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The "Old Man"  
and "New Man"

For several years now, I have been engaged in publishing website commentaries. most of which are declarations of gospel truths, written to disprove, and denounce the prevailing Arminian (free will) false gospel, with which the church seems hopelessly deluded!

An earlier draft of this discourse started with certain comments on gospel principles, with corresponding criticisms of the Arminian interpretation of them. But, I decided to change my approach, after I had watched a Sean Hannity show in which Frank Luntz was conducting a focus group relating to the Wisconsin Governor's recall election. You may have seen it. Anyway, both Frank, and Sean expressed disappointment that the union-oriented members of the group couldn't (wouldn't) even agree on the facts that they were presented with.

The union people reiterated or defended their own biased positions in the controversy, regardless of what was objectively being asked, or said. It reminded me of the Calvinist/Arminian conflict that has gone on for centuries in the church.

Of all the opposing material that I have read, and correspondence that I have received, rarely have any of the authors acknowledged the truth of doctrinal facts that have been referred to, but as usual the typical Arminian liberal spin was put on them, turning the truth into false assumptions, or radical conclusions, based more on subjective, wishful thinking, than devotion to the truth.

The faults of the Arminian position are threefold, (1) neglecting to learn the literally true gospel principles from the scriptures, by trying to understand them with man-oriented natural intellect, not discerning the difference between "flesh", and "Spirit" (apparently throughout their Christian lives), (2) not following standard rules of objective interpretation, which includes (a) the necessity of consideration of possible variant word meanings, and (b) recognition of context, and then (3) refusing or failing to listen to, or heed those who proclaim gospel truth ( Calvinists,

or literalists). The most glaring example of failure to follow item (2) is the conventional misinterpretation of John 3:16. Which, is likely the key mistaken presumption that drives the whole Arminian false concept!

Ironically, "free will" proponents will not listen to God on the subject, nor those who present the truth of the gospel, but they will listen to those who pervert it! Which only proves that the working principle in the formulation of their gospel theology is the flesh (the natural man's mind), not the spiritual mind of the new man!

Why are the essential principles of item (2) so obviously avoided by Arminian "gospel" adherents? If they were fully followed, they would lead to the truth! Just think how inherently open the objective study method is, versus the subjective, biased defense of the Arminian concept, which is a radical distortion of the truth, that is not worthy of debate!

Other than perhaps in the early stages of learning doctrinal truths, the word of God shouldn't be debatable between Christians, anyway! Certainly not for centuries, wherein dissidents perpetuate their erroneous gospel beliefs, blindly and defiantly assuming that their interpretations are right!

In fact, the whole Arminian scheme is so full of false suppositions, and opinions that misrepresent scripture, that it has no more credibility as truth, than the theory of natural evolution has, compared to the fact of supernatural creation!

They are both worthless theories, contradicting facts of God, and acts of God! The one, purporting to be the true gospel, dishonors God, by corrupting His word, and the other defies logic, and common sense, by concocting imaginary ideas as to the origin of life, and matter, that have no connection with reality!

None of the argumentation put forth for the Arminian gospel is objective, and logical! Its wrong premises, and conclusions are instead, subjectively conceived, and irrational! Its method of interpreting salvation doctrine is biased, superficial, and overly simplistic!

It is, furthermore, pathetic doctrinal ignorance for a Christian not to know what

it means to "walk (think, and act) in the Spirit", and not in the "flesh" (the natural mind). And, that there is a lifelong war going on between our two natures, that we must consciously, and continually act upon to give control to our new spiritual nature! A Christian motivated by his old nature, cannot learn spiritual truth, any more than an unconverted, unregenerate person can!

A thorough, spiritually controlled study cannot produce false conclusions. So that, a Christian dedicated to know the truth--no matter what it may be--is, "a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth". Which means, relating to the subject at hand, that he can know with certainty the gospel "according to God". (A testimony that no Arminian, free will believer can claim, because their theory is the gospel "according to man").

Provable Facts:

1. The Arminian "gospel" is false doctrine.
2. Therefore, it cannot be a product of the Spirit.
3. It can be scripturally refuted, as an erroneous concept, produced, or advocated by the natural, carnal mind of, sadly, a large majority of Christians.
4. It is impossible for the Spirit of God (even in the new nature of believers) to be connected with doctrinal error, or any variation from the truth.
5. Any deviation from God's intended meaning of His word (which truth a Christian can, and must determine) is always attributable to the flesh, or natural thinking of the believer.
6. Most Christians live in the flesh, not the Spirit, which is confirmed by the evidence of their actions. To wit, the overwhelming unfaithfulness of (1) yielding to the devil's temptation by capitulating to false doctrine, (2) thereby putting themselves out of God's will, and (3) contributing to the spiritual demise of the church.

