

The *NOT SO* Familiar Teachings of Jesus Christ

Ask the average person today what they know about the teachings of Jesus Christ and you will most likely hear: "He taught to love your enemies, to forgive and turn the other cheek, and of course, the golden rule: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." There are other teachings, however, that don't tend to be as familiar.

Some of them may surprise you...

JESUS TAUGHT that few people will make it into heaven.

"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 there at: 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

One reason is because most don't see themselves as that bad a person. But...

JESUS TAUGHT that we are all sinners.

"For **FROM WITHIN, OUT OF THE HEART OF MEN, PROCEED EVIL THOUGHTS**, adulteries, fornications, murders, Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: **ALL THESE EVIL THINGS COME FROM WITHIN**, and defile the man." Mark 7:21-23

"... for I am not come to call the righteous, but **SINNERS TO REPENTANCE**." Mat 9:13

And since unrepentant sinners are not allowed in heaven...

JESUS TAUGHT that hell is the place where they are sent.

"The Son of man (Jesus Christ) shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; And shall **CAST THEM INTO A FURNACE OF FIRE**: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth." Mat 13:41-42

"And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy **WHOLE BODY SHOULD BE CAST INTO HELL**." Mat 5:30

"But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power **TO CAST INTO HELL**; yea, I say unto you, Fear him." Luke 12:5

In hell a person does not simply cease to exist, because...

JESUS TAUGHT that hell is a place of eternal torment.

"And IN HELL HE LIFT UP HIS EYES, BEING IN TORMENTS, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom."
Luke 11:23

... due to the fire...

"But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, SHALL BE IN DANGER OF HELL FIRE." Mat 5:22

"Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and CAST INTO THE FIRE." Mat 7:19

"And shall CAST THEM INTO THE FURNACE OF FIRE: there shall be WAILING AND GNASHING OF TEETH." Mat 13:50

"If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and CAST THEM INTO THE FIRE, AND THEY ARE BURNED." John 15:6

... that burns forever...

"Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into EVERLASTING FIRE, prepared for the devil and his angels." Mat 25:41

"Wherefore if thy hand or thy foot offend thee, cut them off, and cast them from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life halt or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet to be CAST INTO EVERLASTING FIRE." Mat 18:8

"And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into HELL, INTO THE FIRE THAT NEVER SHALL BE QUENCHED:" Mark 9:43

JESUS TAUGHT a person must repent in order to avoid hell.

The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: REPENT YE, AND BELIEVE THE GOSPEL" Mark 1:15

"I came not to call the righteous, but SINNERS TO REPENTANCE." Luke 5:32

"I came not to call the righteous, but SINNERS TO REPENTANCE." Mark 2:17

"Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over ONE SINNER THAT REPENTETH."
Luke 15:10

To repent, means to change your mind: forsake sin and anything you may be trusting in to get you to heaven (such as baptism, good deeds, church membership, self-righteousness ...and place all your trust on Jesus' payment for your sins, making him the Lord and Saviour of your life.

This is necessary because...

JESUS TAUGHT that without repentance there's no salvation.

"I said therefore unto you, that YE SHALL DIE IN YOUR SINS: for IF YE BELIEVE NOT that I am he, YE SHALL DIE IN YOUR SINS." John 8:24

"I tell you, Nay: but, EXCEPT YE REPENT, YE SHALL ALL LIKEWISE PERISH." Luke 13:5

"Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: REPENT YE, AND BELIEVE THE GOSPEL." Mark 1:14-15

Repentance toward God and faith in Jesus Christ results in being born again. And...

JESUS TAUGHT that you must be born again.

"Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, EXCEPT A MAN BE BORN AGAIN, HE CANNOT SEE THE KINGDOM OF GOD." John 3:3

"Marvel not that I said unto thee, YE MUST BE BORN AGAIN." John 3:7

Have you been born again? Jesus taught you must. What are you waiting for?

If you died today, are you 100% sure you would go to heaven?

The Bible says you can be sure!

"These things have I written...that ye may KNOW that ye have eternal life." I John 5:13

A. You must realize where you stand with God.

- Your sins separate you from God. "Your iniquities have separated between you and your God." Isaiah 59:2
- That includes everyone. "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." Rom 3:23

B. You must realize that heaven can't be earned.

- Not by doing enough good things. "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, But according to his mercy He saved us..." Titus 3:5
- Not by being baptized, joining a church, or obeying the Ten Commandments. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works lest any man should boast." Ephesians 2:8-9

C. You must be willing to change your direction. "The wages of sin is death." Romans 6:23

- Self-righteousness will cause you to miss heaven. Rom. 10:2-3, Luke 13:2, Matt 5:20, Rom 3:28
- Faith in yourself, your baptism, your church will cause you to miss heaven. John 1:12, John 3:3
- You must repent.

"Repent ye therefore and he converted." Acts 3:19

"The Lord is.... not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." II Pet. 3:9 *Repentance means to change your mind about sin.

D. You must receive Jesus Christ by faith as your personal Saviour. "Being justified by faith." Romans 5:1

Eternal life was paid for with the shed blood of Christ.

Accept it as a free gift. "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." Romans 10:13



Did Jesus Found the Church? If So, When?

Roy Mason, Th.D.

