

## Please Don't Allow The Deluded To Influence You!

Dear Friends in Christ Jesus our Lord,

First, we aren't writing to get you into the middle of any local fray. There is none. Last week we emailed you our response to an article in our local newspaper written by a clergyman. Our email was entitled, "*What We're Experiencing Locally Is National.*" The newspaper forwarded our response to the pastor and we received an email from him in response to ours. Having read his articles for many months, we could anticipate his reply.

Our first reaction to his email to us was to be filled with tremendous compassion for the people in this area, both for those who read his monthly articles and for those in his congregation. So many people are being taught what to believe by their clergy person, whether he is behind a pulpit or writing articles. Yet these same listeners and readers are never encouraged to turn to the Holy Spirit to confirm our Father's perspective, nor are they in a position to question the teacher. Our sadness over this situation prompted us (like in Jude v3) to stop other work and encourage you in a faith walk that provides you direct access to truth and the True Source of this truth. Why?

One of the compelling **idols of theologians** in Roman Catholicism and among the Reformers was that the ecclesiastical authorities and the creeds they invented must be the guiding force in their adherents' lives. In other words, **religious authorities had the right to determine what you have to believe**. While both Roman Catholicism and Protestantism point to the Bible with varying emphasis on its authority in a person's life, there's a huge missing element: Both systems absolutely negated the role of the Holy Spirit to provide specific individual guidance through His indwelling presence within a follower of Jesus. Many of the Reformers even declared that after the Bible was canonized, there is no more revelation from the Holy Spirit — this means you can't hear from Him. So however the theologians interpreted the Bible was what you as a Christian had to believe and live by.

We wrote in Reality 2 that the theology which was established by white European, anti-Semitic theologians was based on **ecclesiastical dominance** and **absolute power**. These uncontested intellectuals controlled the manner in which clergy teach Christians, giving the listeners neither opportunity to ask questions *nor* any encouragement to verify their teachings through the Holy Spirit's *rhema*. No spiritual growth or desire to grow comes from that kind of dominance! Even today the slogan, **"What would Jesus do?"** seldom translates into practical experience among Christians. Too many have been seduced into spiritual lethargy and passivity, never thinking to seek the Spirit of our Lord for specific guidance (*rhema*) of "What would Jesus do if He were me?"

(For a more comprehensive understanding of how indispensable the Holy Spirit's *rhema* is in your faith walk, see Lifebyte 53. Kingdom Living (Part 3) *Born Again—Guided By The Spirit Of Jesus* <<https://restorationministries.org/download/53.kingdomrhema.pdf>>).

## **“What’s good for the goose should be good for the gander.”**

We want to explain why we were filled with compassion for the people in this region when we read the clergyman’s response. An anecdote from our past will help you understanding a biblical shepherd’s role in helping his flock make Christ-like decisions.

In the 1980s and early 90s we ministered at a retreat center, where every month we hosted a pastors’ breakfast for the clergy in the surrounding towns. This group played an intricate part in Mike’s wider role in counseling pastors and religious leaders throughout southern New England. At that time Christian schools and home schooling children were a hot topic. State and local school boards were especially hard-line against home schooling. In a neighboring state a father was jailed for home schooling his children!

During one breakfast gathering, a pastor informed the rest of the group that he and his wife were considering sending his children to a Christian school. Then at the next month’s breakfast he told everyone that he had decided to send his children to a public school. When Mike asked how he had come to that conclusion, the pastor responded, “The public school is only a few blocks from our home.”

Since Mike counseled these pastors in biblical applications that affected their ministries, the others wanted to know Mike’s response to this man’s decision. Mike told them that if they hadn’t been pastors of congregations, the criterion of proximity that the pastor used to send his children to public school might be valid. But as a shepherd who was leading a flock, this man needed to establish the same Bible-based process that all the other fathers in the congregation could use to discern how our Lord Jesus wanted their children educated. The pastors warmly received Mike’s counsel. Soon the pastors in the group who had younger children began developing a biblical process to guide the fathers in their congregations. One pastor who initially adamantly opposed Christian schools or home schooling became convicted by the Scriptures to send his own children to a Christian school (see Hebrews 4:12). A sad addendum to this story is that the original pastor who decided to send his children to a public school because it was close to his home was removed by his congregation a short time later for other reasons.

