



Pendulum or Jesus Christ

After the death of many of the first apostles and their disciples, the church swung slowly too far to the opposite way of the Gospel of Grace, year after year, to the point that the revelations of Paul were lost for centuries. The reason was an attitude of “too much grace, we need to preach more on obedience.”

After preaching hard on obedience, we had a beautifully united church from the outside yet filled with dark religion in the inside, performing good works according to man yet performing dead works according to God. It took Martin Luther to wake up the Church to the righteousness of faith (righteousness as a gift) once more time.

Today, the Gospel of Grace has been established. Yet, we have some who are warping the grace of God in the name of freedom from legalism and religion. They have brought in licentiousness, permissiveness, progressiveness, and heresy about not needing the Bible, the local church, right living, and etc.

I don't know about you, but I see a pattern here. Yeah, history repeats itself. It's like a pendulum. You know, the marbles on a string that swing left to right? It goes back and forth, back and forth. Today, believers in Christ are on a foundation that gives off an aroma of insecurity. We have two camps:

- Those that say – “Freedom from Religion!” (But really mean licentiousness)
- Those that say – “More Obedience!” (But really mean legalism)

Whether you are concerned about freedom from legalism or obedience to God, it's not our focus. A thousand times no. We've missed the whole point.

Colossians 1:16-18

¹⁶ All things were created through Him and for Him.

¹⁷ And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.

¹⁸ And He is the head of the body, the church...

It's about the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the truth. He is the way. He is life. Therefore, He is our focus. The reason why the Church is not secure but blown in every direction and divided is because of insecure leaders within the Church who are not established yet on the Gospel of Grace that reveals righteousness by faith. As a consequence, they are not lifting up the Son of Man so all may behold. He is yet to be the center of the Church. Know that all things consist or held together when He is the center. It is of Him, through Him, and for Him. It's time to bring

the unadulterated Jesus back to the Church – the One who welcomes sinners and empowers believers in Christ to walk in virtue, love, and service for the people.

For those concerned about people living for the devil in sin or rebellion:

Don't surrender the grace of God and back away from the Gospel by preaching more on so-called "obedience." I judge the Gospel of Grace and say it is from God; then, I judge their living and say it is wrong.

We stand up for Christian values, influence community and lead by example but we preach the Gospel of Grace. We should not compromise the Gospel.

Do not use the Law to whip the people to repentance. The answer is still revealing the person of Christ through the Gospel of Grace. Grace will change their wrong living via the Holy Spirit.

For those concerned about people living for the devil as modern-day pharisees, legalists, and traditionalists by performing dead works:

The answer is to keep preaching the Gospel of Grace that reveals righteousness by faith.

Do not belittle the grace of God by weaponizing freedom and using it to mock, intimidate, and even bully the religious. Grace will open their eyes and change their wrong believing via the Holy Spirit as God did with us at one point.

A great man of God had a very spirit led thought on this matter, and I quote:

- "I question whether the defenses of the gospel are not sheer impertinences. The gospel does not need defending. If Jesus Christ is not alive and cannot fight His own battles, then Christianity is in a bad state. But He is alive, and we have only to preach His gospel in all its naked simplicity, and the power that goes with it will be the evidence of its divinity." – **Charles Spurgeon**

Instead of continuing to preach the Gospel of Grace, we have the tendency to switch our emphasis because we aren't fully convinced that the grace of God is sufficient to bring about the evidence of His divinity.

Hebrews 12:2

... looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith,

The truth is it starts and it ends with Jesus by revealing eternal gift of righteousness by faith. Let us lift up Jesus Christ, the person of Grace who is the author and finisher of our faith - being the righteousness of God. Grace as a person is our faith, which will produce in us great works (not just good works) for the Church, will bring unity and love among our brethren, will edify and build His Church, and will finally bring a stop to the Pendulum. Amen.

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