

Articles and Sermons :: I Hate your Feast Days**I Hate your Feast Days, on: 2007/7/12 15:55**

“I hate, I despise your feast days, and I will not smell in your solemn assemblies. Though ye offer me burnt offerings and your meat offerings, I will not accept them: neither will I regard the peace offerings of your fat beasts. Take thou away from me the noise of thy songs; for I will not hear the melody of thy viols. But let judgment run down as waters, and righteousness as a mighty stream.” — Amos 5:21-24

Sunday after Sunday, across the land of this backslidden nation of America, multitudes of professing Christians gather to worship the Lord together. Most believe they are truly saved, and that the Lord is pleased with their church attendance. They see going to church as a special favor for the Lord that somehow satisfies Him and makes Him happy. If you are a genuine Christian, a fully devoted and recklessly abandoned disciple of Jesus who has forsaken all to follow Him, and you do not attend a “building” where you worship God with other “Christians”, then you are seen as a weak Christian or even as unsaved and heretical. Most professing Christians completely look down upon and shun those who do not attend a building with others where they worship God together. The immediate thought someone thinks when they hear that a person does not attend a building and submit to a “shepherd” is that they are either in rebellion or they are a weak Christian (if at all saved).

However, the Lord is so terribly grieved with the present state of the church in America that He hates, no He despises, the shameful things that go on at these “feast days” and “solemn assemblies”. As multitudes gather together and sing their songs, clap their hands, dance and leap for joy, and offer the “sacrifice of praise” to the Lord, His anger and wrath is kindled more and more. This is because most of the people who honor Him with their lips have hearts that are far from Him. They lift up their hands to the Lord, but their hands are filthy with the rotten stain of sin. In lifting up their hands to the Lord, calling on His name, they are flaunting the filth of their sin right in His face. They do not have clean hands and pure hearts, instead, their hands are defiled with sin and their hearts are full of all manner of filthiness. Instead of lifting up “holy hands” in the sight of the Lord in worship and adoration, they are lifting up “unholy hands” that are defiled with sin in their self-deception, provoking His anger.

The “sacrifice of praise” in the solemn assemblies of our churches across this nation is absolutely defiled with all sorts of sin. As the offering of praises rise up before the Throne of the Holy One like the smoke of a burnt offering, the Lord takes a sniff and is utterly sickened by the detestable stench. He doesn’t smell purity, righteousness, holiness, love, and obedience to His Son. Instead, He smells adultery, fornication, divorce & remarriage, lying, cheating, covetousness, idolatry, pride, worldliness, and all manner of other evil things. The Lord hates and despises our feast days when we gather together to worship Him hypocritically as we feast on the words of ear-tickling speeches that comfort us in our sins. He utterly refuses to smell in our solemn assemblies because the fragrance of our praise that is ascending before Him is no fragrance at all: it is an abomination! It is a stench to His nostrils and He will not smell because of the blatant and hidden sin! Sin is detestable in His sight, and the smell of defiled praises from lukewarm and sinful “Christians” isn’t a pleasing aroma, it’s a rotten stench that smells more like burning flesh than like the prayers of holy saints.

Under the old Covenant, a lamb that was sacrificed had to be as absolutely perfect as possible. It had to be the best of the flock. It could not have any spots or blemishes whatsoever or it would not be accepted. In fact, if it did have spots or blemishes, it did not please the Lord...it actually made Him angry! Likewise, the sacrifice of our praises that are spotted and blemished with the stains of sin do not please God...they make His wrath burn as He weeps in brokenhearted anguish over the churches that are no longer delivering people from the bondage of their sins by pronouncing the power of Christ to redeem and set free; instead, these same churches have become holding pens for multitudes of deceived sheep heading straight for the day of slaughter: totally unaware! And the hireling shepherds (pastors) are leading their own sheep straight to the butcher (Satan), rather than to the Chief Shepherd (Jesus) who gave His life for His sheep to set them completely free from the dominion, control and power of sin!!!

Though multitudes offer Him sacrifices of “burnt offerings”, “meat offerings”, and “peace offerings”; offerings of tithes and money, of energy, and attention, and of setting aside a time each Sunday morning to sacrifice the morning to Him each week, this all means nothing to Him. It is not what He wants. He will not accept such sacrifices, especially since they are defiled with spots and blemishes. I know of men who religiously devote their time and service into the maintenance and upkeep of the church building in which they attend. They sacrifice their money, time, energy, abilities, and everything they can to upkeep the religious system and “sacrifice unto the Lord” of their labors. However, rather than be

ing pleasing to the Lord, they are only up-keeping an unbiblical system that continues to hold people in bondage and continues to offer up defiled sacrifices before the Lord as they lift up their defiled hands to flaunt their sin in His face. The Lord will not accept such sacrifices, for this is not what He desires.

Sin is so rampant among the people who call themselves Christians in America that the name of Jesus is being blasphemed repeatedly among those that are "in the world" and have no desire to become Christians because of such blatant hypocrisy. Millions upon millions upon millions of souls across America who gather together in their solemn assemblies to worship God have sin in their lives! This is more common than not. Those who do not live in willful sin are very few and far between, which is clearly a practical explanation of the testimony of Jesus Himself when He said, "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in that way: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." (Mat 7:13-14). In fact, Jesus also said, "Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able" (Luk 13:24). MANY will SEEK to ENTER IN, but SHALL NOT BE ABLE. What a solemn warning!