From the book, *The Church That Jesus Built* (Chapter 2)

"Protestantism has a confused idea of the origin of the church. Some say that it began with Abraham, and others tell us that it began on the first Pentecost after the resurrection of our Lord. There is absolutely not one scintilla of evidence in the Bible or out of it that the church was founded or began on Pentecost. If those who claim Pentecost as the birthday of the church will search the records they will find that any church born on that day or afterwards is too late to receive any commission from our Lord . . . It follows, scripturally and logically, that any church born on Pentecost or any day thereafter has no commission from our Lord to do anything and must be a human institution and not a divine one." —J. T. Moore, in *Why I Am A Baptist*.

The Baptist belief in the perpetuity of their churches involves several questions. The correct answer to these questions will go far toward paving the way for a proper examination of their claims. Among the more important of these questions are the following:

Did Jesus found the church?

If so, when?

What kind of a church was it?

Did He promise its perpetuity?

So well established is the fact that Jesus founded the church that it seems almost superfluous for us to spend time considering the first question propounded above. However, it will perhaps not be amiss for us to spend a few moments on this question, as there are to be found here and there those who either openly or by implication deny that Jesus founded a church. It is a common thing for destructive critics of our day to try to array Jesus and Paul against each other, and to try to show that Jesus never had in mind the founding of a church at all. Such critics would have us believe that the disciples, and particularly Paul, foisted the church upon the world without divine warrant. In substance it is the claim that they substituted a church of their own devising for the Kingdom of Jesus' thinking and purpose.

There are some denominations that embrace a theory that practically denies to Jesus the founding of a church. They advance the claim that the church existed back in Old Testament times, and that the church of the New Testament times and of the present is merely a continuation of the church that has existed all the way from the days of Israel's beginning.

Those who hold such a theory do not see any essential difference between the economy of the Old Testament and the New, but hold that baptism is meant to occupy the same place in the church of the present that circumcision

held in the "church" of Israel. This theory plainly denies by implication that Jesus founded a church. For it is evident that He could not have founded the church if it already existed at the time of His coming.

For the one who believes the New Testament to be the inspired Word of God, the question, "Did Jesus found a church?" is once for all answered in the affirmative by Matthew 16:18, in which Jesus Himself makes the statement, "I will build my church." That the gospels record Him as mentioning the church but twice, is a matter of no moment in view of the fact that after His ascension and glorification, as recorded in the Revelation, we find Him speaking of the church a number of times.

And indeed, if the Lord had only mentioned the church one time, that ought to be enough so far as the validity of His promise is concerned. A statement made only once may be just as true as one reiterated a thousand times. The point is, Jesus said He would build His church. A little later He tells the disciples of a matter that should be taken before the church for its discipline. In His words He clearly indicates that the church is then already in existence. So we have His promise of the church; the clear implication in His own words of the fulfillment of that promise; the New Testament account of the church from its beginning on for many years, and the testimony of history to the effect that the church of Christ is an institution that has existed only from the time of Christ.

If Christ's words in Matthew 16:18 mean anything at all, they must mean that the institution which He promised was one separate and distinct from any institution that had previously existed in the world, or existed at that time. It will presently be shown that the disciples were already thoroughly familiar with the word "ecclesia" or "church," and its meaning. But Jesus indicated very clearly that the institution which He proposed would be a new one, distinct and to be distinguished from all other "ecclesias" by the fact that it was to be HIS church, built upon an entirely different foundation than any ecclesia in existence at that time.

Having determined from the New Testament that Jesus began a church, let us now turn to a brief consideration of the further question,

WHEN DID JESUS BEGIN HIS CHURCH?

This becomes an important question in view of the heretical teachings so widespread in our day. Several very dangerous heresies spring out of the theory that the church began on the day of Pentecost. One of these is the "Invisible Church theory," which leans very heavily upon the Pentecostal assumption. Then there is the theory so widely promulgated by Dr. C. I. Scofield, Dr. James M. Gray of the Moody Bible Institute, and others, that the church was formed on the day of Pentecost by the baptism of the Holy Spirit, and that every believer becomes a member of the universal Church similarly, by being baptized into it by the Holy Spirit.

This is really a most absurd theory. It rests principally upon a perversion of I Cor. 12:13, and an examination of the context of this Scripture is fatal to the theory. Dr. Scofield (*Synthesis of Bible Truth*, p. 42) plainly says of the church, "This body could not begin to exist before the exaltation of Christ and the descent of the Holy Spirit." He also goes so far as to say that a church before the death of Christ would have been an unredeemed church. This is as much as to say that none of the disciples were saved previous to Pentecost!

Those who are unwilling to admit Baptist perpetuity struggle desperately to show that the church was not in existence before Pentecost. Nothing else fits their theory of an "invisible" Church.

What, then, are the facts? When was the church begun? I shall not take the space to go into details, but will put the answer in one sentence: Out of material prepared by John the Baptist, Jesus organized and founded His church during the days of His personal ministry here on the earth.

In this belief I am not alone. Dr. L. R. Scarborough, president of one of the largest theological seminaries in the world, in a recent article in the Baptist Standard is quoted as saying: "It is certainly true that Christ in His own personal ministry established His church."

A lengthy chapter could be written to prove my statement, but I must confine myself to a few reasons. First, let me ask, did not they have all of the essential things that go to make up a church before Pentecost? Let us see:

- † They had the Gospel (Mark 1:1).
- † They were baptized believers. The apostles had been disciples of John, having been baptized by him (Acts 1:22). Of John's baptism, we are told that it was from heaven (John 1:33).
- † They had an organization. They had a treasurer, though he turned out to be a dishonest one.
- † They had the same Head that the church of today has, Christ.
- † They had the ordinance of baptism.
- † They had the ordinance of the Lord's Supper.
- † They had the Great Commission.
- † They met together as a church for prayer preceding Pentecost.
- † Moreover, they even had a business meeting and selected one to take Judas' place.

