

A Victorious Church in a Dark World

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Is Today's Church (as a whole) Ready for the Return of the Lord?

Study of Global Christianity (by Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary)

*There are over **45,000 christian denominations** around the world. Most do not agree with each other. This is a rather shocking statement considering what the Scriptures tell us:*

*Endeavouring to **keep the unity of the Spirit** in the bond of peace. There is **one body**, and **one Spirit**, even as ye are called in **one hope** of your calling; **One Lord**, **one faith**, **one baptism**, **One God** and **Father of all**, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. (Eph. 4:3-6)*

*Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that **ye all speak the same thing**, and that **there be no divisions among you**; but that ye be **perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment**. (1 Cor. 1:10)*

*That **they all may be one**; as thou, Father, **art in me**, and **I in thee**, that **they also may be one in us**: **that the world may believe that thou hast sent me**. And the glory which thou gavest me **I have given them**; that **they may be one**, even **as we are one**: **I in them**, and **thou in me**, that **they may be made perfect in one**; and **that the world may know that thou hast sent me**, and **hast loved them**, as **thou hast loved me**.*

(John 17:21-23)

*The Holy Spirit is Not for a show like the modern day Pentecostal Churches portray Him. It is to Reverence Jesus, give Him Great Honor in their midst and Prove God's Word. In my missionary journeys I've noticed "**The Church is a mile wide but an inch deep**." There's a lot of different activities going on, but very little understanding of the Word and the Holy Spirit. We should also remember that not everyone in the Church (claiming to be a Christian) is Born Again! Including some of it's leaders. That's why it is so important to find a True Church that teaches the Gospel correctly.*

A Believers Victory is Based on a Correct Relationship with the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is the One that wrote the Word, therefore it is the Holy Spirit that can teach and interpret the Word correctly. If the Holy Spirit is not in you, you do not belong to God! (Rom. 8:5-9) You are religious, but not Born Again.

The Spirit alone gives eternal life. Human effort accomplishes nothing.
And the very words I have spoken to you are spirit and life. (John 6:63) NLT

But you are not like that, **for the Holy One has given you his Spirit, and all of you know the truth.** (1 John 2:20) NLT

But you have received the Holy Spirit, and he lives within you, so you don't need anyone to teach you what is true. For the Spirit teaches you everything you need to know, and what he teaches is true it is not a lie. So just as he has taught you, remain in fellowship with Christ. (1 John 2:27) NLT

We speak wisdom, however, among them that are fullgrown: yet a wisdom not of this world, nor of the rulers of this world, who are coming to nought: but we speak God's wisdom in a mystery, even the wisdom that hath been hidden, which God foreordained before the worlds unto our glory: which none of the rulers of this world hath known: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory: but as it is written, Things which eye saw not, and ear heard not, And which entered not into the heart of man, Whatsoever things God prepared for them that love him. But unto us God revealed them through the Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. (1 Cor. 2:6-10) ASV

For the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say.
(Luke 12:12)

But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. (John 14:26)

So I want you to know that no one speaking by the Spirit of God will curse Jesus, and no one can say Jesus is Lord, except by the Holy Spirit. (1 Cor. 12:3) NLT

And **grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.** (Eph. 4:30)

And **whosoever shall speak a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but unto him that blasphemeth against the Holy Ghost it shall not be forgiven.**
(Luke 12:10)

But the hour cometh, and now is, when **the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.** (John 4:23,24)

Blessed Are They That Hear the Word of God, and Keep It

*Notice it's not those that hear the Word of God that are Blessed, **but they that keep it!** It's not coming to the altar and praying one time and then forgetting about Jesus and His Word. It is about hearing the Word and Living it out until death!*

And he answered and said unto them, **My mother and my brethren are these which hear the word of God, and do it.** (Luke 8:21)

But he said, Yea rather, **blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it.**
(Luke 11:28)

For **whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and in his Father's, and of the holy angels.** (Luke 9:26)

He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day. (John 12:48)

Don't you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I speak are not my own, but my Father who lives in me does his work through me.
(John 14:10) NLT

I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. (John 17:14)

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. (Rom. 10:17)

We are Ambassadors of Jesus Christ and Cannot Corrupt the Word of God

We are responsible to God for what we teach the people! At the Judgment seat of Christ we will stand before GOD (Jesus) and give an account of what we said! As Ambassadors of Christ we must Hear, Trust (reverence), and Obey.

Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. (2 Cor. 5:20)

NASB

And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: (1 Cor. 2:4)

For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake. (1 Th. 1:5)

For which I am an ambassador in chains; that in proclaiming it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak. (Eph. 6:20) NASB

For we are not as many, which corrupt the word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ. (2 Cor. 2:17)

But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. (2 Cor. 4:2)

As Ambassadors of Christ we speak boldly and without fear the Word of God. Our words are backed up by a holy lifestyle so the world cannot accuse us of corrupt behavior giving God a bad reputation.

***Beware of the False Church** (they are very clever and deceitful)*

God continually warns us of a great deception coming upon the Church in the last days. It will be so powerful that even the very elite could be deceived!

