

# Howards Corner

*Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

So, the Lord says to the very end of the age. Are we not in that era? Is this not very close to that end but I see no excitement in the churches of today! Why is that? Have we just fallen asleep and do not know that the signs are all around us but do not ever see the signs that are apparent to those who are not asleep. Why is there no excitement? Is it because you do not understand who you are and the day you live in? Are you trusting in the false teaching of the churches that have thought that the church is to grow into that perfect kingdom for the return of Jesus? Are you seeing the church organization growing into that perfect kingdom of Christ?

I fear that all the lack of making disciples of all nations is generated from a lack of knowledge of what the church is. We have defined the church as the organization called the church that came to us from the formal church of Rome which is only a vehicle for the spreading of the word but sadly is not the church that the bible is talking about. So many have hooked their wagon to a physical church organization but do not see that "the church" is only those that are "in Christ" and not by formal church membership. So, the church is only those who have received the Holy Spirit in their hearts and have been made a new creature. There is no power in the organization church to save and change lives. This formal church is only another religion with no power from above.

You should have known by now that if it is only from the words that I have written to you that the church is not going to keep growing to fill the whole earth. That is not how it is revealed in the word. The judgement is determined to be upon the world and then the kingdom is to come at Jesus Christ second coming and then the kingdom will grow to fill the whole earth (Dan 2). You cannot put the cart before the horse. Things are written but few are really reading the word but have placed yourself in the hands of church leaders that have betrayed the word and trusted in the words of men and their opinions instead of searching the whole word of God for the truth. But I am frustrated because the word is hidden from the people in

the pews and the human mind has warped the word to fit their opinions and their will.

I will say it plainly—The church as you see it will not be the ones that will bring salvation to the world but is only the vehicle that will witness the word to those who will listen. The church I see today is not leading anyone to that kingdom of God on earth but is the one who is called to preach the word of salvation to the many of the earth and only those that have bowed their knees to the Lord Jesus will see that kingdom.

The major problem then is that the word of salvation is not preached from the pulpits of the churches of today but is some form of the social gospel which is no gospel at all but is manmade fiction made up by the human mind that has devised their own idea of what they want the kingdom to look like but have ignored the word of God.

*Heb: 4:12 For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.*

It is indeed the word that is to be trusted to deliver the word that is to penetrate the heart and judge the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. So, we are to preach the word and the salvation that it delivers and not our opinions and our desires to make the kingdom what we want it to be. So, we are to preach the gospel of salvation by grace through faith and not churchism that put the many to sleep so they have not been made disciples but are instead disciples of churchism but who will listen for if you are asleep and have been fed churchism for your whole life then how can you ever hear? When the ear has gone deaf how can it hear again?

When the eyes are also blind, and you are following blind leaders where does the light come from? Many take the written word of God and tear it to shreds and then try to put it back together with man's words and have left out major parts of the word and have said "I do not like that part because I do not think God would do that" because it is not what I want the word to say.

So today the Word of God as written in the bible has been watered down by churchism interpretations which are based only on some person's teachings and preferences and their ignorance of the total word. So is then the word of God not

still *“the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword”*. Have we then dulled the word so that it is no longer sharper than a double-edged sword? Have you dulled it and dulled it, so it is no longer sharp? It is supposed to be sharp to cut into the heart of mankind to expose our sinful nature and the need for a savior which is the Lord Jesus.

A major theme of today in the churches is to use paraphrase and easy to read bibles because they are softer words that people can read easily but gone are the true words that are meant to be difficult to read because they require you to search your heart for the truth and to search the rest of the scriptures for understanding. Stay with words that are quality translations.

How can the word do the job it was intended to do if it is dull and cannot cut. *“it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.”* So, it is the thoughts and attitudes of the heart that must be revealed to us and to others if we are to make disciples of all nations. That is called conviction which if it is true conviction will bring about a true repentance and surrender to the Lord Jesus and His teachings and words. We must make sure we have become disciples ourselves before we can reach others for the kingdom.

So, I started with the end of the age, starting to show evidence of it's coming. But we need to understand what age we are talking about for there are several ages taught in the bible. There is the church age and then there is the age of the gentile nations and there is the age of Satan's control of the earth. They are all showing signs of coming about for they are all tied together.

The first age that is to come to an end is the church age for it will end when Jesus returns to receive His church which is His bride the real and true church at the rapture. ---Then the end of the age of the gentile nations and the coming of judgement of the nations which is closely tied to the coming of the anti-Christ to deceive the world. The timeframe of these events is closely linked and will happen in a short seven-year period which is the tribulation of the world. Then Jesus Christ will return with His great power and glory to judge the nations and to depose the anti-Christ and to lock Satan in prison for a thousand years. --Then begins the age of the kingdom of God which is the thousand years of Christ's reign on this earth.

Be ready for the end of the church age which will come suddenly like a thief in the night! -- *Howard*