In an attempt to discredit this action of the church, Dr. Scofield (Scofield Bible notes) makes the claim that the disciples erred in doing this. He claims that God ignored their choice by later calling Paul for this place, and affirms that we find no further mention of Matthias in the New Testament. In this he casts an unwarranted aspersion upon that New Testament church. Moreover, his statement about Matthias is not true to the Scriptures, for in a later chapter (Acts 6:2-6) the Holy Spirit recognizes Matthias as an apostle by mentioning him as one of the twelve. Dr. Scofield seeks to fit the incident of Matthias' selection with his theory that the church began on the (lay of Pentecost, and his effort merely betrays how far men will go in order to seek to sustain a theory.

Again, that the church existed before Pentecost is shown in that we are distinctly told that Christ sang praises in the midst of the church. Heb. 2:12 says, "I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church I will sing praises unto thee." This passage is quoted by the inspired writer of Hebrews from the twenty-second Psalm. To what incident in the life of Christ does it refer? Upon what occasion did He sing praises in the midst of the church? Turn to Mark 14:26, and you will find the occasion mentioned. It was following the institution of the ordinance of the Lord's Supper that Jesus in the midst of His little church joined with them in singing a hymn. That Christ sang praises in the midst of the church before Pentecost carries without saying that the church existed before that time.

Exegetical and eisegetical ingenuity has been exerted to give the passage just quoted some other meaning, but the fact remains that the interpretation that I have indicated is the simplest and most natural one.

In the third place, that the church existed before Pentecost is clearly shown by Acts 2:41, where we read that on the day of Pentecost ". . . There were added unto them about three thousand souls." Since they were believers added by baptism, it is very evident that what they were added to was the church. If I should tell a friend that I had recently added a hundred dollars to my account, he would understand me to imply that I had in existence a bank account previous to the time of my depositing the hundred dollars.

A church was necessarily already in existence on the day of Pentecost, else it could not have been "added to." It is unless to argue that the three thousand were merely added to the ranks of believers and not to the church, for the same language is used in the 47th verse, where we are told that the "Lord added to them day by day those that were saved." (American Revision) None will deny that "them" in the 47th verse refers to the church. Indeed, the Authorized Version translates "church" instead of "them." Does the 47th verse indicate the existence of a church any more strongly than the 41st? Indeed it does not. Only those in desperate straits to maintain a theory would deny that the three thousand baptized on Pentecost were added to a church that already existed, for that is what the language irresistibly leads one to conclude.

Again, let us read the Master's words as recorded in Matthew 18:17, 'If he shall neglect to hear them, tell it to the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as a heathen man and publican.'" The context shows that these words were addressed to His disciples. His words would lead one to believe that they constituted His church in its incipient stage. Indeed, the belief that the apostles themselves were the first members of the

church is in exact accord with I Cor. 12:28, where we read, "And God hath set some in the church, FIRST apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers," etc.

One may speculate and theorize upon Matthew 18:17 all they please, but still it remains unreasonable to believe that Jesus referred to something that the disciples did not understand, or that He indicated a rule of discipline relating to a church that did not exist. To the one that accepts this passage at its face value it appears conclusive that the church was in existence at the time that Jesus spoke these words.

In the fifth place, let us note that if the church did not exist before Pentecost, then the Great Commission was given only to the disciples as individuals, consequently is not binding upon the church. Unwilling to concede a church before Pentecost, Dr. C. I. Scofield takes this very position. In his *Synthesis of Bible Truth* (p. 431), he says: "The visible church as such is charged with no mission . . . The commission to evangelize the world is personal and not corporate." If this theory be true, than the Great Commission was binding only upon the apostles, and when they died the obligation no longer rested upon anyone. This view is as absurd as it is unscriptural.

No, Jesus gave the Commission to His disciples in corporate capacity. He delivered it to them as a church. His church He charged with the task of evangelization. His church He charged with the duty of baptizing and teaching. And knowing all things, He knew that His church would have that continuity essential for the carrying out of His orders.

Similarly, let us note that, unless the church existed previous to Pentecost, the Lord's Supper is not a church ordinance. If He gave it only to individuals as such, when they died the ordinance died with them. We cannot believe this in the light of Paul's account of the institution of the Supper as given in I Cor. 11. Here, according to the account given, Jesus clearly implied that this memorial ordinance will be observed "till He come again." The individuals who were present at the Supper have been dead for centuries, and still He has not come. Evidently it was not to individuals as such that He gave the ordinance, but to individuals as constituting the church. Only this church, the church to which continuous existence has been promised, could observe the Memorial Meal continuously from the time of its institution until He comes again.

And obviously, if Jesus gave the Memorial Supper to His church that church must have been in existence at the time He gave it. That time preceded Pentecost!

I close the chapter by quoting Dr. Scarborough from the article before mentioned. He admirably sums up the facts concerning Christ's founding of the church in these words:

"When He ascended He left the church some of its officers, the apostles, not to be permanent, to be sure; its foundation of faith; its laws of life; its ordinances; its commission; its great world task; the terms and conditions of admittance; the new birth based on repentance and faith in Christ; He left it its great central dynamic theme and power—Jesus crucified, buried, risen, coming again—; He gave it the promise of the Holy Spirit.

"After He ascended, this unit and growing corporate organization called out and appointed officers to take Judas' place—Acts 1:15-26. This was the act of the church. Then in the first chapter of Acts we find this church well organized, already established under the personal ministry of Christ and by Him set to the task of evangelism; and through the Holy Spirit it held its first great meeting.

