

Messenger Of Truth

"Holding forth the Word of Life" (Phil. 2:16).

August 29, 2011

Issue No. 5 Mark Aites, Editor

Don't Offend Me

Have you seen the politically correct dictionary? It is hilarious. A man is not bald, he is follicle-challenged. A person is not dead instead they are metabolically-challenged. A person is not evil instead they are deprived of niceness. Lest you insult one that is homeless, now you should refer to them as residentially flexible. Someone who is old is chronologically gifted. A prisoner is a client of the correctional system. One who is short is vertically challenged. One who is fat is horizontally challenged, etc.

Yes, these are ridiculous absurdities, but they do illustrate how silly people have become in their efforts to avoid getting their feelings hurt. This generation seeks to live in a society that is totally void of offense. They want everyone to feel special.

Pulpits today are filled with "how to feel good about yourself" sermons. The objective appears to be for everyone to leave with a warm fuzzy feeling that all is well with the world. Objections are aired if one seeks to preach doctrinal lessons. Sermons about sin or hell are frowned upon.

Sweetness, sweetness, sweetness, pour on the sugar so that brethren will be smiling from ear to ear. The late Andrew Connally said it well, "My brethren are suffering from synthetic diabetes. They have too much sugar in their diets."

It is amazing when you hear well intentioned individuals proclaim that Jesus never used a harsh word. They proclaim that the famed Sermon on the Mount was void of offense. What Bible are they reading from? As one looks at Matthew 5-7 it is obvious that Jesus had more negative comments than positive! And what about Matthew 23? The Lord took the proverbial "paint off the wall".

What has happened to plain old Gospel sermons? Where are the sermons about hell? Why can't we condemn sin in the pulpit? Paul certainly did (1 Cor. 6:9-10; Gal. 5:19-21).

Can you imagine what it would be like if a parent gave a child everything they wanted to eat? What about the days where you were told to eat your vegetables. Can you remember when you were told not to leave the table until you ate everything on your plate? What seemed like cruel parents were actually ones who loved you enough to make sure you ate healthy.

Our pulpits need to ring with the truth of God's Word. Yes, the good and even that which is "offensive" (i.e. the vegetables). It might surprise a lot of our own brethren to learn that the church grew greater and faster when there were sound, doctrinal, unapologetic sermons!