Those who continue in willful sin and profess the name of Jesus at the same time fall under the judgment of Hebrews 10:26-31: "For if we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace? For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God."

Such people who have willful sin in their lives (sin that they know is wrong and keep doing it anyway), and claim to be Christians, not only do not have forgiveness for their sins, but they are, according to this Scripture in Hebrews:

1. Under the fearsome judgment and fiery indignation "WRATH" of God which will devour His enemies (and logically are re counted as enemies of God Himself despite their lip service and hypocritical shows of religious pretense and hype).
2. Thought worthy in the sight of God of receiving much more terrible judgment than those who died without mercy under the death penalty of the Law of Moses.
3. Guilty of trampling Jesus Christ, the Son of God, under foot.
4. Guilty of counting the blood of Christ as some common, unholy thing (and of having a form of godliness without the power by acknowledging the power of the blood intellectually but denying the power of the blood experientially in its ability to deliver and set FREE from all sin.)
5. Guilty of taking advantage of the Holy Spirit and of taking advantage of the very grace that was supposed to forgive and transform them into new creatures in Christ.
6. Going to fearfully fall into the hands of the Living God who promises to take vengeance and judge His people.
7. (Obviously) Commanded to repent immediately and stop willfully sinning against the Lord.

As these multitudes of deceived "Christians" gather together in their church buildings, the clock hits its programmed mark and the singing begins. The songs start playing and the people start singing lies. Their excitement and expectancy is built up and they totally cast aside all sense of godly discernment as they embrace spirits of sensuality and soullessness in the name of entertainment and "blessing". The Lord says in the opening Scripture in Amos, "Take thou away from Me the noise of thy songs". It couldn't be clearer.

In our day of cookie cutter "Christianity", where we cut out an institutional mold that we derived from the world and try to shove God in it, we have completely missed the mark and gone astray. Rather than pleasing God by offering ourselves up as living sacrifices and walking in purity, holiness, and righteousness in His sight, we have taken God and tried to mold Him into something that we want Him to be. The mold we created that we try to jam Him into is a mold of prosperity, blessing, lukewarm-ness and compromise. In doing so however, since the One True God refuses to become a pawn in the hands of selfish and sinful men, or of anyone for that matter, we have created a false god that loves the things we love and that is all about "USA" and our benefit always. However, this has led to blatant idolatry in the church and is a grie

vous abomination that cries out for the Lord's judgment.

How long shall He bear the burden of our iniquities?

The Lord will not listen to the noise of hypocritical songs. He hates the stench of sacrifices and offerings that are stained with the spot of sin. He will not smell in our solemn assemblies so long as they continue like this. This is never what He wanted and history, coupled with clear Scripture, prove this un-excusable. Instead, He only asks for one thing: That we, "...let judgment run down as waters, and righteousness as a mighty stream." The True God desires the righteous judgment of wholehearted love & affection, and righteousness that flows like Niagara Falls. He doesn't want fancy shows with large choirs, hip songs, smiling preachers and lukewarm pew-sitters. He just wants, no, He jealously longs for the undivided affection and love of His people who forsake all that is in the world to follow Him in obedience because they desire to please Him. That is all.

If you are among those that lift up their sins in the face of God with unholy hands, and you partake of the evil deeds of hypocrites by supporting their foolish facades, I beseech you to "come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing" (2 Cor 6:17). Be separate from them, and be holy, for holy is the Lord God who calls out to you. Now is the time to repent. He would rather you be hot, on fire for Him, and burning with zeal, or to be cold, chilled, and full of hate than to be lukewarm, tepid and indifferent with blatant hypocrisy. Don't partake of those who are lukewarm and thereby share in their sins, for those who trample Christ underfoot by living in willful sin and trying to praise Him anyway shall receive the greater damnation. Instead, wax on fire for God in genuine and heartfelt repentance and let the light of Christ shine through you in blazing holiness by the power of the HOLY Spirit. Let judgment run down as rushing waters, and let righteousness come down as a mighty stream.

"For who hath stood in the counsel of the LORD, and hath perceived and heard his word? who hath marked his word, and heard it? Behold, a whirlwind of the LORD is gone forth in fury, even a grievous whirlwind: it shall fall grievously upon the head of the wicked. The anger of the LORD shall not return, until he have executed, and till he have performed the thoughts of his heart: in the latter days ye shall consider it perfectly." - Jeremiah 23:18-20

-Josef Urban

Re: I Hate your Feast Days, on: 2007/7/12 19:36

You attend a grocery store, does this mean you agree with everything they sell. To be a part of church is vital. What can you add to your church??? If churches lack so, should you not try to be their gain. To moan and cry and intercede for it. No church has everything 100%. And we all are sinners. And the father's love burns far more than his anger. Lukewarm living is a problem, this is why those who are not lukewarm need to be the loving light, not the judging light.

Re:, on: 2007/7/13 8:34

Quote:

-----You attend a grocery store, does this mean you agree with everything they sell.

Your analogy sounds good but I will stick with the Apostle Paul...

2 Corinthians 6

14Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? 15What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? What does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? 16What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people."

17"Therefore come out from them and be separate, says the Lord.

Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you."

18"I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty."

Quote:

-----Lukewarm living is a problem, this is why those who are not lukewarm need to be the loving light, not the judging light.

Again...

