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The Christian World's Most  
Devastating Deception

To emphasize the gravity of the title, the deception is so effective that the majority of its victims do not know that they have been overcome by it! The deception is an almost universal church condition, of indoctrination with a false concept of the gospel. They do not know it, because they are not "walking in the Spirit", with the Lord, and therefore do not have spiritual awareness or discernment, or they would not be in a constant state of delusion!

Which, all began when they started their Christian life believing a radically modified interpretation of certain gospel principles, which appealed to their fleshly, old nature reasoning--not realizing the necessity of scripturally proving whether "those things be true"! Acts 17:11. Not seeming to know that they hold the key to the truth, and are either not using it, or misusing it, or don't care enough about the gospel controversy to even discuss it!

To expand on the the lack of knowledge that Arminian gospel believers show, which is nearly every Christian throughout the world, it can be explained by tracing significant factors in the church's history.

First, the original church at Jerusalem, established by the apostles, believed the scriptural, literal gospel principles that God gave them, through the apostles--which is the same position that today's term, Calvinism, accurately represents. And, with human nature being what it is, there no doubt were those who tinkered and tampered with pure gospel truth, before the second and third centuries, when a British monk, and "theologian", named Pelagius introduced liberalized (adulterated) gospel doctrine to the churches!

That is, deviation from the truth--and, whether it is intentional or not, it is never justified, or excusable! I assume there must have been some decline in the level of spiritual integrity that the apostolic church had faithfully worked to maintain. Otherwise, Pelagius wouldn't have been able to have the damaging

effect on the churches of his time. But, it marks a significant turning point in faithfulness to the gospel.

Increasingly, ever since, the church has been overtaken by a "little leaven which leaveneth the whole lump". The Lord says, "purge out the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump (or body)". But, continuing the doctrinal disobedience to the Lord, it has never been done, after centuries of degeneration!

What do you think happened to make the first defectors from the true gospel capitulate to a false concept of it? Something drew them away. That is, they let down their guard, and gave "place to the devil", which the bible warns against. In essence, they broke fellowship with the Lord, and basically failed to "walk in the Spirit", but yielded to the "flesh", or their old natures, unable to discern the spiritual truth of the gospel, and probably much other doctrine.

In my own case, I finally learned what was wrong with the Arminian, free will gospel that I had believed for ten plus years, along with almost everyone else. Having thereafter begun a commentary ministry on the true gospel, and other subjects, I have had very little response, except criticism, and futile efforts to defend their adulterated gospel concept. Hopefully, the publications have had some positive effect on the website viewers.

While, of course, there are other doctrinal weaknesses in the church (and the devil authored, or exploits every one of them), **Nothing could be more critically wrong, than the act of misconceiving the facts of the gospel, the way that God has revealed them to us.** That is, nothing is more important, other than God himself, in all his righteousness, and sovereign authority!

Imagine, if you will, the comparative position, and responsibilities of (1) a college teacher, and student, and (2) a pastor, and a new convert. There is a very important distinction to be made, and believed in both of these relationships. Obviously, a pastor and a teacher are obligated to guide and educate the Christian, and student to have the proper understanding of their respective subjects.

Two simple factors, regarding the ultimate outcome of the process, are (1) a

teacher is responsible for what he teaches, and (2) a student is responsible for what he learns, because the means of accomplishment are available in each case, (1) from the bible: the truth needed to be known, and (2) completely informative college textbooks.

Hence, in retrospect, every Arminian believer accepted the form of the gospel he was taught, but failed thereafter to study the scriptures himself, either to verify, or disprove what was taught to him (per Acts 17:11), and in the process, learn the literal gospel truth!

Another underlying, more serious basic failure was the church-wide fault of beginning, and continuing to walk "in the flesh" (the old, carnal nature), and not "in the Spirit" (the believer's new nature). That is, making the fundamental mistake of trying to live the Christian life with the same, unrenewed mind that he had before he was converted. And, similar to apostates, "never able to come to the knowledge of the truth"! Or, having a Christian biography, marked by serious doctrinal misinterpretations! In reference to which, their pastors had failed to teach, or warn them, because they had conducted most of their gospel ministries "in the flesh", as well; at least on that subject.

I hope you can acknowledge the logical problem of these things, as undermining the church, by causing the decline from the once spiritually sound integrity, and faithful testimony of the original, and apostolic early churches.

Reminding you of the great deception referred to at the beginning of this commentary, as caused, or influenced and exploited by Satan, it is that capitulation that Christians have allowed to effectively ruin the universal church.

The depth and scope of deception that the false gospel indoctrination has caused, eludes the great majority of believers, who are shamefully described in Rev. 3:15-18, as "lukewarm, miserable, wretched, poor, blind, and naked", that may apply to as much as 95% of the total church!

