

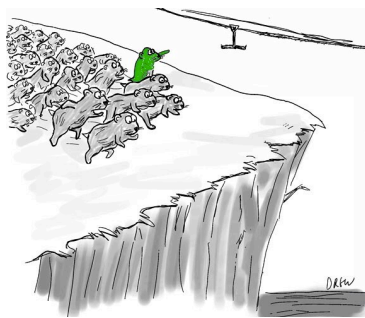
Have You Seen What We've Seen? (Observation 6)

Dear Friends in Christ Jesus our Lord,

In this and upcoming Teaching Emails we'll be discussing what we've observed to be a *key factor* contributing to the rebellious predisposition that's so dramatically increasing within Christianity and in the nation at large: the **paucity of biblically-required intervention** by grandparents and parents, as well as from the pulpit. The past several decades have found parents and grandparents unwilling or even fearful to intervene in the upbringing of their offspring. Their abdication of this God-commanded responsibility has generated and heightened the rebellion which in particular robs the older generations of the God-commanded honor their offspring owe them. (As a reminder, in Observation 4 you'll find an essential step which parents and grandparents must take to reverse this rebellion if they have sinned against God in raising their children.)

Today, the lack of intergenerational, biblically-required intervention has sorely contributed to our national downfall. In case you haven't noticed, this nation is rapidly becoming a "police state" to compensate for non-biblical parenting and avoidance of accountability. Added to parental irresponsibility is deceptive pulpitering by clergy who are reluctant to offend pew sitters by confronting their sin nature and bringing them to repentance for tolerated sin in their lives. That's why spiritual lethargy and self-satisfied passivity characterize many churchgoers.

In upcoming Observations we'll discuss specific areas in which resolutely adhering to the truths of God's commands would have produced proactive intervention in those who love and follow Jesus as Lord. **Proactive intervention** is a must if you're to prevent a negative result or sinful course from taking place. But for you to intervene in a Christ-like manner first requires that you *have the truth* and then that you *intervene from a position of truth*. Any form of intervention can feel stressful, even stepping out into traffic to rescue a toddler. But the greater wrong is doing nothing to intervene. It's the same with the family of Jesus. For reminder about intervening, please read: <https://restorationministries.org/download/30.intervening_blind_loyalty.pdf>

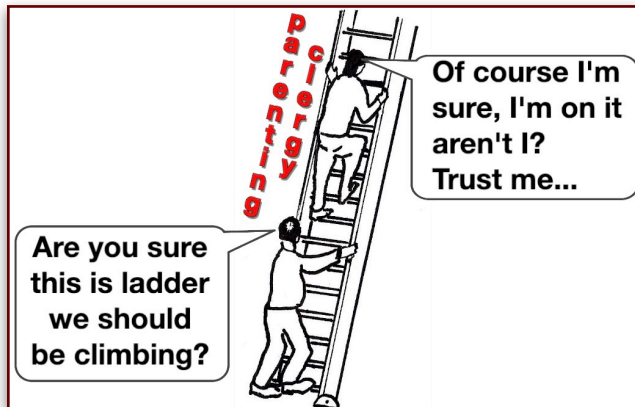


Sadly, we've observed that every intervener God has sent to reveal alternatives to us going over the cliff of our own destruction — even warnings from the late Francis Shaeffer and David Wilkerson — has gone unheeded. Rebellion and its more sinister manifestation, **passive-aggressive behavior**, have become a heralded character quality speeding us to the cliff of our destruction. Even Christianity displays **passive-aggression** by teaching "belief" in God *without obedience to Him* — a stance that is blatantly unbiblical (Romans 1:5; James 2:19). Rebellion in all its various forms has created *immoral*, political and societal extremism. We're demolishing ourselves without needing an outside enemy!

Before we get into proactive intervention, let's review a few points. A pearl of wisdom you may recall is, **"Insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result."** And we've all heard the old adage about placing a ladder

against the wrong wall. No matter how high up the ladder you go or how many times you climb it, you're climbing the *wrong ladder* placed against the *wrong wall*. ("If the ladder is not leaning against the right wall, every step we take just gets us to the wrong place faster." - Stephen Covey).

These two truisms we cited encapsulate countless Christians we've observed who doggedly press on in misguided beliefs. Some of the misled are too lazy to seek the truth themselves, while others are too fearful to stop and question if they have believed a lie.



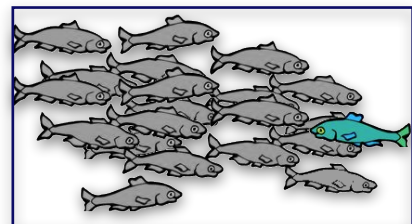
Currently over 38,000 competing and contradictory denominations and sects in Christianity represent different "truths". They can't all be true – no matter how long they've been around or how many people believe the same thing. In your journey toward eternal life, don't be like the fools who went looking for a sunrise by always walking toward the west. No matter how fast they walked nor how diligently they kept looking, they were never going to see a sunrise that way. It's time for

you to wake up now to verify truth according to the Holy Spirit. The consequences of walking toward whatever you want to believe that appeases your sin-nature's desires and self-obsessed goals may find you marching to destruction!