1 Corinthians 5:

9I have written you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people— 10not at all meaning the people of this world who are immoral, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters. In that case you would have to leave this world. 11But now I am writing you that you must not associate with anyone who calls himself a brother but is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater or a slanderer, a drunkard or a swindler. With such a man do not even eat.

12What business is it of mine to judge those outside the church? Are you not to judge those inside? 13God will judge those outside. "Expel the wicked man from among you."

In Christ - Jim

Re: I Hate your Feast Days - posted by enid, on: 2007/7/13 10:10

Jim,

Some will agree that the church is apostate from God right now. Some won't.

There are those who attend church buildings, does that mean that everyone who attends a church building is lost? No.

Some of the speakers on this website have churches, they are pastors and leaders, does that mean they are lost? Are they compromising?

However, Christianity in the west is abysmal, even satanic.

Isaiah 1v15 says, 'When you spread out your hands, I will hide My eyes from you, even though you make many prayers I will not hear, your hands are full of blood'.

Maybe our hands are not full of literal blood, but the blood of those whom we cannot win to Christ because of our indifference to the fact that they will spend eternity in the lake of fire.

It is not our problem, it's their's.

But God is watching and recording every thought, word and deed that is taking place in our lives, whether saved or lost.

2 Cor 5v10, 'For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad'.

Verse 11 says, 'Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord...

God's judgment is terrifying, and if we are not fearful for peoples eternity, we had better question our salvation.

Also, as we know, judgment begins at the house of God, 1 Peter 4v17.

Would that mean those who attend a church building or those in a house church, or those who meet in a building that is not a church building, or meet in a garden, or by a river etc.

So where would judgment begin?

All I know is, that from scripture, judgment will begin.

Not if, when.

Thanks for the article, thought provoking.

God bless.

Re: lets tell Josef.....put on love and mercy as a garment, on: 2007/7/13 10:38

Jim,

I completely understand the heartcry and the message of what Josef writes, but there's something off about it, and I do not write this in divisiveness, or rancor. Let me just excise a few of his quotes, that have a "hate" filled edge to them, rather than a Gospel sweet, "faith...love....and hope" cant to them.

(when I say that I refer to Paul's opening in First Thessalonians....."We continually remember before our God and Father your work **produced by faith** your labor **prompted by love** and your endurance **inspired by hope** in our Lord Jesus Christ". 1Thess 1:3)

Quote:
-----If you are a genuine Christian, a fully devoted and recklessly abandoned disciple of Jesus who has forsaken all to follow Him, and you do not attend a "building" where you worship God with other "Christians",

really? okay, if Josef says so....but thats rather a blanket statement.

Quote:
-----then you are seen as a weak Christian or even as unsaved and heretical. Most professing Christians completely look down upon and shun those who do not attend a building with others where they worship God together. The immediate thought someone thinks when they hear that a person does not attend a building and submit to a "shepherd" is that they are either in rebellion or they are a weak Christian

why would any follower of Jesus care one whit about what man thinks of his walk? The pursuit of God is between you and Him.

Mind you brother, I'm not posting this response to defend "churchianity", but the young brother should find a metaphorical cloth, dip it in the Living Water that Christ brings, lay it across his forehead, lay down for a while and chill.

Quote:
-----This is because most of the people who honor Him with their lips have hearts that are far from Him. They lift up their hands to the Lord, but their hands are filthy with the rotten stain of sin.

join the club, that's why it's called Grace. What do we have here?....a "super apostle" high and above the rank masses of the "backslidden"?

Thats the problem with these well meaning, albeit young zealots on the internet and the street corners.

I'd tell him, get off the street corner, get off the computer, go out in the desert for a week with a jug of water, a sleeping bag and a Bible, make it two weeks, beg the Lord for some insight, beg the Lord to set a cressoate bush on Fire, and speak to him from within it. Pray that he'll get the 39 lashes, or dumped in an old well for a spell, THEN he can come out a prophet....maybe, if God graces him with this heavy calling....maybe.

Quote:
-----In our day of cookie cutter "Christianity", where we cut out an institutional mold that we derived from the world and try to shove God in it, we have completely missed the mark and gone astray. Rather than pleasing God by offering ourselves up as living sacrifices and walking in purity, holiness, and righteousness in His sight, we have taken God and tried to mold Him into something that we want Him to be. The mold we created t

hat we try to jam Him into is a mold of prosperity, blessing, lukewarm-ness and compromise.

amen I say, I agree TOTALLY. But what are YOUR TWO HANDS doing? Because those NOW are not your hands, you are dead, they are HIS HANDS, so what are you doing with HIS HANDS?

Quote:
-----Instead, wax on fire for God in genuine and heartfelt repentance and let the light of Christ shine through you in blazing holiness by the power of the HOLY Spirit.

Those are words, mere words, words of zealots. Zealots mean nothing to God, He has plenty of "zealots" all over the globe, some of this zealots strap explosives to their waists, and kill women and children all in the "name of god", others stand on street corners shrieking WORDS..... show Him what you do with your TWO HANDS....show Him what you do with the outpouring of your heart, totally yielded up to a merciful and loving God, totally yielded up to the Lamb of God, Who saved Himself that is He is "gentle and humble in heart".

Did you feed the poor? Did you heal the man by the roadside, bind his wounds, put him on a donkey, and laid him on a bed, did you clothe the naked, did you visit the prisoner?