For such persons do not serve our Lord Christ, but their own appetites, and by smooth talk and flattery they deceive the hearts of the naive. (Rom. 16:18) ESV

There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death. (Prov. 16:25)

Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof (*The Holy Spirit*): from such turn away. For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts, Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. (2 Tim. 3:5-7)

But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. (2 Pet. 2:1)

God's Grace is Not License to Sin

*The word lasciviousness does not mean license, in other words, the Grace of God does not give you the right to choose the way you want to live your life. You cannot continue in sin because the Grace of God will cover it. God's Grace will not permit you to live a lascivious lifestyle. This is not what the Grace of God is for! This is not the purpose of God, and it will never be the purpose of God! The Holy Spirit will never tell you something that is contrary to scripture, after all He wrote it (2 Pet. 1:20,21). So, if we sin, it's not the Holy Spirit doing it, it's our own selfish stupid desire, and we will suffer the consequences. **Grace does not deliver us in sin, Grace delivers us from sin.** Grace always frees us from sin. God's Grace requires us to live a holy life as a living sacrifice unto God. (Rom. 12:1,2):*

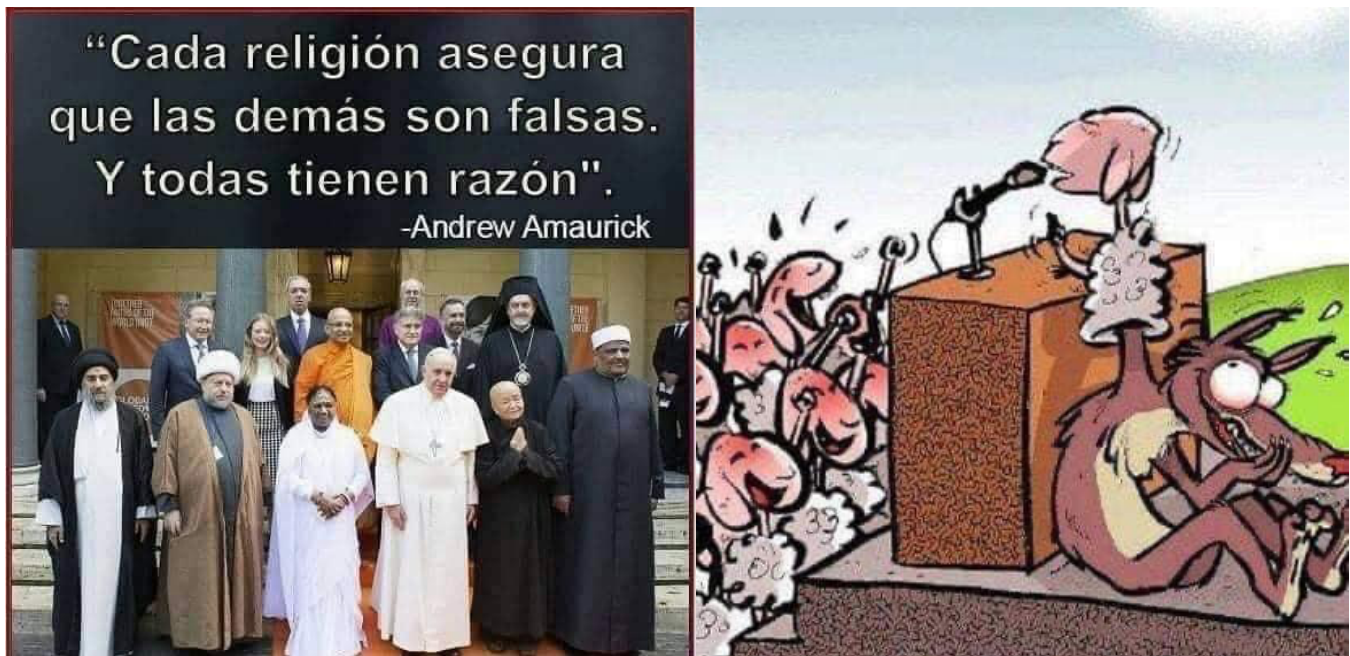
There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. **For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us,** who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. (Rom. 8:1-4)

Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? 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. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty. (2 Cor. 6:14-18)

Let him know, that **he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.** (Jam. 5:20)

If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: (2 John 10)

"I'd rather divide the Church according to the Holy Spirit; than to unite the Church through the spirit of anti-christ!"



How Can We Discern the spirit of Hell from the SPIRIT of GOD?

Dear friends, **do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.** (1 John 4:1)

Dear friends, do not kid yourselves, True believers hear from God personally, and two, True believers Love the Truth no matter how difficult it might be! True believers hear the voice of God and obey out of reverence and humility.

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: (John 10:27)

Love is patient, love is kind, it is not jealous; love does not brag, it is not arrogant. It does not act disgracefully, it does not seek its own benefit; it is not provoked, does not keep an account of a wrong suffered, it does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; it keeps every confidence, it believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. (1 Cor. 13:4-7) NASB