"Then in Acts the sixth chapter we find the organization completed by the addition of deacons; and so it had two sets of officers—pastors and deacons; two ordinances—baptism and the Supper; a democratic form of organization, as was shown in the election of Matthias to take Judas' place and the election of the deacons. The church itself was the authority in these appointments. Thus we can see that through the process of years Jesus Himself organized His church and under the direction of the Divine Spirit deacons were added to the organization after Pentecost. It can in all the highest senses claim Christ as its organizer and central authority and power."



Mind Pollution

Compiled by Pastor John Reaves, Sr.

THE SECRET WEAPON

The greatest threat to the existence of our society today is not air pollution, or water pollution, but MIND POLLUTION. For the first time in history, man has an instrument through which the masses can be taught and controlled effectively, immediately, and effortlessly. That instrument is TELEVISION, the most devastating brainwashing device ever unleashed upon humanity. To deny that television is a brainwashing tool, teaching and motivating people on a daily basis is to deny reality. In the hands of militant sodomites who have effectively infiltrated all major media, television has proved to be the "secret weapon" in their blatant attempts to capture the youth of the world.

BLUE NEWS FOR YOU

The television is the devil's instrument and is used for the destruction of the soul, for the erosion of morality and the degradation of nations. Television is bringing the world into bondage. No longer are people energetic and ambitious, but for the most part, they are dupes, robots and zombies, surrendered to the commands of the one-eyed devil. The advent of pornography and rock videos on TV has served to erode the moral fiber of youth even farther.

We now have entire generations who have grown up under the commands of the beast -without any real character or moral fiber of their own. These media robots are at all times ready to receive the filth and vileness which is spewed out incessantly through the "family entertainment" of the television set. Many are literally addicted to television and are actually unable to cope without at least one running in the background. Television controls 90% of the average person's thinking and acting, as well as their consuming and spending habits.

The devil himself knows what an important tool the TV is, for through it he can control and mastermind the deceit of hundreds of thousands of people simultaneously. He is no one's fool when it comes to ensnaring souls, and through cunning craftiness, he brings many into captivity to sin using the innocent guise of entertainment. Countless hours are spent by the average viewer in front of the mesmerizing conglomeration of garbage, and for what? To prove that without direction, people can be taken over, controlled and manipulated easily, and they have! Multitudes have lost their integrity; they have lost their honesty, purity and their willingness to work, all in the name of "entertainment". Millions have become media magnets, stuck to anything the television tells them, and ready to believe all of the "nosy news" reports, the scores of "experts" who appear on the screen, and the plastic politicians who always assure everyone that things are under control.

And of course the Christians have been snared with the rest. Through the spread of "Christian" television networks the enemy has eroded the backbone of the Christian community and has convinced "viewers" that Christianity is just one big party of talk shows, big money, beautiful clothes, singing and swaying girls, rock and roll music, and of course soap opera love affairs. It is one filthy, swirling mess, bringing corrupted values into the body of Christ, creating a fairy-tale fantasy of foolishness whereby the unsuspecting are duped out of their money whilst they are given a fool's gold imitation of Christianity. Persecution, sacrifice, and carrying our cross are never mentioned. And because the palate of the average TV Christian is so dull, they do not realize they are being fed poison, instead they think it's a treat, and they grab it up, convincing themselves how good it is to feed off of lust, greed, covetousness, and gossip... all in the name of the gospel.

ELECTRIFIED EVIL!

Needless to say, the devil has moved in through the rock music scene on TV and now, millions are addicted to the filthy videos and live concerts that run 24 hours a day via the idiot box. These videos and concerts are nothing more than images of violence, pornography, perversion, drug abuse, and loud noise, all forms of demonic exposition. As torrents of perverted sexual demons flow from the TV screen, millions of once intelligent, ambitions

youth have become addicted and mindless fools, falling down before the control box daily, receiving their commands and demands, and then living them out. How Satan must delight to see the violence, filth and wickedness being manifested through people who once were strong and alert and carried a high moral standard. TV slaves are innumerable, caught in a hopeless bondage, and if ever a rare individual refuses the television, they are branded as "fanatic" or "foolish" -how could anyone not own a television and not be its absolute slave?

YOU'RE PLUGGED IN!

Television light is purposeful and directed rather than ambient. It is projected into our eyes from behind the screen by cathode-ray guns which are literally aimed at us. These guns are powered by 25,000 volts. The guns shoot electron streams at phosphors on the screen. This makes the phosphors glow, and their light projects from the screen into our eyes. When you watch TV you are not just looking at light; it is more accurate to say that light is projected into you. You are receiving light through your eyes into your body, far enough in to affect your endocrine system. When you are watching TV, you are experiencing something like lines of energy passing from cathode gun to phosphor through your eyes into your body. You are as connected to the television set as your arm would be to the electrical current in the wall if you had stuck a knife in the socket. This is not conducive to your spiritual health!

ARE YOU BEING BRAINWASHED?

Brainwashing techniques make use of artificial environments which reduce and narrow sensory experience to fit their own new confined reality. The effect and purpose of this narrowing is to increase awareness and focus upon the politics, materialism, entertainment, spectacles and other drugs that society uses to keep us within its boundaries. We can consider TV to be an advanced brainwashing technique. Sitting in darkened rooms, with the natural environment obscured, other humans dimmed out, only the eyes and ears operating, both within a very narrow range, other body function stilled, staring at light for hours and hours, the experience adds up to something nearer to brainwashing than anything that has come before it.

