

PLAIN SPEECH

Volume 1 – Issue 30 – 18 MAY 2008

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

By Scott Parker

THE NEW PREACHER

Imagine that this congregation was looking for a new preacher. During the “try out” process a certain candidate taught the following things in his sermon.

- ✓ He stated that a word for word translation of the scriptures is not necessary.
- ✓ He taught that children are born sinful.
- ✓ He taught that all people will be saved according to what they believe to be true.
- ✓ He taught that each person is to preach their own version of the gospel.
- ✓ He taught fornication is not the only authorized reason for a divorce.
- ✓ He argued that Jesus never really said, “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved...”
- ✓ He taught that the Ethiopian Eunuch never made the confession that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.
- ✓ He taught that one is justified and saved prior to baptism.
- ✓ He taught against the virgin birth.
- ✓ He stated that one can be a homosexual so long as they do not act upon their desires.
- ✓ He taught that various precious and important doctrinal terms are outdated and need be no longer used. Terms like: Godhead, Remission, Propitiation, and New Testament.
- ✓ He stated that some Bibles have too many verses and one should cut those verses out of the Bible.

Would you want to support this fellow? No! Teach him, sure (Galatians 6:1; Acts 18:24-28). But, extend material support and allow him to labor in the local area... never!

Amen, most would say. Yet, I know lots of folks who unwittingly condone such heresy via their acceptance, promotion, and use of the New International Version Bible (hereafter NIV) Bible. The NIV is ripe with religious error. For example, did you realize that each false doctrine above is accepted as orthodox in the NIV? The references are as follows:

- ✓ See the introduction section of the NIV.
- ✓ Psalm 51:5; Ephesians 2:3
- ✓ 2 Peter 1:3
- ✓ 1 Corinthians 1:6
- ✓ Matthew 19:9
- ✓ Footnote in chapter 16
- ✓ Acts 8:37 is omitted in the NIV
- ✓ Romans 10:10
- ✓ Compare Luke 2:33 in the NIV and KJV
- ✓ 1 Corinthians 6:9
- ✓ Propitiation, Godhead, New Testament, Remission, Mercyseat
- ✓ Matthew 18:11; many verses contain only half the text; e.g. compare Galatians 3:1 in the NIV and KJV.

To be fair, no translation is without some textual problems. However, the NIV is riddled with errors. It should not be used by anyone who is not strong enough and mature enough in the faith to “spit out the bones.”

Sadly, many folks do not feel this way. Scores have taken to this perversion of God’s Word and laud its “*easy to read quality*.” Some congregations even offer the NIV to visitors by placing copies in the pews. Sad.

I ask this question: based on just the small amount of material we noted above, is the NIV easy to read or is it instead, EASY TO MISLEAD? Think about it.