You can see from this anecdote one way in which we understand authentic shepherds to function among their flocks. But in his email response to Mike, the local clergyman cited statistics he had gathered from VAERS to support his adult son’s objection to both the Covid vaccine and his company’s mandate policy. Again, his email didn’t touch on what Jesus would do or on the Scriptures. VAERS, the Vaccine Adverse Reporting System, is co-sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Both are agencies of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). VAERS lists deaths and other adverse reactions that occurred sometime after a person had received a Covid vaccine.

Many of the antagonistic and vocal **“the virus is a hoax”** people use the VAERS site reports to support their hoax deception. The clergy person used this data in his email to Mike. But the next day the Holy Spirit stopped Mike in the middle of watching a football game and directed him to go to the VAERS website. What he found at the website was a specific Disclaimer which neither the clergy person nor the “hoaxers” ever include in their distorted presentation of “truth.” Our discussion which follows has great bearing on your own pursuit of walking in the Truth the Holy Spirit quickens to you.

## Disclaimer

“VAERS accepts reports of adverse events and reactions that occur following vaccination. Healthcare providers, vaccine manufacturers, and the public can submit reports to the system. While very important in monitoring vaccine safety, VAERS reports alone cannot be used to determine if a vaccine caused or contributed to an adverse event or illness. The reports may contain information that is incomplete, inaccurate, coincidental, or unverifiable. In large part, reports to VAERS are voluntary, which means they are subject to biases. This creates specific limitations on how the data can be used scientifically. Data from VAERS reports should always be interpreted with these limitations in mind.

“VAERS data available to the public includes only the initial report data to VAERS. Updated data which contains data from medical records and corrections reported during follow up are used by the government for analysis. However, for numerous reasons including data consistency, these amended data are not available to the public.” (emphasis added)

Here are some important points to take away from this Disclaimer to help you evaluate your own decisions about this very relevant topic. One purpose of the VAERS Disclaimer is to prevent people from creating a false connection between someone receiving the vaccine and an illness or death which occurred at some later date. The Disclaimer also emphasizes that the source of an initial report may be questionable until it is verified by VAERS. Also stressed is the fact that any updates or amendments to reports that have been submitted are never reported to the public.

In their attempts to keep the public informed, VAERS has inadvertently opened the door for the public to misuse the website data to support someone's own personal or political bias. The real hoax isn't the virus or the vaccine, but rather the self-deluded people who entice others to join them in their delusion by misrepresenting incomplete data as truth.

It's between you and our Lord whether you get the vaccine or not. But it's essential that you decide according to the motives which Jesus would have if He were you. Our deep concern for you is if you refuse to get the Covid vaccine because you've been influenced by Fox News or other similarly slanted news outlets, or by people in positions of media influence who misuse the VAERS data to build their lies on. When research data is manipulated to affirm someone's particular agenda or mindset, then they are asserting, like the clergyman to Mike, **“VAERS is god of undeniable truth.”**

As in past writings, we strongly encourage you to first look to the Holy Spirit for truth and guidance. Then you'll be able to discern the lies of man and the distortions of those who deceive through manipulation. A person who genuinely verifies truth by the indwelling Holy Spirit is the truth of the Spirit in person. Think about it...

Finally, in regard to our confronting people about the religious lies they embrace, we were recently asked, “Why do you bother?” For us the answer has been simple:

1. Other people in our past who cared deeply about our spiritual walk confronted us in exposing religious lies we had held dearly to.
2. The Holy Spirit also used others to instill in us a deep commitment to turn to Him first for verification, for guidance, and for the empowerment to do our Father’s will.
3. After we returned from Israel with the Hebraic foundations, one of the first commands our Father gave us was, **“Free the captives.”** At first we didn’t understand which captives He was specifically referring to. But we soon understood that the captives were people who were ensnared in the lies of Hellenism/Romanism, and dominated by Nicolaitanism.

(You can find out more about how our Father gave us the command to “Free the captives” and how that particular night has guided our lives ever since: *Turning The Hearts Of The Fathers To The Children* <<https://restorationministries.org/download/01.father-s.pdf>>).

Over the years as we’ve worked to free the captives within the system of Christianity, most of these dear people don’t even realize that they are captives. And if a person *doesn’t* turn to the Holy Spirit for verification of these truths, then all our efforts are like trying to push a camel through the eye of a needle.

Mike & Sue