And the result is a radical corruption of the doctrine, and God will not excuse, or condone such infidelity to his word, but will instead, severely judge Christians who are guilty of it.

Jesus was speaking to Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. Contrary to the traditional belief of Israel, Jesus reminded Nicodemus that God had also granted repentance unto eternal life to the Gentiles—not only Israel.

So Jesus emphasized that fact by referring to the Gentiles as the “world”, because that was the term that the Jews used in speaking of other nations. Jesus told him that God loved the Gentiles, too, and died for them, as well. Hence, the word “whosoever”, not meaning everyone indiscriminately, but individuals among other nationalities.

Not to miss the subtlety of the liberal “free will” deception, those who advocate it will, of course, base their theology on the same scriptures as all Christians. But, it is what they decide that those biblical words mean, that causes the conflict, or difference of belief. And their wrong assumptions are both ill-conceived, and disingenuous.

Divergent beliefs of the doctrinal meaning of God's word is a critically serious fault of those who are wrong in their interpretations of any particular subject.

The problem has wrought havoc in practically the entire contemporary church—as it shamelessly advocates a corrupted gospel theological view, which it makes no attempt to correct, or repent from, and will not either receive or heed appeals for study and reform of its heterodoxical beliefs. They, therefore, perpetuate a hollow triumph of flesh over spirit, despite the admonitions and instructions of scripture against any such practice.

When we read of Israel's turning from the worship of God to idols, we think how terrible and irreverent to God the whole practice of idolatry was, and can't understand or hardly believe that they would dishonor God with such flagrant, blasphemous conduct.

Well, what do you think the effect is of Christians corrupting God's gospel and other doctrines, and thereby representing a “God” of their own making? Can you not see the correlation to the idolatrous worship of other gods, committed by Israel.

You undoubtedly think that the gospel is by and large preached fundamentally and faithfully in today's churches. But, if your underlying interpretation of scriptural doctrine and principles is not literally true, you are like the lying prophets of Israel. And your belief, and dissemination of such false theology is an abomination to the Lord. Not that serious? Where is the scriptural warrant for more than the one true interpretation of biblical doctrine?

Nothing ever justifies, or excuses any material variances in what we claim to be the true representation of his word. So, adding to what was said on the subject of misinterpreting the gospel—once the basic principles are corrupted, the infection spreads to whatever form of worship and ministry is involved. Prayers become polluted with false assumptions, songs are often doctrinally wrong (see website commentary, “Disputing the Free Will Concept”, on the critique of the same), witnessing testifies to erroneous beliefs, and preaching and teaching is predicated upon a false concept—not actual scriptural truth.

When you ascribe false doctrine to God, you are not worshiping or serving him, you are betraying and insulting him! What kind of conscience can a Christian have, that keeps on doing that all his converted life?

Neither is doctrinal misinterpretation an accident, or innocent mistake, but a willful act of establishing gospel doctrine according to man's ideas and wishes—not the real meaning of God's declarations, for which we are commanded, and given sufficient grace to correctly learn, and proclaim.

And one of the saddest, pathetic things about the defection of the church from the pure gospel, is that God knew you (nearly all of the church) would betray him, and still dare to claim allegiance to his gospel truth. And he foretold it all in Rev. 2, and 3.

And in typical form, whereas the church couldn't (wouldn't) get the gospel straight, as it is clearly revealed in the scriptures, neither are they aware, or do they care enough to see their degeneracy portrayed in the prophecy applying to them. In modern day vernacular, regarding their ignorance and blindness—they don't have a clue, and don't want to!

In summary, a fitting question, or accusation that characterizes the serious offense against God that most Christians are guilty of, is that they have made themselves judges and editors of the gospel—revising it to agree with the fleshly, or carnal side of their natures. Not determined by the new spiritual minds that God gave them to discern the truth of his word.

In other words, they let themselves believe what they wanted to believe, by twisting and manipulating doctrine, resulting in the false gospel concept, that they unconscionably call God's word on the subject, which is the height of audacity and disobedience to God, wherein they betrayed one of the highest trusts they are responsible for. That being the maintenance of sound doctrine, which means keeping the faith, or the apostles' tradition—not the deviant interpretations,

and corrupt gospel teachings of various unfaithful influences in the church' s historical decline.