Forgive me if it seems I'm being harsh with you, but as the Lord lives in me, He doesn't need more fire-breathing zealots, he needs more doulous, he needs more SERVANTS....servanthood...service and love WITHOUT agenda...agape love.

Brother, dear brother, keep the fire stoked, but keep it banked, or you will burn out in a fleshly rage of religious indignation.

I am nothing, heed my words, don't heed them, I have testified to what my heart speaks to you.

Love mercy and walk humbly with God, love charity, love the person in front of you right this second, and you will see Jesus. All the rest is just words.

The Lord loves you and I love you. Both you and Jim and our brother Patrick who I pray for continually. Please forgive me if my words seem harsh and judgemental, I don't mean to be as such.

In Jesus' love

enid, then it isn't, on: 2007/7/13 10:48

you wrote:

Quote:
-----However, Christianity in the west is abysmal, even satanic.

then it isn't, it's "churchianity", it's religiousity, but answer me this:

what do we do, to turn this grievous state of affairs upside down and right side up?

(my tone is gentle, this is not a rebuke, just a question thrown "out there")

what do we do?

Do we continue to do what we do even on this very forum, which sometimes is to go back and forth, fussing over this "ism" and that "ism", this doctrine and that doctrine, "I'm right", "you're wrong"?

is that what we are called to do?

As the Lord is my guide, I believe the mystery and the map lies within the whole of Isaiah 58.

I'm going to go now myself and re-read this precious bit of Scripture.

Praise God for His Word, and may the Lord love you as I love you. Pray God that I forgive those in my life who have wronged and hurt me.

Re: - posted by enid, on: 2007/7/13 10:52

worm,
Good post.

We do get frustrated and exasperated at what is going on in Christendom right now. But what that means is that is time to seek the Lord until He comes and rains righteousness on us.

Ps 119v126, 'It is time for you to act, O Lord, for they have considered your law as void'.

By contrast, 10 verses later it says,

'Rivers of water run down from my eyes, because men do not keep Your law'.

Both different, but both godly reactions to men who disregard God's law.

Thanks.

God bless.

Re: enid, then it isn't - posted by enid, on: 2007/7/13 11:03

worm,

Think we posted about the same time, so I didn't see what you posted, since you posted a little before me.

Yes, it isn't Christianity. Only God Himself can give it a name. Maybe the name is in the book of Revelation in one of the first 3 chapters. Only God knows.

You ask, what do we do?

I believe Isaiah 58 is a good place to start, as you have said.

To keep going on about doctrine, even though it is important, without getting anywhere is futile.

God tells us in Joel 1 to sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly.

Also, Daniel set his face, in Daniel 9, toward the Lord God.

For me that is awesome.

We might fast and pray, but do we set our face toward the Lord, to almost literally see Him?

Thanks for the post, because it shows a genuine concern for God's glory.

God bless.

enid-Isaiah 58, on: 2007/7/13 11:13

just re-read it again.

speechless.

heart brimming.

no more to say, except Lord love you.

Re: I Hate your Feast Days - posted by BrokenOne (), on: 2007/7/13 15:14

Jim,

I read your post and I can relate to the sense of indignation at the lack of the fear and reverence and honor of God in the place that calls itself His house.

I wonder what our corporate services would be like if we really did thisÂ...

Quote:
-----He jealously longs for the undivided affection and love of His people who forsake all that is in the world to follow Him in obedience because they desire to please Him.

It might be something of heaven on earth, don't you think?

Danielle

Danielle, on: 2007/7/13 15:30

do you love me?

Re: With a name like Worm, how could I not? - posted by BrokenOne (), on: 2007/7/13 15:54

Worm,

I love you with the love I have for the brothers and sisters in Christ. Have I posted something to make you think otherwise? If I have, then brother, I am truly sorry.

Danielle

Danielle, on: 2007/7/13 17:04

Quote:
-----Have I posted something to make you think otherwise?

not at all! no no no. I was just referencing the reinstatement of Peter in John, where Jesus asks Peter three times "do you love me?", but in the Greek, Jesus asks do you agape love me? and Peter responds as you, I phileo (brotherly) love you, and the last of the three Jesus asks Peter, do you phileo love me? To which Peter responds affirmatively, but the point I'm trying to make is this: Notice each time, Jesus gave Peter a different command:

Feed my lambs.

Take care of my sheep.

Feed my sheep.

agape? phileo. agape? phileo. phileo? phileo.

Feed my lambs.

Take care of my sheep.

Feed my sheep.

That's the heartbeat of the Ekklesia, the Assembly, right there.

I came out of left field and asked, "do you love me?" and your first reflex was to assume that you said something of offense to me. That's how we've all been conditioned, because young zealots, or old zealots, or legalists, or religionists or our own minds and flesh constantly ram a version of the Lord Yahweh, Jesus, that's angry with us, hates us with fury, for our backslidden lukewarm corruptions, and fornications, and all the stuff that will send us flying into a fiery eternal hell, so much so that when a person asks you, "do you love me", like a knee jerking when a doctor taps it, we immediately assume that we done something WRONG, instead of knowing the Truth, which is God is love.

Oh, don't mistake God is 10 times the gazillionth power many many other Things, all Divine, but simplified Jesus is love, and that is what our assemblies should be.

and that's the problem I have with young zealots on street corners. Would to God they go to the desert, the desolate places with a jug of water and a Bible, lay on their faces, and beg Christ to reveal Himself in all His Glory.

and what form would He take? what would He say?

trip to the desolate places and one will see and hear.

