

GLAD TIDINGS

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

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War on error

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 Our President has responded to the acts of war upon our country with war upon terrorism. The objective is to root out terrorism, period. He knows that just one act against a single terrorist will not do, for there will be others to take their place. Terrorism must be so undermined in the world, that attempting to carry out terrorist acts will not be practical.

It has been interesting to hear of the overall plan of accomplishing the practical end of terrorism. Not only will the terrorists be rooted out of their places of hiding, but the countries who harbor, finance or support the terrorists in any way will be considered an enemy of the USA, and freedom loving countries throughout the world. Those who give comfort and support to the terrorists will be considered just as guilty for the terrorism as the terrorist himself.

In the more important spiritual realm, the enemy of doctrinal error can carry us away as captives and the spoils of war. “Take heed lest there shall be any one that maketh spoil of you through his philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men,

after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ” (Colossians 2:8). Paul puts Christians on the alert concerning that which can lead us away from the teachings of Christ. Traditions authorized and practiced by man, and their philosophies that manifest man’s self-inflated wisdom, must be clearly pointed out and avoided.

Teaching a different doctrine is not tolerated by God in His Kingdom. Paul exhorted Timothy to “charge certain men not to teach a different doctrine...” (I Timothy 1:3). Brethren were to mark or clearly expose those who teach contradictory doctrines to the doctrine of Christ. Paul exhorts the brethren in Rome, “Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them that are causing the divisions and occasions of stumbling, contrary to the doctrine which he learned: and turn away from them” (Romans 16:17).

These definite actions of marking and avoiding those who teach false doctrine must be done because of what false doctrine causes: division and occasions of stumbling. Rooting out, and then avoiding those who undermine the unity authorized by the Spirit and destroy souls is God’s way of

fighting the war against error.

We must abide in the doctrine of Christ if we are to remain in fellowship with God (2 John 9). In addition, God warns us not to receive or give God’s speed to those who do not bring the doctrine of Christ to us (2 John 10). God warns those who do receive the teachers, who are not bringing the doctrine of Christ, with the following: “for he that giveth him greeting partaketh in his evil works (2 John 11).

In the same manner our President is fighting the war of terrorism, God, from of old, has taught us how to fight the war against doctrinal error. God gives no quarter for the one teaching the error and those who receive, give God’s speed to, or support in anyway the teacher of error. The evil being allowed to flourish is destroying souls. God holds both the false teacher and those who give him cover responsible.

I pray that brethren who give God’s speed to those not bringing the doctrine of Christ to us today will wake up, repent and apply God’s wisdom in the effective fight against error.