

GLAD TIDINGS

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

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“Fired For Being Female”

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On August 23rd a segment aired called “Fired for Being Female” on MSNBC. The anchor, Contessa Brewer, showed the text from I Tim. 2:12, and continued by saying that a First Baptist church in upstate NY had taken a literal approach to the passage and had fired Mrs. Mary Lambert, who had taught there for 54 years.

The anchor interviewed the preacher of the church, Timothy LaBouf, asking why this was done. The preacher defended his, and the church’s, stand on the Scripture, saying that they were trying to revitalize their efforts to be more like the New Testament Church. When they had taken a look at their practices, they realized that they did not have Scriptural authority to allow Mrs. Lambert to teach. The preacher emphasized that Mrs. Lambert did not receive any payment for this service; therefore the church could not “fire” her. Neither was she simply teaching children or other women, but was teaching men and women in adult classes, which, according to the passage in I Timothy, was not something that a woman had authority to do. He also emphasized that this decision was not chauvinistic in nature, but

was a matter of Scripture.

A matter of Scripture... that is a phrase that we hear very seldom outside of the church of Christ. Even amongst so-called “religious” circles, doing things according to Scripture is something that simply isn’t done anymore. Even Mrs. Lambert was recorded as having said that the First Baptist church has woman preachers “nowadays”, as if the course of society allows us to only adhere to Scripture that is up-to-date. The only Scriptural rebuttal in the segment was taken out of context.

It has become dogma among “religious” circles to simply disregard Scripture that is not popular with mainstream society. Who are we to say that God’s Word is out-of-date? Who are we to criticize it when it does not abide by what society thinks is proper or correct? Does God care in the slightest what society thinks? No, and He never will! If society has ever held any kind of influence on God, why did He then destroy the world in a flood, where only eight individuals were spared, and only then by obeying His words? (Heb. 11:7; I Pet. 3:20) It is ludicrous to say that

the Bible is out-dated just because society disagrees with God’s views.

The media tried in every way possible to condemn the decision that this church made, attempting to paint the decision as intolerant, and sexist, attempting to gain sympathy for the woman that was “fired”. Mr. LaBouf defended his case very well, according to Scripture, holding to the Word. Hopefully, this church will continue to question its authority for other practices that it does as well, realizing other changes that are needed to be a true New Testament church.

Let’s be aware of how much the god of this age has blinded people into thinking of God’s word as old and not applicable, having even the power of the media to spread the blasphemy. Let us fight against these things and stand up for truth in the face of a society that is, itself, intolerant of views that do not fall in line with its own. Let’s understand that this society will also be destroyed, like the one before, except not with water, but with fire. Let us be of that small group that is not destroyed because we “moved with fear”, having respected the authority of God, when that Great Day comes.