

On The Frontier

“For the glory of God and the furtherance of the gospel”

THE MISREPRESENTATION OF GOD

by Linus A. Mathis III

There are few today who really know God. Many of us have been led to believe that God is vengeful and cruel. Really, nothing could be further from the truth. The entire Bible testifies of His goodness. The following verses are but a sampling of what can be known of God's nature from His Holy Word.

I John 4:16

And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

I John 1:5

This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

If God is light and there is no darkness at all in Him, where did we ever get the idea that He would try us with disease or challenge us with hardship? Certainly not from the Bible!

The repugnancy of these devilish lies are exacerbated by the fact that those who purportedly represent Him are the very ones who distort His image. Before I continue let's consider this passage from James.

James 1:13-17

Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:

But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.

Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

Do not err, my beloved brethren.

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

God does not tempt us. Man's lust is the problem NOT God.

Now it's one thing to be drawn away of your own lust, but it's quite a different matter to mislead others. God does not take this sort of thing lightly. He watches over His Word. Those who preach lies for truth shall bear full responsibility before Him.

Galatians 6:7

Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

I am talking about the God of the Bible, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Honestly, if you are preaching the God of the Bible you should document what you say (and do) from the Bible. Shouldn't you? Why then, is there such a marked absence of genuine Bible teachings in so many pulpits these days? Why is it that those who mishandle the Word of God do so with such holier than thou attitudes? We don't accept this sort of conduct from other fields of endeavor. In boxing we demand adherence to the Marquees of Queensberry rules. The "rule book" is THE authority for baseball, basketball, hockey, football

and any other sport you can think of. I should also mention the relevance of medical journals, legal reference works and the Constitution of the United States. These are but a few areas where we demand documentation. Yet, when it comes to the things of God somehow we are obtuse. What's wrong with this picture? Why have we become so gullible?

These "Bible-less" preachers would do well to be still and return to the Scriptures, or get into a different line of work. The self-appointed "prophets" are presumptuous and had better repent, for God has NOT and will NOT commission ANYTHING or ANYONE that contradicts His Word.

Jeremiah 14:14

Then the LORD said unto me, The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart.

Jeremiah 23:21

I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran: I have not spoken to them,

yet they prophesied.

Jeremiah 29:9

For they prophesy falsely unto you in my name: I have not sent them, saith the LORD.

Isaiah 5:18-24

Woe unto them that draw iniquity with cords of vanity, and sin as it were with a cart rope:

That say, Let him make speed, *and* hasten his work, that we may see *it*: and let the counsel of the Holy One of Israel draw nigh and come, that we may know *it*!

Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

Woe unto *them that are* wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!

Woe unto *them that are* mighty to drink wine, and men of strength to mingle strong drink:

Which justify the wicked for reward, and take away the righteousness of the righteous from him!

Therefore as the fire devoureth the stubble, and the flame consumeth the chaff, *so* their root shall be as rottenness, and their blossom shall go up as dust: because they have cast away the law of the LORD of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.

To contradict His Word is to contradict Him. God and His Word are forever inseparable.

God gave His Word that you might know Him. You simply cannot know Him otherwise. Man made religions, doctrines and traditions will not bring about God's deliverance. God does NOTHING apart from His Word.

The following references should prove invaluable as you continue to uphold the standard of "it is Written."

John 5:39

Psalm 138:2

Ephesians 1:3-14

II Timothy 2:15

Hosea 4:6