That's all I had to say, dear sister Danielle, agape and shalom.

Re: Danielle - posted by SaintLina (), on: 2007/7/13 21:02

Great article! How gracious our Lord and King has been in not pouring out His wrath on these buildings after all the mocking that they do Sunday after Sunday. Praise God, He hasn't done that yet, for I believe some of His elect are still in there, that need to come out from among them.

Re: - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2007/7/13 21:13

Quote:
-----How gracious our Lord and King has been in not pouring out His wrath on these **buildings** after all the mocking that they do Sunday after Sunday

What does God have against *buildings*? Spurgeon preached in a building; Zac Poonen teaches in a building; Puritans pastored congregations that met in buildings. It's not really about *buildings*, is it? It's about heart conditions. The wrong spirit can meet in a house church or park as easily as in a million dollar, stained-glass cathedral.

Brother Paul

Re: - posted by SaintLina (), on: 2007/7/13 22:16

My dear brother, of course our blessed Lord has no problems with buildings. But I don't think He is pleased with calling a building His church. He did not shed His blessed, precious blood for four walls, but for a spotless bride. So I refuse to call a building the church, for that is not the church. I don't think that is unbiblical? Blessings to you.

Re:, on: 2007/7/14 0:23

Quote:
-----I completely understand the heartcry and the message of what Josef writes, but there's something off about it, and I do not write this in divisiveness, or rancor. let me just excise a few of his quotes, that have a "hate" filled edge to them, rather than a Gospel sweet, "faith...love....and hope" cant to them.

"Hate" filled edge? Are you saying the LORD has a hate filled edge when He says:

*Amo 5:21 I **hate**, I despise your feast days, and I will not smell in your solemn assemblies.*

If you are talking about hating sin and its effects, then Amen! My words have a hate filled edge!

If you're talking about hating hypocrisy, then Amen! My words have a hate filled edge!

If you're talking about hating the practices of greedy dogs, stupid shepherds (as Isaiah said), and covetous pastors, who lord it over the flock of God eager for filthy lucre, then Amen! My words have a hate filled edge!

If you're talking about hating lukewarmness, compromise, and Laodicean Christianity, then Amen! My words must certainly have a hate filled edge!

In fact, the Word of God seems to also have a "hate filled edge" in both the Old and New Testaments:

Psa 5:5 The foolish shall not stand in thy sight: thou hatest all workers of iniquity.

*Psa 45:6-7 Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: the sceptre of thy kingdom is a right sceptre. Thou lovest righteousness, and **hatest wickedness**: therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.*

*Rom 9:13 As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but **Esau have I hated**.*

*Rev 2:6 But this thou hast, that thou **hatest** the deeds of the Nicolaitans, **which I also hate**.*

If this is the kind of "hate" your talking about, the kind of hate that flips over the tables of the money changers, smashes idols, preaches against sin, and crushes the heads of serpents, then Amen! May I never fail to have such a hatred!

However, if you're talking about hating people, you are very terribly mistaken! We are to be lovers of men, and lovers of God! However, may we never be caught loving the feelings of men more than we love the souls of men! The reason I wrote that article over a year ago was to wake certain people up who play the religious game twice on Sundays and then live in willful, continued sin the rest of the week. God loves them people, and I do too, but God hates such deeds and "feast days", and I do too. Amen.

Re: Josef, on: 2007/7/14 1:53

I say this in love, please listen, get a 7 lb bag of ice, get two of them gallon thermo jugs, you can find them in a camping supply store, the kind with straps and you can drink out of, divide the ice between the two jugs, fill them with water, get a cheap tent that has flaps that come down, coz you need the air to be able to blow thru the tent during the day when it gets to be 120 plus degrees in the SoCal High Desert, and pack your Bible.

go to google, go to maps, hit the "get directions" button, punch in riverside then punch in adelanto california, make sure you hit the "hybrid", which is a melding of a map and a satellite photo, when you get that map, punch it closer, you'll be headed north on 15, then you'll turn onto 395 towards Bishop/Adelanto, once you get north of Adelanto, between that town and Shadow Mountain Road, you'll see nothing, just dirt desert roads, the Lord will tell you which one to turn off, drive 3 or 4 miles till you see nothing. If you come upon a wash, that's a dry creekbed, and the banks look even a little steep, don't go thru it, washes are treacherous, trust me I know, turn back around and find another desolate dirt road, there's plenty of them, and never, but never pitch your tent in what seems to be a dry wash, cause they can turn into a

raging torrent when the desert gets it summer rains.....

when you find the spot, pitch the tent, lay your bed roll out, take a drink of water, and stay there for four, five, however many days you need and just pray and fast, and read and be in the Word, I'm being very serious, because dear brother, you are starting to sound like another young zealot street preacher I know, and that isn't good. It's a very slippery slope down to Smock Lane.

I said what I had to say in my initial post to you, and you come back rip roaring defensive, and that is fine my dear brother, but pray God He burns you out in the High Desert should you heed my words. I don't care how many posters come on this forum, and "yes and amen" you, and stroke your ego, I said what I had to say, and that's an end of it, I love you in the Lord....dearly.

