

WORD OF THE WEEK

The Subject: Popular Opinion Is Against God

Proverbs 14:12 -- *There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.*

1 Samuel 16:7 - *Man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart.*

Matthew 7:13,14 -- *Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way that leadeth to destruction, and "many" there be which go in thereat: because strait (narrow) is the gate, and narrow is the way that leadeth unto life, and "few" there be that find it.*

Romans 3:4 -- *let God be true, but every man a liar true - Greek: alethes - not to conceal or hide*

Popular opinion covers up (lies) the truth of God by an outward exterior. All men lie when they attempt to conceal "the wickedness of their hearts" by their pride (wealth, beauty, talent, money, strength, power, position, etc.). Man's outward appearance is the pretense and opinion by which he calls God a liar. He says, "Look at me. I am a respectable man in the community. God won't send me to hell because I'm a nice guy". In man's opinion, life is a popularity contest. It is not a search for truth (truth is not popular). Jesus said that the things of the world, which man holds in high esteem (position, money, popularity, etc.) are an abomination (stinking smell) to God (Luke 16:15). These things are mans covering (Rom. 3:7 - "my lie") with which he deceives himself. Paul says, "that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble are called (1 Cor. 1:26)". God will not allow man to continually glory in the flesh (1 Cor. 1:29). The man who constantly talks of himself and all his accomplishments seeks his own glory (John 7:18). This is the great lie of outward appearance, with which a man clothes himself. Paul's words deny this false covering which man uses to tell the lie of self glory.

1 Cor. 4:7 -- What hast thou that thou didst not receive? Now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?

Paul is saying, "All that you have is a gift from God. Why are you boasting and taking credit, as though it were your own creation". The majority of mankind votes for himself and this majority (many) will enter destruction (hell) because they vote for their own opinion and not God's truth. "Few" of the population of the world will believe God and enter the narrow gate into everlasting life. Truth is not determined by the vote of the masses. It matters not what man "thinks" (whether president, minister, financial wizard, beauty queen or celebrity). Only one vote counts. God has already cast it before the foundation of the world. The world doesn't care what truth really is -- They "think" that truth is what they "think" it is -- by popular vote. The man who tells truth is unpopular with men but he is blessed of God.

Luke 6:22 -- Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of mans sake. (for saying truth)

The only might that makes right belongs to God and he will reveal it when he calls the world to judgment. God is a majority of one. We must repent of our opinions and believe God's truth.

GRACE AND TRUTH MINISTRIES

P.O. Box 1109 Hendersonville, TN 37077
Jim Brown - Bible Teacher • 824-8502

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