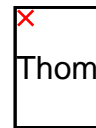


SYNCRETISM

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Published 05/04/2010 - 3:39 p.m. CST

Last September in northern Indiana my wife and I were given an opportunity to share the Truth with a young assistant manager at a restaurant we went to for lunch. The Lord had placed His magnet upon us, and we marveled at how seemingly every server in the place was attending us. Then this young woman introduced herself, whom we'll call Ruth. She asked where we were from and sat down at our booth to fulfill the Lord's Will. She did not know why she was so intrigued by us, but we knew why. She did not know why she began to share her spiritual beliefs, but we knew why. She did not know why she was so emotionally taken by the Truth we spoke to her, but we knew why. She did not know when she awoke that morning that the Lord would open a door for her to begin to know Him, but He did.

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Ever stop and consider how powerful the Truth really is? Does the Truth stop being the Truth, if no one believes in it? If everyone accepts a lie, will that change the Truth, or does the Truth endure?

Almighty God establishes His Truth for all eternity. He did not impart this decision upon man, because if the Truth was left to man's imagination, the word would have long since lost its meaning. Such is the morality of man, and it is the key to understanding why this country is so unrecognizable to those who lived just fifty years ago. We have replaced the Lord's Truth with Syncretism, and we have lost our way.

Syncretism is a fancy term for joining many religious beliefs into one. Most people today would call this Spiritualism. You hear this in the public square when somehow religion comes up in a discussion. Invariably, someone will say, "I'm spiritual, but I'm not religious," or "I believe in a higher power, but I'm just not sure who or what it is," or "I believe that all religions have merit and are seeking the same human morality." This is what Ruth expressed in her beliefs, but what exactly do these things mean? I'll tell you what they do not mean. They do not mean that Christ is the only Way, the only Truth, and the only Life.

John 14:6

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Is it acceptable for you when someone describes his or her faith in a syncretistic manner, thereby excluding the necessity of Christ? If you deem yourself a Christian, do you believe He is necessary for your lost brother or sister's salvation?

Care we not for the lost sheep of our Lord?

John 21:16

Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me?"

He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep."

People so dislike this type of discussion these days, but oh how badly we need it. Just think, if the words of Christ, given in the Holy Bible, are not Truth, then Christ wasn't really the Christ. In fact, if He was little more than a religious philosopher of note, then why do so many people follow him? Do you make a habit of following someone and his teachings who falsely claims to be the Son of God, and the only path to heaven?

If the spoken Truth of Christ is indeed the Truth, then how lost are we as a society, when even Christians do not accept our Lord and Savior for who He is? How much less capable are we to do the work He has commissioned us to do? You see, each and every time you fail to witness for Christ, to do the work of the Father's harvest field, which is to confess the Truth you have embraced, you are, in fact, denying our Lord and Savior.

Last month in Northwestern Ohio, my wife and I were given another opportunity to witness, this time to a man who had a lot of questions. We were at a meeting with Religion at the moment.

who looked a lot like a lost member of ZZ Top. We were at a meet and greet with believers at a restaurant, when this man, whom we'll call Boaz, stepped into the room like a lost sheep. Amidst that long red and gray beard, he had bright blue eyes, wide and bewildered. He did not know why he was convinced that he knew us from somewhere, but we knew. He did not know why he was sharing his pursuit of faith with us, but we knew. He did not know why he wanted to believe us when we told him Christ was the only Way, but God knew.

Today, my wife and I don't know where Ruth and Boaz are in their path to Christ. We only know that we did our part to help them along the way. But what if we had said, "So long as you're a good person, you're okay with God," or "Don't worry about accepting Christ, He's not really necessary"? Do you suppose, by withholding the Truth, we would have helped these individuals move even one pace closer to heaven? Should we not care that they draw nearer unto our Father in heaven?

Truth in the mouth of a person who chooses to be mute is like water in a hidden well. People are dying of thirst, when salvation is just beyond their sight. Living the example of Christ is good, but it's not enough. People must understand that you are living that life because of your Belief in Christ. Otherwise, they might fall prey to the syncretic lie put forth by the enemy, and believe that Christ is not *the* only Way the Truth and the Life, but just another route among many which one may choose to God.

How disappointed they will one day be that they did not embrace the Truth. How much greater the disappointment of our Lord in us, that we did not share the Truth with these lost sheep, who never found their way into His pen.

We have much for which we need to repent, and praise be to God for His grace and forgiveness.

For a complete schedule of the May 6, 2010 **Ohio Road To Repentance** go to www.pearlgate.org or call 877-732-7521.

Until we unite on May 6, 2010 in sackcloth and ashes, God Bless and Live The Answer!