That is, lukewarm spiritually, and blind to the very fact of the delusion that pervades their lives, personally and corporately. As a simple critique of the

artificial gospel mindset that characterizes most of the contemporary church, it's works are only as good as it's spiritual integrity, of which it is practically devoid!

To put it equally bluntly, but true, there are no commendations, or rewards for works produced on the basis of false gospel doctrine, i.e., the prevailing Arminian, free will, optional concept!

Consider, then, the effect of the foregoing indictment on the millions of Arminian pastors, and evangelists, who have labored and counted assumed salvation decisions as commendable service for the Lord. Sad to say, they will not be rewarded for their unspiritual works, but rather be judged for their unfaithfulness to God, and his gospel. Yes, as unfaithful stewards!

Does that mean an Arminian Christian's lifetime has mainly consisted of unacceptable works? As far as I can determine, according to God's gospel truth, rightly interpreted, yes! Incorporated in the subject of soul winning, witnessing, etc., is the Arminian false doctrinal assumption that related personal service has a contributory effect on one's spiritual conversion.

Whereas, the truth is, that no man has any effect on the salvation of himself, or any other person. The vitiated, fallen nature (total depravity) of man renders him incapable of understanding, or reacting with knowing assent or rejection of spiritual truth. ! Cor. 2:11-14, and all underlying related principles!

Nor, therefore, is salvation ever offered to man (even the elect), or available to anyone, except the specific number of foreordained elect, or chosen ones! Salvation is, instead, provided for them, and guaranteed to be consummated by a direct, independent act of God, and for which the recipient of his grace has no option to accept, or reject. It is, therefore, inevitable, and irresistible!

God makes one a Christian (a new creation), without human consent, or conditions; not even "belief" of the gospel, which is impossible before conversion, and can only be realized and naturally expressed after spiritual life is received!

I believe it is probably impossible for an Arminian, typical believer of today to think, or do much of anything spiritual until he has repented from the sin of

believing a false form of the gospel! Otherwise, he and the millions of others in the same category will continue to spend their lives, trying to live for the Lord by the same life principle (the "flesh", or natural faculties) that they lived by before they became Christians!

However, remember, God always gives "space to repent" (Rev. 2:21), and escape from whatever plight we may be in (1 Cor. 10:13). But, he doesn't intervene, or free us, unless we ask him for deliverance, after confession of our specific sinful acts. 1 John 1:9.

Think of the state of the liberalized gospel Christians: a lifetime to date, out of fellowship with the Lord, making believe (unwittingly, perhaps) that they are at least generally faithful, and obedient to his will! And, then, there is the negative effect on evangelism of their core belief of free will, universal eligibility to be saved, making evangelism, to them (its advocates), the "most important thing we can do to serve the Lord"? And, with that ill-advised preoccupation, marginalizing, or making other more important doctrine and service, secondary and neglected!

When, in fact, the true theology of salvation is that it is predestinated, and guaranteed to occur for the elect, at God's appointed time, and is completely carried out in every aspect, by his independent, direct action!

Which means that the church has for centuries been sidetracked by "majoring on the minors", and "minoring on the majors". Does not that misguided mindset verify their unfaithfulness to God, and his gospel truth? A lack of complete knowledge of principles is a characteristic weakness of today's Christians, whereby they stop, or draw a line, short of application of the full extent of some principles. It is as if they have a right to differences of interpretation, or opinions, which may apply to other areas of life, but certainly not to scripture.

We (believers) are exhorted to obey and follow the Lord (which should be instinctive and natural, anyway). That is, to live faithful to him all of our lives, but when one starts his Christian life believing a false interpretation of the gospel, the truth of which is the very foundation of his new life, how, if he stays in that state of serious doctrinal error, can he ever really be walking with the Lord, and be faithful to Him?

To which question, I believe a simple rule of the Christian life always applies: "Never against principle". God never acts, or reveals anything, contrary to any of his principles, and neither should we! The Arminian plight, of which they are ignorant, is all because of the great deception foisted upon them by Satan, through pastors and others, who, themselves, had irresponsibly believed the false gospel concept.

"Foolish", the apostle Paul would say to them, as he called the Galatians, for letting themselves be "bewitched" by false teachers. If Paul were here today, that's what he would call you! You might say, that Paul had the apostolic authority to speak that way, but what right do I have to say the same things to you?

I do not claim to have any special powers that the apostles were endowed with, but to the extent of speaking the truth "in defense and confirmation of the gospel", or any other doctrinal subject, I am therefore a messenger of God, which is essentially what the apostles were! There is no class conflict involved, other than what some people might inadvisedly make of it! In any case, our focus should always be on the message, and not the messenger, especially if he might be telling someone something that they seriously need to know!

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