



The Caller

A Weekly Newsletter of the Elizabethtown church of Christ

Vol. XXXXV

November 24, 2019

No. 45

Confidence Corner

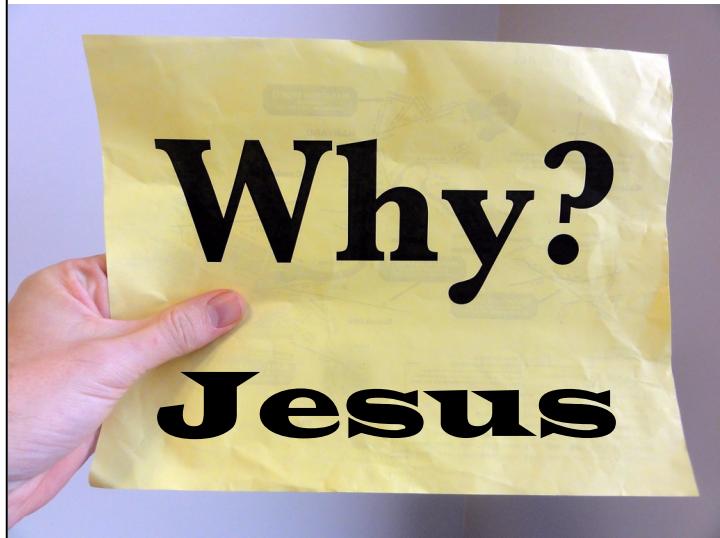
In this week's *Confidence Corner* we want to mention a few changes in the Church that are concerning. We will do so not just to report what is going on but to also voice regrets that in some places the Church is determined to teach and practice things that are contrary to the word of God.

There is a continued movement in some congregations and preachers to teach a view regarding heaven that cannot be substantiated from Scripture. Some will say that the earth will only be purged by fire and that earth will then be the dwelling place of those who have been faithful to God through eternity. Of course, such teaching rejects the clear distinction made between heaven and earth in the rest of Scripture. There is not space to refute this doctrine entirely here but I would point you to the following article as one source to study. <https://www.christiancourier.com/articles/1353-will-heaven-be-on-earth>.

Kayleigh also just sent me a link to an article where a congregation studied and the leadership voted to expand the role of women in the public service of the Church. The leadership voted to allow women to hold places of position authority over the man in violation of 1 Tim 2. They seem to highlight the fact that by a 2/3rds vote the leadership decided not to allow women elders and preachers. I am confident my members are amazed at such a statement. Since when do elders vote on the truth of God's Word?

As I noted, all of this is quite sad. I am thankful for elders and members who desire to hold to the truths of God's Word. Do not allow any man to lead you away from God and His Word.

jfb



Because Life is Tougher Without Him!

Come Learn More about Jesus at our event:

12 Hours of Jesus

Saturday, December 28, 2019

8am to 8pm

Pritchard Community Center

Elizabethtown KY

For more info: www.12HoursofJesus.org

Sunday's Sermons:

A.M. — *Deliverer*

Exodus 2:11-15

P.M. — *The LORD is My Portion*

Lamentation 3:21-24

COMPROMISE

Individuals who hold to an uncompromising standard are sorely lacking in the church today. Many will boast of their moral standards and claim a righteous character, yet abandon their conviction when compromise is more beneficial and expedient. Perhaps you recognize one or more of the following:

1. People say they believe the Bible, yet attend churches where the Bible isn't taught.
2. People agree that sin must be punished until one of those sins are committed by their children.
3. People oppose dishonesty and corruption until they must confront their bosses and risk losing their jobs.
4. People pretend they love their spouse until their lusts are kindled by unscriptural relationships.
5. People are honest until a little dishonesty will save them money.
6. People hold a belief until someone they admire or fear challenges it.

Sadly, such compromises are not exceptions; they have become the rule. And sadly such is an example that many things have not changed since the beginning of time. Scripture is full of people who compromised, including some very choice servants of God.

Adam compromised God's law, followed his wife's sin, and was separated from God (Gen. 3:6, 22–24). Abraham compromised the truth, lied about Sarah's relationship to him, and nearly lost his wife (Gen. 12:10–12). Sarah compromised God's Word and sent Abraham to Hagar, who bore Ishmael (Gen. 16:1–4, 11–12). Moses compromised God's command and lost the privilege of entering the Promised Land (Num. 20:7–12). Samson compromised his Nazirite vow and lost his strength, his eyesight, and his life (Judg. 16:4–6, 16–31). Israel compromised the commands of the Lord, lived in sin, fought the Philistines, and lost the Ark of God (1 Sam. 4:11). Israel also compromised the law of God with sin and idolatry and lost her homeland (2 Chron. 36:14–17). Saul compromised God's divine word by not slaying the animals of his enemy and lost his kingdom (1 Sam. 15:3, 20–28). David compromised God's standard, committed adultery with Bathsheba, murdered Uriah, and lost his infant son (2 Sam. 11:1–12:23). Solomon compromised his convictions, married foreign wives, and lost the United Kingdom (1 Kings 11:1–8). Judas compromised his supposed devotion for Christ for thirty pieces of silver and was separated from Christ eternally (Matt. 26:20–25, 47–49; 27:1–5; cf. John 17:12). Peter compromised his conviction about Christ, denied Him, and lost his joy (Mark 14:66–72). Ananias and Sapphira compromised their word about their giving, lied to the Holy Spirit, and lost their lives (Acts 5:1–11).

Many historical figures of the Bible compromised. Some returned back to God after they compromised. Some there is no record of their compromise though we know they are not sinless (Romans 3:10 and 23). I hope your goal is to live your life so as never to compromise God's Word. If by chance you do, do not give up and turn from God; rather turn back to Him so you can have eternal life.