Television isolates people from their environment, from each other, and from their own senses. We know that it is an accepted truth about brainwashing that the subjects are unusually susceptible to suggestion. When you are watching TV you are experiencing mental images, and these mental images are not yours. Because the rest of your capacities have been subdued, and the rest of the world dimmed, these images are likely to have an extraordinary degree of influence. Am I saying that TV is a brainwashing device? YES! There is no question but that someone is speaking into your mind, influencing you to do something. First: Keep watching. Second: Believe what you are told. Third: Buy something.

COMMON REPORTS: SICK, CRAZY, MESMERIZED!

Here are some common responses of people who watch TV. How many of these have you experienced?

"I feel hypnotized when I watch TV."

"TV is destroying my mind."

"I feel like it's brainwashing me."

"If a TV is on, I just can't keep my eyes off of it."

"TV is an addiction and I'm an addict!"

"I feel mesmerized by it."

"My kids look like zombies when they're watching TV."

PERMANENT BRAIN DAMAGE

"According to the latest Mental Health Alert poll, an amazing 9 out of 10 people say they actually believe what they see on television to be an accurate representation of reality. Experts agree that results of recent studies show people who watch more TV are prone to paranoia, emotional distress and multiple personality syndrome (MPS). Many report being unable to distinguish between television and real life. Others say they feel like they are being "manipulated", and report almost uncontrollable urges to imitate behavior they have viewed on TV."

TELEVISION — THE SURROGATE PARENT

The surrogate (substitute) parent of American children is the television. The TV has become the governing factor in American homes. The television in its idiocy has been responsible for the formation of millions of mindless robots who do only what the TV tells them to do. If the TV tells them to eat and they aren't hungry, they eat anyway, if the TV tells them to rebel, and they nothing to rebel about, they do it anyway. The television undoubtedly controls the minds, the habits, the activities of 98% of all Americans. Television addiction is the number one killer of ambition, individuality, loyalty, energy and accomplishment. The television does all, sees all, tells all -and millions of brainwashed dupes sit waiting breathlessly for their next command from the one-eyed ruler of their destiny.

THE GREAT EDUCATOR

The greatest educator in the world today is not the school, or the church, or even the home. It is the TELEVISION! A youngster who graduates from high school has spent approximately 50% more time in front of the television than in the classroom. The values and morals of the major media networks are diametrically opposed to those of the Christian community. Don't think the forces of evil have been slow to recognize the great opportunity presented by such influence. From its very inception, television has been destined to act as the "unifying force" in the plan to degrade, demoralize, dechristianize and DESTROY humanity.

HUMANIST VIEW OF SEX

Television is the greatest sex educator, or sex miseducator, in the world. Nowhere is television's anti-Christian, humanist theology more evident than in the area of sex. Sex, according to the networks and Hollywood, is basically an activity one indulges in whenever and wherever one desires. Close monitoring of how sex is handled on the networks easily confirms this. Monitoring done by the Coalition For Better Television of prime-time network television over a five-year period confirms that approximately 80 percent of all allusions to sex are between people not married to each other. In other words, FORNICATION and ADULTERY!

TV ADDICTION OUT OF CONTROL

Television continues to have an amazing grip on the average person. Studies have shown that the TV is on nearly one-third of each day in the average home and that millions of people say watching the tube is their favorite pastime. In one of the latest studies on TV habits, pollsters ABC, Epcott and A.C. Nielsen revealed that TVs are on more than 7 hours a day in the average American home. Viewers during their daily TV watching are exposed to some 135 commercials. That means that during the course of one year, the average person will have chalked up 2,520 hours of TV viewing including nearly 50,000 commercials. And we wonder why the world has problems!

NO MORE TABOOS

We must remember and reckon with the fact that TV has brought all the lust, corruption and pornography of modern entertainment right into our living rooms. And God's people are only handling this invasion by the enemy with kid gloves instead of an AXE! If we do not think this is a serious consideration, listen to the wise word of warning from Neil Postman of New York University. He says, "What television does is to bring the whole culture out of the closet, because programs need a constant supply of new and exciting stimulation. In its quest for new and sensational ventures to hold its audience, TV must delve into every existing taboo and destroy every moral standard in our culture: Homosexuality, incest, divorce, fornication, corruption, adultery, occultism, Satanism, and terrible displays of violence and sadism..."

CHRISTIANS AND TELEVISION

When Christians whet their appetites with carnal TV (most of which is geared towards illicit sexual activity) they are only promoted and provoked towards more ungodliness. Ministers are especially in this hour indulging themselves in the vicarious sins of the smut ridden TV programs, and then sneaking the "sex" videos and magazines into their homes to participate in the more forbidden pleasures. Never before have God's men and women been so far from His holiness in their actions and thought lives. When a minister steps himself in the filth of the world, how can he honestly minister the clean, pure, holy word of God? How can he reflect the standard of holiness and righteousness after having an orgy in his thought life brought on by pornographic viewing?

There is an epidemic in the land among the preachers. They are consumed with pornography and perversion as much as the unsaved. Satan has unleashed hordes of perverse and sexual spirits upon the land through television in this generation, but Christians, and ministers in particular, are supposed to resist sin, to war against the devil and his hordes and to keep themselves unspotted from the world. Since when does God's word condone any kind of perverse sexual activity in the name of recreation or entertainment? Christians who insist upon having and viewing televisions are tempting God and allowing themselves and their children to be subject to the very hosts of Hell!