...and where is Patrick? Isn't he there with you?

anyway, God bless you and safe travels, trust me in the Lord, a trip to the High Desert alone WILL yield fruit.

ps edit:

Quote:
-----The reason I wrote that article over a year ago was to wake certain people up who play the religious game twice on Sundays and then live in willful, continued sin the rest of the week.

you do what I just told you to do, you won't be playing no games, especially when your water runs out, it'll just be you, the Lord and the desolate place, see what happens.

Re:, on: 2007/7/14 15:02

Thanks for the suggestion, Nie.... I mean worm4Christ. I was hoping my responses would provoke you to give me your name, but I failed because it didn't work. :)

Yes, Patrick and I are both here in Cali. He's doing fine.

May the Lord bless you!

:-) :-)

Re:, on: 2007/7/14 15:40

Quote:

jimdied2sin wrote:

Your analogy sounds good but I will stick with the Apostle Paul...

Sounds good to me.

(Gal 5:13 My friends, you were chosen to be free. So don't use your freedom as an excuse to do anything you want. Use it as an opportunity to serve each other with love.

Gal 5:14 All that the Law says can be summed up in the command to love others as much as you love yourself.

Gal 5:15 But if you keep attacking each other like wild animals, you had better watch out or you will destroy yourselves.

)

Eph 2:6 And hath raised us up TOGETHER, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:

Eph 2:21 In whom all the building fitly framed TOGETHER groweth unto a holy temple in the Lord:
Eph 2:22 In whom ye also are builded TOGETHER for a habitation of God through the Spirit.

Also:

Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,
Gal 5:23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

2Co 5:16 We are careful not to judge people by what they seem to be, though we once judged Christ in that way.

I personally like Jesus:

Mar 12:31 And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

Mat 9:11 Some Pharisees asked Jesus' disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and other sinners?"

Mat 9:12 Jesus heard them and answered, "Healthy people don't need a doctor, but sick people do.

.....

Although the church is not a building.

Most churches offer far more good than harm. But I tell you Jim, I keep looking for grace and love in your writings, it's nowhere to be found.

You used this scripture, but it says

2Co 6:14 Be ye not UNEQUALLY YOKED together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

(Not:

2Co 6:14 Be ye not YOKED AT ALL together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?)

Josef, on: 2007/7/14 16:05

(smile)...you're funny. Tell Patrick to give his address and phone,when he can, I stand ready to support the Ministry of the Word there, where you all are, I been making a few tents. It's about to get hot there soon, so stay hydrated, both physically and spiritually.

In Jesus love.

Re: - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2007/7/14 17:29

Quote:

-----I refuse to call a building the church, for that is not the church.

Amen, brother! Has anyone here said that a concrete "building" is, in itself, the actual assembly of believers? I'm only being a stickler with this because I grow weary of zealous believers (I'm not saying this is you, dear brother) stigmatizing people who fellowship in a building on Sunday mornings as lukewarm or apostate. I humbly propose that there's nothing wrong with buildings, or meeting in buildings, or even having weekly "church" in a building. God doesn't hate church buildings, or those "called out of the world" that choose to gather in church buildings. If a person needs a fixation pertaining to something God "hates" or what should be an object of His wrath, well, why not try pride and haughty looks and the sowing of discord among brethren for starters? You can find these things virtually *everywhere*: on the street corners, in the p

ark, behind the pulpit, in this forum, at house-church gatherings, non-denominational prayer meetings. Such things are about as ubiquitous as germs in the air.

Brother Paul

Re:, on: 2007/7/14 23:00

Quote:

ce4 said:

Most churches offer far more good than harm. But I tell you Jim, I keep looking for grace and love in your writings, it's nowhere to be found.

The majority of "churches" are preaching a false gospel, creating false converts and putting them to sleep so they can get to hell quicker. This is not 'loving their neighbors as themselves'. even if a free Sunday brunch is included in the service.

Funny that you would write such an absurd comment then turn on me with a personal attack based on a couple posts in this thread... may the grace of God and His Holy Spirit lead you in all truth.

Quote:

worm said:

however many days you need and just pray and fast, and read and be in the Word, I'm being very serious, because dear brother, you are starting to sound like another young zealot street preacher I know, and that isn't good. It's a very slippery slope down to Smock Lane.

as you know I have been blessed to labor on the streets of innercity Detroit with brother Josef for over a year. Although he would not want me writing this I tell you plainly that he is the most godly saint I have ever met. He weeps and travails in prayer over the lost, those on the streets and in the babylonian church system while lesser saints enjoy entertainment, leisure and wordly pursuits.

The funny thing about a prophet is that they are hidden in prayer, hearing from God and are only seen by the lukewarm public when they are sent out to rebuke their compromised personal lives and religious systems. (and of course they are rarely received well)

Be very careful not to start undermining Josefs prayer life, love or burden. Just as when you called me a pharisee who sits in a pew (obviously not hearing from the Spirit on that one!) you are making incredible false alligations against brother Josef and you need to repent.

In Christ - Jim

Re:, on: 2007/7/15 0:12

Quote:

-----If a person needs a fixation pertaining to something God "hates" or what should be an object of His wrath, well, why not try pride and haughty looks and the sowing of discord among brethren for starters? You can find these things virtually everywhere: on the street corners, in the park, behind the pulpit, in this forum, at house-church gatherings, non-denominational prayer meetings. Such things are about as ubiquitous as germs in the air.

