

## Big “C”

Why is it important to distinguish between the Word from God and the Word of God? Aren't they one and the same? If Jesus is the word of God and in Hebrews 4: 12, it says the word of God is alive and active...that means He is still communicating with His followers through the Holy Spirit. That is extremely important to realize so that you listen to the Spirit and not man.

The word of God is your weapon, the sword of the Spirit, as it says in Ephesians 6: 17, against satan and the flesh. Is it wrong to listen to a fellow believer? Heavens no! But the final voice you should hear and obey is the Holy Spirit. Can't God talk through His people and let other believers know what He wants for their lives? Sadly that is what it has come to. We do not feel worthy enough to think God will speak to us. Only His appointed leaders hear from God. The word we overlook pertaining to our relationship with God is the word CHOSEN. Remember He said He chose us! If you were deemed good enough or Chosen to spend eternity with God when you die, why wouldn't you think you are worthy now to hear His voice?

Paul received from the Holy Spirit and he wrote it down, mostly in letters to someone or some place, to let them know what he had been hearing from God. The same was happening with the other believers all over the known world. God was speaking and they were writing. Why do we hold these writings in higher regard than a book or letter from one that is a Spirit lead believer today?

I believe that it is all in how we have been taught. Today many go to church because they believe that is the only place to hear a Word from God. You must remember that you are His church and that you can hear directly from God for yourself. We have not been taught to listen for the voice of God, but to let a pastor who is qualified, listen for you and then tell you what He has to say. You can easily see how this system has worked perfectly for generations...I guess God had something to say differently to one church group, than He did to another church group, and to another church group etc. etc. That explains why there are so many different denominations all professing that they are hearing a different message from the same God.

Trust me on this one...there is one God and one message. It won't vary from group to group. So why are there all the different denominations professing God as their savior? Maybe they are not listening to God, but following a set of rules that man established long ago as to what is right and what is wrong for hearing God.

But, what if a doctrine is found in the bible that one church interprets one way and another church interprets their way? Shouldn't we follow it? Which one is right if both can defend their position? I read only one commandment that my Savior said He wanted me to follow. "...that you love one another just as I have loved you", John 15:12. I find it

very difficult to understand how one commandment could possibly divide God's church into so many different denominations.

I can remember a time that a black man and his family would not even be allowed in a white man's church. I guess the leaders of that church had heard from God and were told that they shouldn't be permitted in their service. I guess the one commandment that He ask of us, had been cancelled! I hope you are getting my point! Why are we making it so hard for God to be our God! One commandment, only one... and then He gave us the Holy Spirit to help us to do it. We want to concentrate on everything but hearing the Holy Spirit. If we would listen, we wouldn't be divided.

Why I think we make it hard is that we think that the things Jesus did were what we are suppose to be doing. When we are not able to walk the Jesus walk, we get disgusted with ourselves and feel that we are not worthy of a relation with God. Is it possible to walk the Jesus walk? In the flesh...no way. By His spirit...Yes. Remember He said I am the way, the truth and the life. (John 14:12) Also remember He walked in the fullness of the Holy Spirit. Can we do what Jesus did? The bible says you can and that even greater things we will be able to do than Jesus, (John 14:12). Could that be possible????

Is it more important to God to see you at least trying to walk the walk or watch you create your own walk. In the letter to Laodicea, in Revelation 3: 15, God said that he would wish that you would either be hot or cold but not lukewarm about your relationship with Him. Would doing it your own way and not caring to try it God's way, be considered luke warm? I believe God expects us to walk His walk.

The reason I am critical of the big "C", the corporate church, is that it gives the believer an excuse not to walk His walk. Like I have said, I believe the bible is the word from God and the words written in the bible were directed to the church which is YOU and ME. Today because we call ourselves Baptist, Methodist, Pentecostal, whatever. A denominational title allows us to hide from the responsibilities of the believer. Today we read the bible as if it is addressing a denomination rather than Us. Feed the poor, visit the sick, take care of the widows, visit the orphans, be my disciples, spread the gospel. We think because I attend a church, big "C", that is doing these things, I am OK. I write a check that goes to those ministries, so I am doing what God is commanding me to do. Could this be walking the walk you have decided is right? The word from God is to You, not a building with a cross on top of it.

You cannot hide in your religion. When you stand before Jesus for judgment, it won't be with a group. You'll be all by yourself...alone with your sins and decisions you have made. All of us will stand in that place before Jesus and I would rather say I tried the best I could to hear the Holy Spirit and walk the walk you ask of me, than say I was a member of this big "C" and I trusted them to get it right for me.

You basically have put your trust, no your salvation, into someone else's hands other than the Holy Spirit. I have no idea why anyone would do this--based on what? Because that is how it has always been? Well that is not how it has always been. The big "C" has only

been around for about 400+ years, with the beginning of the protestant church in the late 1,500, early 1,600's. Jesus died over 2,000 years ago.  
Do you think it took God 1,600 hundred years to get it right or 1,600 years for man to get it wrong?