What about Christian women partaking of an entertainment medium that regularly brings to the television screen promiscuity, adultery, incest, homosexuality, endlessly serial marriages, drug abuse, violence and double-dealing of every imaginable variety? What about SOAP OPERAS? Could it be that these dramas -with their ample supply of pre-, extra-, intra- and post-marital sex- are the secret vice of the "traditional family values" gang? After all, with Dad at work and the kids at school, soap operas are the Christian housewife's daytime home companion. Like most of us, the one thing church women know is what they like, and from the shocking reports we've gathered it's surely not all art and Bible stories.

There is a clear border line between things which thrust themselves upon our vision, and things which we choose to look upon. The one is innocence; the other is SIN! So long as we are in the world we cannot escape the first. But unless we "keep doing to death" the second, we will find ourselves daily skirting the edge of the precipice of sin and final downfall.

THE GREAT SOUL EATER

Television is the Devil's tool for destruction and he has no scruples when it comes to what he will use to destroy men's souls, to tear down their moral fortitude and to devastate them through the devices of evil. Since the world has so wholeheartedly embraced television, becoming television robots, the moral fiber has greatly deteriorated and the result is that men and women, boys and girls have become vegetables who do, act, and say everything which the television implants in their passive, putty-like minds. How unfortunate it is that people are no longer able to discern between good and evil, but only reflect what they have seen on television. We are daily amazed at how perverted people are becoming, and it is because television presents the heroes of our society in such a manner. If you are allowing the TV to eat your soul, stop today and repent. Ask the Lord to free you. Become a vision seeker from God, and then you will have a real vision to tell... one which will restore men's souls and not destroy them.

AFTERNOON AFFAIR -SICK SOAPS

In this generation, there is a plague which is taking its toll on the moral standards of women, and that plague is the porno-tinged disease known as SOAP OPERAS. Soap operas have over the years grown progressively more permissive, more oriented towards the new morality and have implanted into the minds of millions the mentality that promiscuity is okay and that everyone is doing it.

The everyday episodes on the soaps convince women that they do not have to maintain fidelity to their husbands but that they should have an "afternoon affair" to add excitement and adventure to their lives. Such nonsense has permeated the average woman's views of sex, fidelity, morality, faithfulness, etc. How many Christian women spend their afternoons absorbed in the "soaps", living vicariously through someone else's sex and love life while neglecting their duties as wives and mothers, and failing to live in the fear of God?

Many women have been known to quit jobs because those jobs interfered with their soap opera ADDICTION! The devil of course is behind the advent of the soap opera craze, for he knows that as he degrades the morals of women, and that they in turn will raise up children who will not know true morality but will have confused values in reference to sexual immorality because of their own mother's indulgences in "love in the afternoon".

But, what is even more amazing is that thousands of Christian women are just as addicted to these filth strips as are the unsaved women. What is it about women which cause them to sacrifice everything to live in front of the soaps? Is it because we have turned into a nation of blinded sex worshippers who will stoop to any level to bow

down to our "sex-god idol"? Or, is it because the fiber of our nation has become so corrupted and rotted to the core, that virtuous women are nonexistent and a myth of by-gone times?

What happened to the women who spent their days in prayer and fastings... are they all dead, only to be replaced by sex-greedy lust queens whose only desire is to live off someone else's sins? Dear Christian women, don't be a soap opera addict and then claim that you love God. If you have the habit, turn from your wickedness and spend your time with the Lord. HE IS WORTHY TO FILL UP OUR DAYS, AND WE NEED TO SEEK HIM. WE WONDER WHY OUR CHILDREN ARE TURNING INTO REBELLIOUS, UNCONTROLLABLE DEMONS BEFORE OUR VERY EYES. IT IS BECAUSE WE ARE REFUSING TO HOLD A PLACE IN THE SPIRIT AND TO FIGHT OFF THE OVERWHELMING FLOODS OF EVIL THAT HAVE BESET US.

PEEP SHOWS COME HOME

The place of women has traditionally been "keepers at home", unfortunately if any women are left at home these days they have become "peepers at home", constantly feeding off of a diet of vicarious enjoyment through other people's sex lives, personal problems and emotional distress in the form of "Talk Shows". The talk show viewing crowd actually comes from every spectrum of life as viewers are captivated daily by the lust, deceit, outrageous conversations and wicked deeds of the talk show hosts and guests. So enthralled are viewers with the sordid love tales, kinky sex habits and personal vendettas of others that they actually become addicted to this constant diet of mind numbing filth.

The last several years have seen an explosion of talk shows, whose hosts become virtual cult leaders as millions worship them daily. As they compete to see who can come up with the newest perversion to shock their audiences, these shows leave no stone unturned. Every sick, kinky, unclean lifestyle becomes a valid topic of conversation, from lesbian love triangles, transvestites modeling underwear and animal sex, to vampires who are addicted to drinking human blood, nothing is too rude, vulgar or demented for the modern "talk show". Women who do hold jobs even figure out schemes to find out what is happening on their favorite show while they are at work. Some employers have succumbed to placing televisions in the break rooms in order to satisfy the lust hungry women who are addicted to these enticing tales of sexual fantasy.

As more and more men relinquish their places to the liberated ladies, they have submerged and suppressed their male nature, with its only outlet being to feed vicariously on the overwhelming amount of violence and tough-guy heroes portrayed on TV. Fantasies of murder, robbery, rape, adultery, and destruction of every type find their outlet through TV. The number of shows that promote violence committed against women and the homosexual lifestyle are the devil's panaceas for the frustrated male ego. The men, who have long ago given up any idea of true godly manhood, sit in front of the television, receiving their daily dose of perverted and sadistic cheap thrills. And the devil smirks in glee, for he knows that he has them hopelessly clutched in his claws of destruction.