Truth Isn't What Man Believes Is True, But What God Holds True

No matter how many people agree with a particular belief doesn't necessarily make it true. And, *no one* likes to realize they've placed their faith in a lie. Too many Christians today would like to believe that they're wiser than the Israelites, whose leaders led them into worshipping Baal, Molech and Ashtoreth – even convincing them to incinerate their children to these demonic entities (1Corinthians 10:20). But blind trust in what theologians and religious teachers have taught as "creed" is as misplaced as the Israelites' blind devotion to spiritual adultery — and that got them banished from the Promised Land.

Biblical truth is verified by those who have the Spirit of Truth within them (John 15:26; 16:13; 1Corinthians 2:11-14). By that Spirit those who trust in Him and have the bold determination to search the Scriptures for themselves can discern what the journey to their salvation entails (Acts 17:11). The Holy Spirit both guides and sanctifies us enroute to our eternal reward. Verifying truth necessitates that you step back and examine for yourself how to reach the eternal goal our Lord Jesus promises. The indwelling Spirit of Truth will never deceive you, but fellow humans will. Remember, truth will often cause you to have to buck the popular flow.



Why are these points so vital for you to consider?



Too many religious leaders and prosperity-promoting “Christian” personalities are condoning and accommodating the sin nature of people and contributing greatly to the rebellion that’s pervading Christianity. Removed are the essential truths which evidence loving gratefulness to God and authentic new birth: •the Lordship of Jesus in your daily life; •the crucial need of the indwelling Holy Spirit; •ongoing application of God’s righteous commands to each decision and goal; •the non optional role of repentance in your relationship with our heavenly Father.



Each of these vital truths evidence Father’s grace toward us. But since these truths don’t cater to the sin nature, they’ve been eliminated by too many people-pleasing preachers and teachers. Please read our August 31, 2010 Prophetic Insight, *The Cross: New vs. Old* <[https://restorationministries.org/download/august-31-2010%20\(1\).pdf](https://restorationministries.org/download/august-31-2010%20(1).pdf)>

The Spirit of Truth producing the *truth you live by* is the only empowered way to reach the eternal goal our Lord Jesus promises those who trust in Him as the Older Testament foretold:

“He who trusts in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’ But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those trusting in Him would receive: for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified” (John 7:38,39).

It’s easy to believe that what others say is true or even frame God’s Word according to misconceptions or false teaching from your past. So no matter how many Bible studies you attend or how many verses you read on your own, make sure what you’re told or have read is *verified through the indwelling Holy Spirit* – assuming that the Spirit abides within you and that you are living being led by Him (Galatians 5:25). If you do live led by the Holy Spirit, then make sure you insert yourself as a key person in the lives of others you care about. *If* you genuinely care and *if* the Holy Spirit is dwelling within you, then you need to be certain that the *love of Jesus* is undergirding any intervention our heavenly Father is commanding you to take. **Biblical truth** and **proactive intervention** are inseparable!

Biblical confrontation is a key and effective form of intervention. And again, **proactive intervention** may be needed to prevent or alter a potentially negative result or sinful course in someone’s life. Beginning with our next Observation we’ll discuss several areas of proactive intervention that have been brought into disrepute by a Humanist, *me-obsessed* society. Consider the essential truth of our Lord’s intervention — words from His own mouth, and how His purpose effects you:

“Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to ‘set a man against [literally, to make hostile] his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law’ — and ‘a man’s enemies will be those of his own household’” (Matthew 10:34-36, quoted from Micah 7:6).

First, your proactive intervention with your family and with everyone else you care about begins with your *intercession*. In agreement with God’s Word, we firmly believe that as we pray, our Lord releases His powerful intervention into each situation. By His authority demons which hold people in bondage are silenced so that our loved ones are given opportunity to hear and to choose the true Gospel. Yielding to the Holy Spirit’s convicting work and repenting, they can then be *genuinely* born again, experiencing lifelong Covenant union with Jesus and being reconciled with our heavenly Father.

Those we pray for may respond, or they may not. Free will is given to everyone. But our part is to never stop proactively intervening through intercession.

And when it comes to prayer, if you can cite several recent answers to your prayers, then know that these are our Father’s affirmation that you’re walking in the light. Answered prayers are His feedback of your cleansed and repentant standing before Him in Christ. When Father answers your prayers, He’s reminding you in a powerful and loving way that He has intervened. And *persevering* prayer as you patiently wait on His sovereign will and timing is precious to Him as well.

Second, we wrote in a previous Observation that so many Christians dodge using the Name “Jesus” in their conversations with unbelievers, and even with other Christians. If you’re one of these people, we encourage you to overcome this Christ-denying habit so you can be His effective intervener. Make it a goal for yourself to meaningfully use the Name of Jesus at least 5 times during each day, whether in audible praise but especially in talking with others. Make it a Name you can’t help but say with appreciation!

“God must see you as the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing. To the one you can’t help being the smell of death; to the other, you’re the fragrance of His life-giving grace.” (paraphrase of 2Corinthians 2:15,16a)

Here’s another metaphor of intervention. You reveal the reality of the presence of our Lord’s Spirit by your willingness to *be His sword*. His character of **love, forgiveness** and **compassion** is displayed through *your humility*. His power is released through *your obedience*. Penetrate the darkness by BEING HIS DOUBLE-EDGED SWORD OF INTERVENTION!

Mike & Sue