It cannot get much worse than that! God's prophesied report card (in Revelation) on most of the universal church today, is that they are "wretched,

miserable, poor, blind, and naked"; yet, if they think of it at all, most of them probably believe that it applies to other churches, not theirs! Their delusion seems to be unlimited, no matter what they are confronted with, that should make them question their provably false assumptions.

Such is the extent of their ignorance of the plight they are in! They take offense at the critical charges that are made against their beliefs, as if any disagreement is completely unjustified, because to them the objectors are the heretical ones, not them, the status quo!

And, they cannot (will not) see that God is prophetically speaking about practically all of today's Christians, strongly condemning their corrupted condition--that the truth of His gospel throughout the New Testament scriptures, has been defied, and defiled by most Christians for centuries!

Please believe that I do not like to make extreme accusations against fellow believers. I could be the most maligned, and hated person in their lives. A virtual pariah! All because I told them the truth about what I have proved that they wrongly believe. Gal. 4:16. Consistent with the contrasting life principles, discussed in this commentary (implied in the title), it is the "old man" that resists, and attacks the truth of the arguments against his false gospel beliefs, because the edified "new man" knows, and loves the truth, and would only oppose doctrinal error!

May I pose a hypothetical question? "How will the Lord greet the average Christian today at the judgment seat of Christ, if they have, in fact, unfaithfully and irreverently mishandled His gospel? How could He say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant", when the opposite conduct is the truth? Then, they will finally learn, too late, the import of the Rev. 3 prophecy, showing that they "were on the wrong side of church history", and that only a minority faction (a remnant) were the ones faithful to the true gospel!

He could not commend them, but will reprimand and castigate them for their unfaithful service. And that includes pastors, and evangelists, as well, no matter who they are. Though there have been millions of "professions" of faith associa-

ated with their ministries, if they misrepresented the gospel, there can be no commendations, or rewards, because of their doctrinal infidelity. That is, they have not "kept the faith" (the "tradition") of the apostles, and early churches!

Who knows how many "tares among the wheat" have infiltrated the church by the preaching, and teaching of deviant gospel principles? And who is behind the sowing of the bad seed? Satan, of course! The betrayal of a foundational doctrine of God's word, will bring serious consequences of judgment, or loss of rewards. And, no plea of ignorance, or innocence will have any mitigating effect!

What else can result from a church corrupted by indoctrination with a perverted gospel? Which, in a few terse words, is a lifetime of lying, in the name of the Lord, as if they were faithfully serving Him! God will not allow any compromise, or duplicity in the handling of His word!

At the end of the prophecy of each of the seven representative churches in Revelation, there are the words, "He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches". The solemn description of most of the final churches clearly shows that no major reformation occurs, but the appeal is made, that hopefully might be heeded by some churches, and individuals,

You who wrongly claim natural man's possession of a free will, by which he may accept salvation, don't seem to realize the terrible cost of the misuse and abuse of the free will which Adam had, resulting in the eternal ruin of the race, except for those whom God spared by decreeing their undeserved redemption.

And then, the free will trust that Christians are given, the majority of whom have dishonored God by submitting to a false interpretation of the gospel--which has brought about the decline and degeneration of the church!

That is the free will concern that ought to be very troubling, and shameful to the church for the practically irreversible damage that has been done by the great majority of believers for centuries! How strange, and sad it is that most of them don't even know what they have done that is so seriously wrong--and won't do anything about it, whether they read, or hear the truth of it in the Bible, or from

any other source. It is as if they have sealed their own fate, not ultimately or eternally, but at least for their earthly lives, with a devastating effect on their testimony.

I will close, hoping, but doubting that due consideration might be given to what I have written here (which are not personal opinions, but doctrinal truth in "defense and confirmation of the gospel"), and more importantly that the related scriptures might be open-mindedly studied, which has not been the case with all those who have foolishly fallen for the Arminian misconception of the gospel! Having thereby taken on a characteristic of cultism, i.e., unorthodox, and radically divergent gospel beliefs, they are therefore unfaithful members of the body of Christ, which I regret having to say so bluntly, and never would if I wasn't sure that that is the tragic effect of their defection from gospel truth!