

225 PREACH JESUS AND LEAVE OTHERS ALONE

TEXT: Matt. 15:10-12.

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Many times you hear statements like the title of the sermon.
- B. The following is from Image magazine, July/August 1993 "He should remain silent on divisive issues and stick to preaching about the pattern we are to follow: Jesus Christ. You can't go wrong if you teach Jesus." "I can't help believing that people will follow Jesus if we will lift him up instead of dwelling on issues that divide."
- C. They maintain that you can preach the truth and never be offensive to false teachers or any one.
- D. Many times these are people who follow Gamaliel's advice- Acts 5:33-40.
 - E. Let's notice one of the favorite scriptures of the Bible and see if we could just preach Jesus and not offend anyone.

I. TRUTH IS ALWAYS OFFENSIVE TO THE GUILTY.

- A. Paul said in Gal. 4:16 "Have I therefore become your enemy . . ."
- B. Matt. 15:1-14- The Pharisees.
- C. The Jews- Acts 7:51-60.
- D. The Gentiles- Acts 16:20-24.
- E. Even Jesus' disciples- Matt. 26:31-35.

II. WE WILL SUFFER PERSECUTION FOR PREACHING THE TRUTH.

- A. Jn. 16:33. **"These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."**
- B. Jn. 15:20. **"Remember the word that I said to you, 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will keep yours also."**
- C. 2 Tim. 3:12. **Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.**

III. SHOW THE CHART WITH JN. 3:16.

- A. Let's go through this scripture and remove the offensive words.
- B. GOD, HE, HIS. These words offensive to the Atheist.
 - 1. We must not offend up to 10% of population.
 - 2. Atheist knows there is no God?
- C. LOVED- offensive to the fatalist.
 - 1. He dwells on the vengeance of God.
 - 2. God is a God of wrath- cut love out.
- D. WORLD- offensive to the Calvinist and others who blame God for man's fallen state.
 - 1. Calvinism is from the religious teacher named John Calvin.
 - 2. The theological system of John Calvin and his followers which emphasizes the doctrines of predestination and salvation solely by God's grace.
- E. ONLY- offensive to the Jews who have rejected Jesus as the Son of God while looking for another.
- F. BEGOTTEN- offends the modernist and anyone who denies the virgin birth.
 - 1. Long been a battle field.
 - 2. Even in the church, "Jesus' mother was immoral woman."
 - 3. They teach Jesus was conceived just as any illegitimate child.
- G. SON, HIM- other offending references to Jesus as God's son.
- H. WHOSOEVER- offends the Calvinist who would predestinate some to be lost without choice.
- I. BELIEVETH- offends the universalist who would save everyone without obedience to God's will.
- J. NOT PERISH- offends many denominations and cults who deny the reality of hell.
- K. ETERNAL LIFE- offends the materialist who can see no-thing beyond this physical existence.

I. WE MUST PREACH THE TRUTH, NOT WITH INTENT TO OFFEND, BUT LET US SPEAK THE TRUTH IN LOVE WHICH IS THE ONLY WAY TO LEAD MEN TO HEAVEN.

A. Eph. 4:14-16.

B. Let's not be concerned about being P.C. (Politically Correct) As we are being B.C. (Biblically Correct).