

John 17:11
March 10, 1991
ROME GEORGIA
April 10, 2016

Some Progressive churches stray from the truth. *Cal Thomas March 7th 1991.*

25 years ago, Three incidents demonstrated the growing **irrelevance** of some modern Christian churches that presume to Bear the name of their founder.

1. A special Committee of the **Presbyterian** Church USA proposed that **practicing homosexuals be ordained as ministers and that the seventh commandment proscribing adultery be disavowed**, along with all other prohibitions against sex outside of marriage. It took the committee four years to concoct something it calls a "Justice- love," test to supplant the doctrine it once espoused.
2. A committee within the **Episcopal** Church recommended that Bishops be allowed to **ordain homosexuals** seminarians to the priesthood.

"I think the church is ready to take a little more Progressive stance, said Bishop George Hunt of Providence Rhode Island who headed the committee.

3. A new book by the gadfly **Episcopal Bishop** John Spong claims the Apostle Paul, who condemned homosexual practice, was himself a **repressed homosexual**.

Pope to church: Be more accepting of divorced Catholics, gays and lesbians *Friday, April 8, 2016*

CNN) Pope Francis put his shoulder to the doors of the Catholic Church and shoved them open a little wider Friday, **calling for the church to be more tolerant** in practice while not changing any official doctrines.

He urged priests around the world to be **more accepting of gays and lesbians, divorced Catholics and other people living in what the church considers "irregular" situations.**

"A pastor cannot feel that it is enough simply to apply moral laws ... as if they were stones to throw at people's lives," Francis writes in a sweeping paper outlining his stance on family matters.

He urges more common sense and less unthinking following of rules.

"By thinking that everything is black and white, we sometimes close off the way of grace and growth," he writes.

He emphasizes that "**unjust discrimination" against gays and lesbians is unacceptable,** (*he*) **downplays the idea of "living in sin"** and suggests that priests should use their own discretion on whether divorced Catholics in new marriages can take Communion.

...

This is, after all, the Pope who said, "Who am I to judge?" when asked about homosexuality.

The Pope said what?!?

But Friday's paper is not simply a remark made in an interview.

It's what's called an "apostolic exhortation."

....

The Pope tells priests that they should make decisions appropriate to their local conditions. "Each country or region ... can seek solutions better suited to its culture and sensitive to its traditions and local needs," he writes in a possible effort to satisfy both liberals and conservatives by decentralizing authority.

It used to be said of the **PIOUS** that they are **so Heavenly minded that they are of no earthly good.**

Surely it must be now set of these **PROGRESSIVES**, (*who are nothing more than Heretics and apostates in clerical Garb*), **that they are so earthly minded that they are of no use to heaven or to anyone on Earth**. . . .

John 17:11. And now I am **no more in the world**, but **these are in the world**, and I come to thee. Holy Father, **keep** through thine own name **those whom thou hast given me**, that they may be one, as we **are**.

John 17:15. I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil.

There is no problem with **being in the world**. We are expected to be **in the world**. God placed man in the world to enjoy it and to subdue it.

1 Corinthians 10:26. **For the earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof.**

We can and should enjoy the beauty and complexity of creation.

John 17:12. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled.

I read about a man who had been stranded on a **deserted island** for quite some time. He was overjoyed when he watched a boat being lowered into the water from a passing ship. The chief steward came ashore and presented the man with a stack of newspapers, and a **suggestion from the captain of the ship**.

"The captain's suggest that you read what is going on in the world and then let us know if you want to be rescued!" Daily Bread December 27, 1970.

Unfortunately, we do not have a choice such as this to make in regards to our presence in the world.

But though we are **in the world**, even as Jesus was, we are **not to be of the world**.

We know where we are, but we often forget Whose We Are.

Jn. 17:14. I have given them thy word; and the **world hath hated them**, because they are **not of the world**, even as I am not of the world.

Jn. 17:16. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

"OF" - *ek* - "A primary preposition denoting *Origin* (the point whence motion or action proceeds), *from, out* (of place, time or cause; literally or figuratively", = a genitive of possession.

Negated by NOT.

We are not possessed, dominated, or controlled, by the world.

Records and movies play up the '**man of the world**' Image as being a desirable and flattering fleshly title.

But God never intended for us to be “men of the world.”

