



* **CELEBRATING 35 YEARS OF SPIRIT FILLED MINISTRY** * VOL. 14 ISSUE 12 December 2014

DOES THE WORD OF GOD DISCRIMINATE? by: *David W. Lankford*

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Look with me please today at **Matthew 10:34-36**, "Think not that I am come to send peace on the earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. And a man's foes shall be they of his own household." For the most part, most people would argue with you that Christ Jesus does not discriminate in any way, shape, form or fashion. The truth is, Christ is very discriminating. The fundamental meaning of the word discriminate means to make a difference in treatment or favor on a basis other than individual merit. It means to be discerning as well as judicious. Say what you will, but if a man is not born again by the Spirit of God and covered in the blood of Jesus Christ, he will not inherit the kingdom of God. I've even heard people make such foolish statements as "I will make God allow me into the kingdom of heaven". Friend, no one has the power to make God Almighty do anything. Christ was very outspoken here in our scripture text in that He came to set men at variance or to make a difference in people's lives. The word **variance #1369** in the Greek means to **make a part, i.e. sunder, to alienate**. The word variance in Webster's dictionary simply means **the fact or state of being in disagreement or not in harmony**. Let me be very plain and outspoken here, to be a Christian means you are not in agreement with the world, neither do you walk in harmony with the world. Jesus said "I came not to send peace but a sword". A sword is for fighting or to break apart or separate something or to sunder something.

That, my friend, is exactly what Jesus said in our scripture text. Jesus Christ severs the child of God from the world and all of its earthly ties. We are admonished in **2nd Corinthians 6:14-16**, "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 have Christ with Belial? Or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? For ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people". It is profusely obvious in this passage of scripture that we are to not be unequally yoked together with people who do not believe in the totality of God's holy Word. The Christian church is being challenged everyday concerning this word discrimination. We are being told by the world's ecumenical movement along with the Catholic Pope to lay aside all of our differences that we are no longer to protest as Protestants. Even one national minister said the other day, who is a purported Protestant, "47 years ago, when I began my ministry it would've been impossible for the Catholics, Protestants, Charismatics, and Pentecostals to join together hand-in-hand, but today we can all lay aside our differences and become one". That is a lie straight out of the pits of hell. Revelation chapter 17 says the harlot will ride the beast. Today, we are having Chrislam shoved down our spiritual throats and no national preacher is speaking out against it. It is Christ, period, and nothing else

Deception is running rampant throughout Christianity because men preach a compromised and polluted message and fail to preach the truth of the discriminating message of Christ our Lord. Jesus made it clear in **John 14:6**, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father but by me". In this passage of scripture, Jesus Christ is emphatic concerning His discrimination in that He is the only way, the only truth, and the only life. He is not just one of many ways, He is the only way! Jesus said His Word would divide us and His Word will divide us just like a sword. Paul the apostle declared in **Hebrews 4:12**, "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart". Paul said the word of God was quick, the word **quick** in the Greek means the Word of God is alive: the Bible is a living book. The fact that the Word of God is a living word, it has the power to pierce and divide men and also separate them from sin. The Word of God has the power to differentiate between flesh and spirit. That is why it is so imperative that men preach an uncompromising message from God's Holy Word. God, through His Word, deals with man's flesh and with man's spirit. We read in the book of **Jeremiah 17:9-10**, "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? I the Lord search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings". Men can be tricked, but God Almighty and the

Holy scriptures can never be tricked, nor deceived. The Word of God is often described as a sword, we read in **Revelation 1:16**, "And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp two-edged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength".

Again we read here in the book of **Revelation 19:15**, "And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God". Regretfully, men sit in judgment of the very Word of God that will ultimately judge them. Jesus declared in **John 12:48**, "He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day".

"Simply put, every man will bow his knees to Jesus Christ which is the Word of God". Hear the words of Paul the apostle found here in **Romans 14:11-12**, "For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God". Men make a mockery of God's Word because it discriminates. While Barack Hussein Obama was a United States Senator, he made a mockery of God's Word in one of his speeches while reading from Leviticus, Deuteronomy, and Matthew. Maybe we should stone our children to death, he said, and the United States Defense Department would have a problem with the Beatitudes today. He alone sat in judgment of the Word of God that will judge him in the end. God's Word does discriminate if you are a sinner and lost, you will not be able to enter into the kingdom of God. The Bible is clear in **Psalm 9:17**, "The wicked shall be turned into hell, and

all the nations that forget God". I did not make that statement the Word of God made that bold pronouncement. We read again in **Psalms 50:22**, "Now consider this, ye that forget God, lest I tear you in pieces, and there be none to deliver". I want to share one more profound passage of scripture before I close this newsletter. Many people believe they're born again, washed in the blood of the Lamb, and sealed by the Spirit of the living God: but they are profusely deceived! You say, Pastor Lankford how can you make such a statement? I make that statement based solely on the discriminating power of the Word of almighty God. For we read in **Matthew 7:21-23**, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? And in thy name have cast out devils? And in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity". I humbly ask you, how discriminating do you think the Lord God of Abraham truly is? If you think that God's Word does not discriminate regarding men, then you have a profuse misunderstanding of God almighty and His holy Word. Men will not be able to falsely accuse God of His discrimination, however, He has given us His Word so that we may understand where He stands regarding His terms with mankind. Not only should men grasp His Word, but we should all embrace the cross on which Christ died. May you never be ashamed of the cross because Paul the apostle declared in **1st Corinthians 1:18**, "For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God". Please labor to get this newsletter in

everyone's hand that you possibly can. Make all the copies you can and share them with everyone whom you may encounter. People need to know the truth: just because they say they are a Christian does not assure their destiny. Men must abide by the Word of Almighty God emphatically. Because of a famine of God's Word, however, multitudes upon multitudes will be lost here in the end. It will not be God's fault; it will be the ministers who failed to preach an uncompromising message. For that very reason, we strive to preach an uncompromising message here at The Voice of Evangelism. Compromise is deceiving as well as damning. **2nd Timothy 4:1-4**, "I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lists shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables". Thank you so very much for your continued love, prayers, and support. I trust that the Lord God of Abraham will faithfully order your steps in the coming days. Until next month, may you abide in the Word of the Lord and may His Word abide in you. **John 15:5**, "I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing".

Serving With You All,

Pastor David W. Lankford