

The Fear of Men

Jesus Christ commanded His disciples to go to all the world to preach (Mark 16: 15, 16).

They obeyed and went out to preach. From the Day of Pentecost, when the church was established, up to now, the Word of God is being preached.

Many people have heard the true Gospel of Christ. The question is, “Do all people obey the Gospel?” No, they do not. Many say, “If you only believe Jesus is the Son of God and your Saviour, you can be saved.”

Is this true? If it is, every person, no matter what church or denomination he attends, will be saved. If that is so, there is no need to follow what Christ taught.

The Bible is plain. Its directions should be followed.

Our Lord Jesus Christ complained about some religious people when He said, “And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things

which I say?” (Luke 6:46).

This clearly indicates that they were not following what Christ wanted them to do.

That is why He also warned, “Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven”(Matthew 7:21).

The most difficult thing for many religious people to accept is that Christ founded His church (Matthew 16:18).

This is the church which He bought with His blood (Acts 20:28).

Some agree with what the Bible says but are afraid to follow the truth for fear of relatives and good friends.

Some children do not follow the truth because they fear their parents. Christ warned of the danger of loving human relationships more than loving Him (Matthew 10:34-38; Luke 12:49-53; 14:26-27).

There are many young men and women who believe in what the Bible says, but do not follow the truth because they fear they will be chased from their houses.

Older people who have important posts in their denominations do not obey the truth because they know they will lose their posts.

Women fear losing the special ‘uniforms’ which members of their denomination wear.

We must understand that there is no salvation in these denominational posts and church uniforms. Salvation comes only by following what the Bible says.

When Christ was preaching, many people believed, but did not follow Him: “*Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue: For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God*” (John 12:42,43).

Surely, such people, who fear men

more than the Lord, cannot be saved!

Even today, we have many such people who hear the Word of God, but do not obey because they fear men more than they fear God.

Perhaps you are one of those who have heard the true Gospel of Jesus Christ, but have failed to follow Him because you fear the people around you.

Be like the Apostle Paul who first persecuted the church, but after Christ appeared to him, he changed and became a follower of Jesus. Paul was ready even to die for the cause of Christ.

This is why Paul could say: “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek” (Romans 1: 16).

Believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and He founded only one church (Ephesians 1:22-23; 4:4; 5:23) and that He bought the church with His blood (Acts

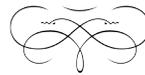
20:28).

Turn to follow Christ, no matter what men say.

Confess the belief in Jesus Christ as the Son of God in front of other men.

Then be baptized into Christ so that your sins can be washed away (Acts 22:16).

You will then be a part of Christ’s body, which is His church (Acts 2:47; 1 Corinthians 12:1 3).



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