Adam was created to **rule** over all the Earth. But because of sin Adam lost his authority and ever since there has been an **unrelenting struggle between the world and men to see who will rule over whom.**

If a man is controlled by the world he is said to be "**of the world**" and if **of it** then he is its **possession** and if **he is possessed with the world** then he will **perish with the world**, that is the ultimate separation from God. For the earth and the fullness thereof is set on a course of Destruction!

1 John 2:15. Love not the world, neither the things *that are* in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

How much better it is to be a **man of God** rather than a **man of the world** for our God is eternal in the heavens, wrapped in glory that belongs to each one who names His Name as their own. **Being a man of God means that you are no longer a man of the world.** They are mutually exclusive arenas.

ARTICLE TODAY – April 7, 2016 ON DANGEROUS PRAYER –

Megachurch Pastor Preaches About Christians Making the 'Dangerous Prayer'

Christians must push themselves to pray the "dangerous prayer" of availability, **Pastor James Brown of Crossroads Church** said in a recent sermon, telling his congregation that **when "God calls you, he equips you."** Brown, who serves as the executive pastor of discipleship at the Minnesota-based evangelical church, said in a March sermon that Christians need to be more like children in their service to God, pushing themselves to **"fearlessly" invite God's presence into their lives.** While Christians may come up with several excuses as to why they should not allow themselves to be available to God, they must remember that when "God calls you, he also equips you."

"God is less concerned with your ability than he is with your availability . . . (see last page this document for article)

Jesus was committed to the course that His father had for Him to follow!

He desires that His disciples likewise follow His example.

1 Corinthians 6:19. What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the **Holy Ghost** *which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?*

1 Corinthians 7:23. **Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men.**

We were a gift from God the Father to God the Son. God sent his Son into the world to become the sacrifice for the Sins of the world – now the Son is about to depart from the world – and he lives us here in the world – but does not us to think for a moment that we are of the world.

To be a man of God is to have as your possession the universe rather than the possession of this ball of mud. (some stars are 750 million times larger than the Earth.)

God takes care of his possessions! Not like us. Just look at how we treat this planet that we are dependent upon for our survival.

God keeps the Earth in its orbit ,he sustained All by the power of his arm.

Colossians 1:16. For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

He sustains the universe!

Yet.

Matthew 10:29. Are not **two sparrows** sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father

Matthew 10:28. And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather **fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.**

Matthew 10:30. But the **very hairs of your head are all numbered.**

(Mike Males observation at Tangs regarding my bald spot last week.)

But do you know the most precious thing in the universe?
Why, it is the gift that God chose to give the Son!

This gift is now in the world. But it's also in God's name.

John 17:11. And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are.

In the world? Yes. But kept in the power of his mighty name!

An envelope of protection!

2nd Kings 6:17 - And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain *was* full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.

God cares for his own!

John 10:28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

3 times in **John 17:11-12** we are told that we are kept by God.

One time in verse 11 -- “TAROEW” τηρέω . To keep

Another Time in v. **12** – another term also used 1 time in verse 12 PHULASSO” - TO GUARD – φυλάσσω –phulassō

foo-las'-so

those given to God, he guards!

How?

THY Word **14**.

John 17:14 I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

Elijah opened his servants eyes to see the guard that he had! Have you ever desired to see your guard?

Hudson Taylor - story of the time he was on some steps, it was late, dark, a robber who wished to Rob him saw an angel protecting him!

Let me show you that which guards you this morning, that which the Gates of Hell cannot Prevail against!

Hold up the Bible.

The enemy is camped around about us. When you need to see and feel God's protection pray that your spiritual eyes may be opened and look into the Word of God. And inquire diligently, study it, love it, revel in its strength. The enemy is camped around about us. When you need to see and feel God's protection pray that your spiritual eyes may be opened and look into the Word of God. For in it is peace and joy.

There is no joy and fellowship with the world.

Verse **14** says the world hates us. Because we are no more of the world than Christ was or is. **I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.**

We are left in the world, yet Christ praise that would be kept from the evil one.

Matthew 6:12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

Mat 6:13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

And indeed we shall be kept from the evil one, or we are guarded by the word of God. And it is from this source that we derive our joy!

James 1:27 Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, *and* to keep himself unspotted from the world.

I only got this far on April 10 – open on 4/17 with overview of this message, work into 17:20 passage.

John 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

John 17:13 And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves.

True joy in this life comes from a recognition of our relationship to the world.