Brother paul, in all fairness God does specifically and continually throughout scripture call out specifically those who gat

her in what is called his house (though we the brethren are his house). That is all this article reflects, that God hated and hates these types of 'feast days' in particular.

BTW, PM me sometime dear brother. I hope that we may get to meetup at the conference in October?

In Christ - Jim

Re: Jim, on: 2007/7/15 9:26

you wrote:

Quote:
-----you need to repent.

In a second, of course. What I was writing was the words I SAW ON A SCREEN, not the man, that's the bane of this form of intercourse, we are not face to face. and sometimes when I read a sermon, an exhortation, a rebuke to the church, etc, and it doesn't read "right" to me, I must speak, and sometimes words are sweet, sometimes not, either way.

I didn't write that as non-repentant repentance, when I repent, I repent, when I ask "forgive me", it is without equivocation.

I responded so early in the day, just as I begun to my daily course of Scripture reading, because I'm in First Thessalonians, and in chapter 5, verse 11 (a+b) I read this, which I think appropriate:

"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up".....

I said "a+b" because the verse goes on to conclude....."just as in fact you are doing".

If I have failed in this latter respect with both you dear brothers, I repent and ask forgiveness.

Re: - posted by LoveHim, on: 2007/7/15 10:23

dear brothers and sisters,

i guess the reason i would prefer to meet in a home or park or whatever is because of the steep overhead of the church building, mortgage, multiple salaries and vehicle maintenance just to name a few. of course my experience has been in quite a few churches all over the US, but i would not be so arrogant as to say that everyone who meets in a building is wrong. i know of a brother who had a small storefront church in the inner-city and he met there faithfully with the few that came and taught them of Christ. i have no problem with that at all.

i guess the question to me is..

* what is happening when we meet??

* are we truly building each other up??

* is our giving really supporting widows and poor and homeless?? or ourselves??

* is everyone participating in the service so that we can all add something to each other?? or is it dominated by one man (only hearing one part of the body)??

* are we loving each other all throughout the week?? or just giving courtesy small talk when at church and forgetting about one another between sundays??

* are we praying for other believers and going out of our way to serve one another?? or not really caring??

to me, these are the things that i am concerned about. i have been so disappointed by the american "business-style" CE

O ran church that is weak in power and careless in outreach. but does that mean that everyone that meets in a building is like that?? not at all. in fact, until i find a home fellowship that is according to what i see in the word, i will attend a church in a building. i will be hoping and praying that the Lord will bring me together with believers who desire to see Christ preached and proclaimed in the streets and the poor fed at home, all the while, loving and serving one another..

that is my desire, but the Lord will make it a reality..

Re: - posted by heartablaze (), on: 2007/7/15 11:52

Yes, wherever we meet, as the body we should worship in spirit and in truth. Hypocrisy, going through the motions is not pleasing to God in the least. As I have been reading through Jeremiah, this has been apparent: God is after your whole being.

Jer 9:
25Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will punish all them which are circumcised with the uncircumcised;
26Egypt, and Judah, and Edom, and the children of Ammon, and Moab, and all that are in the utmost corners, that dwell in the wilderness: for all these nations are uncircumcised, and all the house of Israel are uncircumcised in the heart.

Giving sacrifices to him and the idols of the pagans around you was not enough in that covenant, and it is the same now. He requires full worship of HIMSELF. Many times in Jeremiah, God gives chances for the people to repent, but they are so caught up in their neighbor's religions and high places that they do not do what he says. They do not listen.

Jer 7:
11Is this house, which is called by my name, become a den of robbers in your eyes? Behold, even I have seen it, saith the LORD.

12But go ye now unto my place which was in Shiloh, where I set my name at the first, and see what I did to it for the wickedness of my people Israel.

13And now, because ye have done all these works, saith the LORD, and I spake unto you, rising up early and speaking, but ye heard not; and I called you, but ye answered not;

14Therefore will I do unto this house, which is called by my name, wherein ye trust, and unto the place which I gave to you and to your fathers, as I have done to Shiloh.

15And I will cast you out of my sight, as I have cast out all your brethren, even the whole seed of Ephraim.

In conclusion, what is more important? The heart, or the deeds? I think they are intertwined, but if the deeds are unreal, then it means nothing. What one does should come out of the heart, for "Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another." 1 John 4:10-11

What we do should be authentic and holy.

Re:, on: 2007/7/15 14:57

Quote:
-----In a second, of course. What I was writing was the words I SAW ON A SCREEN, not the man, that's the bane of this form of intercourse, we are not face to face. and sometimes when I read a sermon, an exhortation, a rebuke to the church, etc, and it doesn't read "right" to me, I must speak, and sometimes words are sweet, sometimes not, either way.

Yeah, we're two peas in a pod bro... I know I come across harsh or misrepresent because of the whole forum dialog. I didn't intend to imply that you're hating Josef... I just wanted to say he is NOTHING like those shock preachers who stand on street corners bringing reproach to Jesus through their hateful tactics.

Jeremiah was a man of tears and a man who publicly brought shocking and sweeping rebukes to the backslidden religious community and leaders. The Lord himself was mistaken to be Jeremiah by some...

In Christ - Jim

Re:, on: 2007/7/15 15:07

Quote:

jjindied2sin wrote:

Funny that you would write such an absurd comment then turn on me with a personal attack based on a couple posts in this thread... .

