

PLAIN SPEECH

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“Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech” (2 Cor. 3:12)

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PREACHER WORSHIP

One thing I noticed when I was caught up in the sins of liberalism was the fact that far too many people plain and simply worship preachers – they would never admit it, but their speech bewrayeth them (**Matthew 26:73**). Yes, far too many who comprise social and institutional churches have more reverence for those they deem learned men than they do for God Almighty. Pitiful.

For instance, I know a “preacher” in the greater Denver area named Nathan Liddell who talks about Guy N. Woods and others like they are sitting at the right hand of the Father in Heaven. In case Nathan has forgotten, we are supposed to speak as the “oracles of God” (**1 Peter 4:11**), not parrot the comments of Guy N. Woods, Gus Nichols, Alexander Campbell, J.W. McGarvey, Curtis Cates, Garland Elkins, or any other man.

Again, when it comes to preacher worship I say, **PIT-I-FUL!** Yet, beyond the fact it is pitiful to place such confidence in men, it is also unscriptural (**Psalm 118:8-9; Psalm 40:4; Jeremiah 17:5, et al**). Oh how the liberals need to get back to the Bible and away from elevating men who teach it (**1 Corinthians 2:5**). But let’s shift our focus from the liberals for just a moment.

One thing I have noticed since leaving sinful liberalism is that many of those who call themselves “conservative” or “non-institutional” do the exact same thing the liberals do – they worship preachers. Yes, many there are who treat preachers like they are inspired men. They, like the liberals, would never admit it, but in just the same way, the way they talk exposes them.

Scores of times since leaving liberalism, I have heard folks make the following kinds of statements:

- *“Roy Cogdill said...”*
- *“According to an article I read last month in Truth Magazine...”*
- *“I called down to the Bible Department at Florida College and they said...”*
- *“Marshall Patton told me one time...”*
- *“Let’s contact Weldon and see what he thinks about this divorce...”*
- Ad infinitum, ad insantium.

Is this the way any faithful Christian ought to talk? Let me ask you a question: should we really care about what any non-inspired man has to say, when we have inspired men to consult - **2 Timothy 3:16-17**? Let’s be interested in what God has to say, not in what some BNP (big name preacher) of the brotherhood has to say.

Folks, we are supposed to worship God, not preachers (**Matthew 4:10; John 4:24**). Worshipping preachers will not get anybody to heaven (**Acts 14:8-15**). Have we forgotten that the wisdom of men is foolishness to God (**1 Cor. 3:19-20**)? Men will let you down (**2 Timothy 4:10**) and lead you astray (**Matthew 15:14; Isaiah 9:16**). But you can rest assured that God’s Word will never do so (**Psalm 119:105**).

If you are a preacher worshipper - whether you’re a liberal or a so-called conservative - why not do yourself a big favor: why not commit to worship your Maker and stop worshipping preachers? Appreciate your preacher if he preaches all the truth. Thank him for what he teaches you. Reprove him when necessary. But **do not ever** worship him.

“Cease ye from man, whose breath is in his nostrils: for wherein is he to be accounted of?” (Isaiah 2:22).