“My Joy” in 17:13 = the **inimitable Joy of Christ** -- His possession of **infinite joy** shared with me!

FULFILLED, means, **to bring something to completion, to finish something which is already begun!!**

The word of God is given us **to guard us and to bring joy!**

John 17:13 is The last mention of joy in the Book of John.

Previously

Joy through obedience

John 15:11 - These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.

Joy through sorrow

John 16:20 – 21 - Verily, verily, I say unto you, That ye shall weep and lament, but the world shall rejoice: and ye shall be sorrowful, but your sorrow shall be turned into joy.

Joh 16:21 A woman when she is in travail hath sorrow, because her hour is come: but as soon as she is delivered of the child, she remembereth no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into the world.

Resulting in joy perpetual

John 16:22 - And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and **your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you.**

Joy through answered prayer

John 16:24 Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.

John the Baptist had his Joy fulfilled in John 3 :29 when he heard the voice of the Lord!!

John 3:29 He that hath the bride is the bridegroom: but the friend of the bridegroom, which standeth and heareth him, rejoiceth greatly **because of the bridegroom's voice: this my joy therefore is fulfilled.**

why?

John 3:30 He must increase, but I *must* decrease.

John the Baptist - “ Fulfilled” “PLAYREOW” - To bring something to completion, finish something which is already begun.
This is John's representation of joy throughout his gospel. It is passive joy and every case. Ergo, Joy is something that will be done to us, we don't cause it, we just receive it.

John the Baptist's Joy was complete just to hear the voice of Jesus.

Does the voice of JESUS bring joy in your life?

Megachurch Pastor Preaches About Christians Making the 'Dangerous Prayer'

By [Katherine Weber](#) Christian Post Reporter
April 2, 2016 10:59 am

A gathering of evangelical Christians in Washington is shown in this undated file photo.

Christians must push themselves to pray the "dangerous prayer" of availability, Pastor James Brown of Crossroads Church said in a recent sermon, telling his congregation that when "God calls you, he equips you."

Brown, who serves as the executive pastor of discipleship at the Minnesota-based evangelical church, said in a March sermon that Christians need to be more like children in their service to God, pushing themselves to "fearlessly" invite God's presence into their lives.

While Christians may come up with several excuses as to why they should not allow themselves to be available to God, they must remember that when "God calls you, he also equips you."

"God is less concerned with your ability than he is with your availability," the pastor says.

The pastor calls on members of Crossroads Church to have a "childlike faith in action" by having excitement, fearlessness and courage about their faith.

Fearlessly following God's plan allows Him to use you as an instrument for His will, Brown explains, saying that all Christians, especially those who are feeling "bored" in their faith, need to embrace the "bold, courageous [and] fearless [...] prayer of availability."

This prayer is a "powerfully dangerous" prayer of adventure, the evangelical pastor continues, because it may result in God calling you to do different things, like move to a different state, break up with a significant other, or allow another big change in your life so His plan for you may better be achieved.

"God may call you to do something that you never imagined that you would do," Brown tells the audience.

The pastor adds that Christians will frequently have three typical responses when God calls them to change direction in their life, with two of them being negative and one being positive.

The first response is a flat out "no" to God's call, as seen in the Book of Jonah, when Jonah refused to partake in God's plan.

Brown says that every time we acknowledge God's plan for us and refuse to do it, we "miss out on an opportunity of a lifetime."

"Every time that God speaks to you [...] and you opt out of it, you are saying to God 'I am Jonah,'" the pastor says.

There's **another common response** to God's assignment noted in the Scripture that is equally as negative as the first, Brown explains, pointing to Exodus 3:10, in which God sends Moses to Pharaoh to lead His people out of Egypt.

In response, Moses tried to remove himself from the assignment, asking God "who am I?" to take on this mission.

The **last response** Christians often give to God's call is positive, as found in Isaiah 6:8, when Isaiah tells God "here I am [...] send me."

Brown says that while he finds this to be an uncommon response, it is the best. Isaiah wasn't concerned with the details of God's plan, but rather he fully gave himself to God without reservation.

The evangelical pastor warns that if Christians pray the prayer of availability, God could call them somewhere extreme, but it could also call them to simply spread the Good News in their local community.

You don't know the plans God has for you until you pray the prayer of availability, Brown concludes, saying that once you do pray this prayer, you are inviting "the adventure to begin."