Are you joking? If you show me where your posts on this thread contain any grace or love rather than the judgment of God and I will really sincerely ask forgiveness on this very thread. It wouldn't hurt me a bit to admit a fault. It doesn't really matter, Say what you say, but you are still like the rest of us who shop at grocery stores, supporting the store which sells alcohol and tobacco and other things that destroy lives. No matter what way you want to try to get around this fact, it's true, and I will continue to ring this out as truth. You don't even know who I am. I am the most least likely to speak a defense for the church. But understand in these times we are living, you gotta face some facts Mr. Jim. There is no more running from sin. There is no more avoiding it. It is everywhere engrained in our very systems of life. It is so rampant it could walk into your very house any time. You place the lamp on its stand so ones can see its light. I know you're smart enough to know not to forsake the assembling of believers. There are many different churches I know, even the first Preslterian Church Of Elvis The Devine. But I know in my heart of hearts, there is a church near you in which you can be a light at. But if you wish to continue to run from a lack of perfection in them, get all your shoes out, because your gonna run the rest of your life. It would be a shame that one soul was not reached by your inability to stretch yourself out in love. And I didn't attack you. My conscience is clean. I simply made a comment considering the post of this thread alone. It to me contained all judgment of God and, no Grace or Love of God. Which is out of our dear lord's character. The lord loves his church Jim, and the church is the gathering of believers, not of course a building. But it was established in the book of acts, and the true apostles were willing to die for it. And never quit on it as such as ones like you.

Re: - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2007/7/15 18:28

Quote:

-----I know I come across harsh or misrepresent because of the whole forum dialog. I didn't intend to imply that you're hating Josef... I just wanted to say he is NOTHING like those shock preachers who stand on street corners bringing reproach to Jesus through their hateful tactics.

If anyone has a tendency to come off wrong in these forums, it is I. Everything I write on here is just so fragile; it's not enough to have the right words and motive...the written tenor has to be seasoned as well. The articles brother Josef writes may appear a bit angry, a bit lacking in grace...though I am sure this brother has a big heart for the Lord and tender compassion for the poor. This is the good witness I receive from this dear brother. The same with brother Jim.

The Lord is in the process of refining all of us, and if anyone needs work, it is I. Because I am such a flawed vessel, I'm learning to not be so quick to judge other brothers' ministries and assume I know their hearts -- because I just might misinterpret them. And I know what that feels like.

Brother Paul

Re: - posted by Isaiah64, on: 2007/7/15 21:29

"Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment."

John 7:24

"Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God."

James 1:19-20

"If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain."

James 1:26

"Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell."

James 3:5-6

It has been strongly suggested numerous times before that we pray before posting. To this I add that perhaps we also do some research to find out a little more about a preacher before we begin to criticize him and his sermon/article.

It might save us time, effort, and wasted words. And it will keep us from sin.

Re:, on: 2007/7/15 22:04

Quote:
-----The lord loves his church Jim, and the church is the gathering of believers, not of course a building. But it was established in the book of acts, and the true apostles were willing to die for it. And never quit on it as such as ones like you.

Brother - again, I am afraid that you don't have a clear idea of what the Church is... I quit on the Babylonian religious system that calls it self 'the church', though it is a harlot imposter. I did not quit on the true Church.

In fact, by publishing articles such as this that are written by godly men, calling people out of unclean alters, I have self evidently not truly given up on those in the system either.

I minister on the streets of Detroit with crack dealers, prostitutes, and others that do not belong to the system and need a shining light along with other brothers and sisters and together we ARE the Church, walking in true unity through His light with the blood of Jesus Christ cleansing us from all sin. I don't want you to think that I forsake gathering together, I just forsake gathering at unclean alters. Jesus and the Apostles do not love the great whore... they despise her, and how much more so when those who are called His children committ adultery with her.

I am not against gathering in a building, I am against the religious system that the GREAT majority of people who gather in buildings are a part of... and so is the God that these people claim to serve as clearly displayed in scripture.

I hope I have cleared up some misunderstanding.

In Christ - Jim

Re:, on: 2007/7/16 1:22

Quote:

I quit on the Babylonian religious system that calls it self 'the church',

Which from your posts I feel includes EVERY Body of believers that meets in a building. As for the religious system, God, I'm with you, we don't need more stale bread anymore.

I just would encourage you to be open in finding a good Spirit Filled church for yourself to worship at and get involved with. You're not a sinner if you don't, but you can miss many ministry opportunities that you may one day regret. There is nothing wrong with a good Holy Word teaching and living church.

Beloved brother Paul, on: 2007/7/16 2:35

Quote:

-----If anyone has a tendency to come off wrong in these forums, it is I.

me too.

But we, you, Jimmy, Josef, are all growing In Christ, and growing in His love, and THAT is to His Glory, and THAT is the heart of Church.

much love to you.

Re:, on: 2007/7/16 16:37

Quote:

-----The Lord is in the process of refining all of us, and if anyone needs work, it is I. Because I am such a flawed vessel, I'm learning to not be so quick to judge other brothers' ministries and assume I know their hearts -- because I just might misinterpret them. And I know what that feels like.

Brother Paul

I know what you're saying, dear brother, same here, same here. How we all need more grace, mercy, love and compassion! May God never cease to refine me and purge out everything that's unlike His matchless Son! I know the day God stops chastening me is the day I become the biggest fool and screw-up that's ever been born among the children of men!