And as the children imitate their parents examples, little do these men realize that their sons won't just watch what they see on TV, but they will do what they see... and the old man will wonder why his son is going to prison, never stopping to consider that the son learned his lessons on his father's knee in front of the television!

THE HOME INVADERS

The Christian community in America and the world faces the greatest threat to its existence in decades. I fully realize how extreme that statement sounds. There is an intentional conspiracy among the handful of people who control the world's media. Their goals are to reshape societies, to control your thoughts and dictate to you what is right and wrong, to replace the Christian view of man as our foundation with the humanist view of man, and to transform everyone into an "economic animal" which they can manipulate and exploit for their financial gain. Television leads the way in this assault because it is by far the most powerful educator in modern society.

What are the television networks "selling" nowadays? Casual sex, adultery, homosexuality, violence, abortion, perversion of every sort, evolution, drugs and alcohol. An antichrist, humanistic philosophy pervades the media –a philosophy that presents Christianity and Christians as stupid relics of the past which should be done away with.

Why should we allow the TV to rule in our homes when it delivers nothing but a steady stream of blatantly non-Christian values? When are Christians going to wake up and take action?

WICKED THINGS BEFORE OUR EYES

God does not want His people to love the things of the world, nor to have the evil before their eyes continually, yet we are living in a generation when people who are professing to be Christians are literally television addicts and they will fight loudly and with great zeal to defend their idol, the TV. We are amazed as we go forward in the Lord at the endless complaints that have come against us as a ministry for our stand against television, movies and worldly music, all of which are forms of worldliness and take the Christian away from the Lord and His holiness. How stupid is the average Christian to subject themselves to endless hours of "boob-tube" watching - taking in all the filth, the vileness, the corruptness of Sodom. Then the same Christian (?) will mumble a half-hearted prayer to God and wonders if He will hear. Of course He won't hear, for God's word tells us that the Lord hears the prayers of the consistently righteous, not the corrupted and purposely vile unrighteous, who are claiming the Lord's name but at the same time living in filthy degradation in front of the ungodly television.

Millions of people slurp down the television garbage like a bunch of hogs feeding in a trough and then go drunkenly on their way, believing that the television could never lie. Oh, how stupid, dull and fat of heart we have become, when men who call themselves ministers spend their time in front of the pornographic beast and take that to be truth instead of spending their time before the Living God and letting Him pinpoint the sins in their own lives that they could walk uprightly before God and lead others in the way. Everyone these days is more concerned with having a good television and satellite dish than with having a conscience which is right before God.

The word of God tells us that whoremongers, adulterers, thieves, fearful, and drunkards (to name only a few) will not enter into the Kingdom of God. If professing Christians are constantly in front of the TV, watching and enjoying these sins, as committed by the actors, then they, the viewers, are becoming a part of the defiled filth, they are partaking of other men's sins and they will become the filth. It is only too obvious that those who are glued to the tube are NOT GOING TO ENTER INTO THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

The Bible says that the righteous shall scarcely be saved, that means those who are in right standing with God. So, one can obviously conclude that those who are spending hours before the television idol will not enter into the Kingdom of God. They have made their choice by inviting the hosts of Hell into their homes through the television set. Christians, stop being dupes! Don't you realize that the television is one of Satan's most expert weapons to bring first of all your mind, then your heart, and finally your body into captivity to sin?

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world." I John 2:15-16

WILLINGLY DECEIVED!

We deceive ourselves willingly when we want to partake of sins that God has taught us we must renounce. Take for example the abomination called TELEVISION which is found in 99% of all so-called "Christian" homes. We become deceived when we convince ourselves that we can control our viewing habits and watch only the "good shows" when PURE EVIL is only a channel away.

THERE ARE NO GOOD SHOWS ON TELEVISION! If you claim to be a child of God, and you indulge in television, be it known unto you that you are partaking of an ABOMINATION, and God will judge you accordingly. You can't commit "just a little sin". Either you sin or you don't sin, it is a black and white issue, there are no grey areas, there is no middle ground. Destroy that satanic brainwashing device called TV before you reach the point of no return. Don't become just another TV SLAVE! Get radical, get revolutionary, GET RID OF YOUR TV TODAY!

A VERY REAL THREAT

Television is a very real threat to our spiritual life because our eyes are gateways to our spirit. It opens our spirits to the many voices of the world which can crowd out the Lord's voice. Why are so many people blinded and bound

by television? It is the same spirit that Eve surrendered to in the garden. Genesis 3:6, "When the woman saw that the tree...was pleasant to the eyes..." The LUST OF THE EYES is a powerfully curious and destructive enemy of righteousness. TV openly and completely contradicts Philippians 4:7-8, "And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds, through Christ Jesus." TV subtly establishes a carnal and worldly standard of values in the mind of every viewer.

BUT WHAT ABOUT THE KIDS?

I know that television can be a baby sitter that will free the parent from close supervision. I know that it is easier to turn children over to the clutches of the television than it is to create a wholesome activity for them. I know that it is easier to yield to the pressures of:

- 1) The neighbors all have one, so why not me? and
- 2) My children will grow up to be backward and slow in their studies; and
- 3) They will resent me in the future for not providing them with a television.

