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LightHouse Ranch Church

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EARNESTLY CONTEND FOR THE FAITH WHICH WAS ONCE DELIVERED UNTO THE SAINTS, JUDE 3

CHURCH: A MIGHTY MOVING FORCE 07-14-19

Welcome to the ministries of the Lord at LightHouse Ranch Church, West Point, CA. Live Services 2 P.M. Pacific Sundays, Messages are recorded and placed on our website at LightHouse—Ranch.com in the Biblical Chuckwagon section. They are free to download and share unchanged with everyone everywhere. Help us spread the Word of God to your friends, loved ones, and the world.

CHURCH: A MIGHTY MOVING FORCE

The Book of Acts Church—the Biblical N.T. Church:

1. A body of committed believers in God and His Word;
2. A powerful witness of Christ's resurrection and life;
3. Souls are saved, born-again, and added to the church;
4. The baptism in the Holy Spirit is preached to new believers and His presence and power is manifested;
5. Holy Spirit gifts are in operation including signs, wonders, healings, and casting out demons;
6. God's fivefold church leadership is equipping the saints for the work of the ministry and edifying the body of Christ;
7. There is absolute loyalty to the gospel, i.e., the original teachings of Christ and the Apostles. The people devote themselves to studying and obeying the Word of God while looking for and anticipating the return of the Lord.

THE CHURCH MUST REMAIN SEPARATE FROM THE PREVAILING SECULAR SOCIETY

(Gal 1:3) Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ,

(Gal 1:4) Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:

(Gal 1:5) To whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

THIS DOES NOT DESCRIBE THE VISABLE CHURCH OF TODAY – WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO GOD'S PEOPLE?

Those who do not persevere in the godly character and righteous standards of Christ and the original apostles put themselves and the church in severe danger of being “removed” from Christ or apostatizing themselves.

REMOVED FROM HIM THAT CALLED YOU

(Gal 1:6) I marvel that ye are so soon **removed** from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: (emphasis mine)

(Gal 1:7) Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.

REMOVED G3346 μεταίθημι metatithēmi *met-at-ith'-ay-mee*

From G3326 and G5087; to *transfer*, that is, (literally) *transport*, (by implication) *exchange*, (reflexively) *change sides*, or (figuratively) *pervert*: - carry over, change, remove, translate, turn.

This should spark a note of serious consideration. This is a warning that is not readily taught or even thought of in the modern church today.

The Lord warns that compromising His righteous standards in even the least possible way can lead to apostasy.

The first gospel message preached after the Pentecostal outpouring of the Holy Spirit contained these words: “Save yourselves from this untoward generation” (Acts 2:40).

SUBTILE DESCEPTION IS EVERYWHERE TODAY.

The Holy Spirit warns through the apostle Paul:

(2Co 11:3) But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

(2Co 11:4) For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him.

RIGHTEOUS MINDS CORRUPTED BY FALSE TEACHING

1. By those who appear as ministers of righteousness but whose teachings contradict the Word of God and lead their followers into spiritual disaster.

2. By those who teach that part or some of N.T. teaching is irrelevant for today or that exercising Holy Spirit gifts is of the devil.

3. By teaching that Biblical revelation is true, but at the same time allege that they possess extra-biblical revelation or knowledge

equal in authority to Scripture.

4. By teachings that draw the Christian faith into a syncretism with other religions or philosophies.

THE VISABLE CHURCH HAS LOST THE KNOWLEDGE AND FEAR OF GOD AND THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL.

(1Co 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.

(1Co 1:19) For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.

(Rom 1:22) Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,
THE PREACHING OF THE CROSS STILL SAVES.

THE HOLY SPIRIT STATES THAT FALSE TEACHERS ARE UNDER CONDEMNATION.

(Gal 1:8) But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.

(Gal 1:9) As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.

The word accursed (Gk. *anathema*) means that one lies under the curse of God, is doomed to destruction, and will receive God's wrath and damnation... very serious!

JESUS SAYS, "LET THEM ALONE."

(Mat 15:12) Then came his disciples, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the Pharisees were offended, after they heard this saying?

(Mat 15:13) But he answered and said, Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up.

(Mat 15:14) Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.

FALSE TEACHERS IN THE CHURCH.

(2Pe 2:1) But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

(2Pe 2:2) And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.

(2Pe 2:3) And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation

slumbereth not.

THE CHARACTER OF FALSE TEACHERS.

(2Pe 2:12) But these, as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things that they understand not; and shall utterly perish in their own corruption;

(2Pe 2:13) And shall receive the reward of unrighteousness, as they that count it pleasure to riot in the day time. Spots they are and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you;

(2Pe 2:14) Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children:

(2Pe 2:15) Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;

(2Pe 2:16) But was rebuked for his iniquity: the dumb ass speaking with man's voice forbad the madness of the prophet.

(2Pe 2:17) These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever.

(2Pe 2:18) For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error.

(2Pe 2:19) While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.

(2Pe 2:20) For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.

(2Pe 2:21) For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them.

(2Pe 2:22) But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.

THE LORD DELIVERS THE GODLY.

(2Pe 2:9) The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:

(2Pe 2:10) But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous are they, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities.

TO THOSE OF LIKE PRECIOUS FAITH.

(2Pe 1:1) Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:

(2Pe 1:2) Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

MAKE YOUR CALLING AND ELECTION SURE.

(2Pe 1:3) According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

(2Pe 1:4) Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

(2Pe 1:5) And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

(2Pe 1:6) And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;

(2Pe 1:7) And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

(2Pe 1:8) For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

(2Pe 1:9) But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

(2Pe 1:10) Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

(2Pe 1:11) For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

THE DAY OF RECKONING IS COMING.

(2Pe 3:10) But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

(2Pe 3:11) Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,

(2Pe 3:12) Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

(2Pe 3:13) Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

(2Pe 3:14) Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.

EVEN THOUGH YOU KNOW THESE THINGS, BEWARE...

(2Pe 3:17) Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness.

(2Pe 3:18) But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.