But I have found that none of these arguments stand up to the TRUTH:

- 1) There are many things the neighbors do that I don't want my children to do.
- 2) I have found that a lack of television is no impediment to children's scholastic achievement or sociological development.
- 3) Children usually do not resent parents not having a television if they feel that they are sincere.

I cannot shirk my responsibility as a parent. I can't afford to have a TV.

DO YOU WANT TO EAT POISON?

Through modern media millions of "Christians" are eating garbage. They're eating poison and it's killing them. They're eating darkness, they're eating death, they're eating destruction. They're eating violence, filth and perversion in great quantities, and then they wonder why they don't feel good, they wonder why they don't feel God. What do you expect when you eat poison? Are you going to feel good? Take a spoonful of poison in the morning and see how you feel for the rest of the day. Yet invariably, "Christians" expect to feel just fine after slurping down huge amounts of electric poison that pours in through their TV sets.

How many "Christians" turn on the TV in the morning, watch the early morning news, get sick, watch the early morning talk show, get sicker, go to work and listen to a constant stream of witchcraft, lust and vileness called "music", come home and plop down in front of the TV again and eat garbage until it's time to go to bed? And if the women don't work, they stay home and watch all the talk shows, soap operas, and game shows during the day, partaking of all the filth and vileness you could ever ask for. Then on church night they go to church and for some reason they just don't feel quite so lively. Oh-oh they don't feel so good. Oh-oh, what do you want when you eat poison? What do you expect?

Now, if instead of vegetating in front of the television, those Christians would spend the same amount of time in prayer and fasting, in seeking God, obeying God, in doing something for others, denying themselves, in fighting against sin, writing something spiritual, in doing something, anything, that pertains to the Kingdom of God, they would have some life, and they would be a light to those around them, and they would feel a whole lot better. They would have some radiant glory coming from them because they had been with God, and people would look upon them and see that they were a Christian and not a stinking phony.

TV - ONE OF LIFE'S BASIC NECESSITIES?

Television is an accepted part of the modern world. The poorest pauper often owns a TV. His dwelling may be a tent, a tar-paper shack, or a vermin infested tenement house, but there is usually a television. The family may not own a car or have a bathtub, but they must have a television. The children may not have clothes, the baby may not have milk, the husband may not have a job, the mother may not have medical attention --but they have a television.

In a society where a television has become a basic necessity instead of a personal luxury, a person who says he does not have a television is regarded incredulously and sometimes with suspicion. What kind of a person would not have a television? He is considered some sort of maladjusted freak who would admit such a nonconformity to the ideals of society. He is accused of being woefully ignorant of world events, culturally deprived, and guilty of "child abuse" because he is causing his children to miss one of life's "choicest blessings".

TELEVISION VIOLATES THREE IMPORTANT PRINCIPLES**1. PRINCIPLE OF VISION**

"I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me."
Psalm 101:3

"Then said I unto them, Cast ye away every man the abominations of his eyes, and defile not yourselves with the idols of Egypt: I am the Lord your God" Ezekiel 20:7

2. PRINCIPLE OF AFFECTION AND VALUES

"If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth." Colossians 3:1, 2

3. PRINCIPLE OF LIGHT AND DARKNESS

"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord bath Christ with Belial? Or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?" 2 Corinthians 6:14, 15

"And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them." Ephesians 5:11

ARE YOU A MEDIA GUINEA PIG??

"A recent study has shown that a regular diet of TV viewing can have extremely adverse effects on laboratory animals. In one experiment where groups of mice and rats were subjected to continual viewing of typical day time talk shows, the animals quickly developed signs of insanity and began exhibiting bizarre and abnormal ,breeding habits. Another group of monkeys which were subjected to major network Sitcoms became extremely depressed and refused to eat.

An interesting phenomenon was noted in the test group that was subjected to nothing but commercials. These mice began consuming anything and everything in their cages until they could no longer move. All groups tested exhibited detrimental physical effects such as vomiting, diarrhea, blurred vision and hair loss. The most devastating results were seen in the test using a mix of country western and rock music videos at high volume. The animals in this group became severely debilitated, comatose, and several deaths were reported. Numerous instances of cannibalism and clearly suicidal behavior were also observed in this group."

YOUR TELEVISION!

TV has contributed more than any other single thing to the rapid demoralization and degradation of the world. It is a powerful demonic force designed to damn your soul. TV is not acceptable entertainment for Christians. In fact it

delivers a non-stop flow of sin, sickness and death directly into your home. The entire television industry is controlled by sodomites, drug addicts and antichrist people. They may dress nicely, smile, speak intelligently and convince you that they really care, but be not deceived they are nothing more than robots who work for the media beast! Behind the scenes they partake of every imaginable evil that is MODERN MEDIA, and when you watch TV you are condoning their sick perverted lifestyles.



An 1854 Presbyterian Assembly's Decision Regarding Romish Baptisms and Ordinations

In 1854, the Presbyterian General Assembly met in Buffalo, and this question was presented to them for their decision: "Are Romish baptisms and ordinations valid?"

There was a heated discussion over this question. The majority report of the committee was that all ordinations at the hands of the Romish priests were invalid, because the Roman Catholic Church was no church of Christ, but anti-Christ, and therefore the baptisms and ordinations of such an apostate body are null and void.

The minority report, on the other hand, contended that if they denied the church of Rome to be a true church of Christ, they unchurched themselves, since they came out of Rome, and received their baptisms and ordinations therefrom. Finding they could not extricate themselves from the dilemma, they moved an indefinite postponement of the question.

