

Beware Of Human Creeds

No. 255

Introduction.

- I. Most religious groups today have a creed book. These creeds are principles and statements of religious belief drawn up by men.
- II. Today (out of a deep reverence and love for God's word), I would like to give some reasons why we should reject these human creeds.
 - A. I would like to give some reasons why we should follow the New Testament that was ratified, made binding by Christ's blood.
 - B. I would also like to give some reasons why we should follow the New Testament as our only creed in religion.
- I. **New Testament Is Sufficient** - We should reject human creeds because the New Testament is sufficient.
 - A. The New Testament was written by men inspired of God. It contains all truth which relates to salvation. There is no saving truth outside of the holy scriptures.
 - B. **Jesus said to the apostles.** (Jn. 14:26; 16:13).
 1. Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would teach the apostles all things and guide them "into all the truth."
 2. After Christ's ascension the apostles did receive the Holy Spirit who guided them "into all the truth." (Acts 2:4; 1 Cor. 2:13; 2 Tim. 3:16, 17; Acts 20:27; 2 Pet. 1:3).
 - C. These scriptures set forth that the New Testament contains **all things pertaining to life and godliness**; therefore, human creeds should be rejected and denounced by those who seek salvation.
 1. **If a human creed book contains more than the New Testament, it contains too much.** If it contains less than the New Testament, it contains too little. If it contains just what is taught in the New Testament, no more and no less, then the creed book is superfluous and we do not need it.
 2. **We have been strongly warned against adding or taking away from God's word.** (Deut. 4:2; Prov. 30:6; Matt. 15:9; 1 Cor. 4:6; Gal. 1:8; 1 Tim. 1:3; 2 Jn. 9).
- II. **Human Creeds Contradict God's Word** - We should reject human creeds because human creeds contradict God's word.
 - A. All creed books known to me contradict doctrines clearly taught in God's word. Let me give just a few illustrations.
 1. The **Methodist Discipline** says,

"Wherefore, that we are justified by faith only, is a most wholesome doctrine, and very full of comfort."

- a. This creed book says man is “justified by faith only.”
 - b. The Bible says. (Jas. 2:17, 20, 24,26).
2. The **Baptist Manual**, along with most of the other creed books, affirms that water baptism is not essential to salvation from sins. The New Testament teaches just the opposite. (Jn. 3:5; Mk. 16;16; Acts 2:38; 1 Pet. 3:21).
 3. **Some creed books** now teach that **practicing homosexuals are acceptable to God**. The New Testament, as well as the Old Testament, condemns this sin.

LEV 18:22 'You shall not lie with a male as one lies with a female; it is an abomination.

LEV 20:13 'If there is a man who lies with a male as those who lie with a woman, both of them have committed a detestable act; they shall surely be put to death. Their bloodguiltiness is upon them.

ROM 1:26 For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural,

ROM 1:27 and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error.

1CO 6:9 Or do you not know that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals,

1CO 6:10 nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, shall inherit the kingdom of God.

1TI 1:9 realizing the fact that law is not made for a righteous man, but for those who are lawless and rebellious, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers

1TI 1:10 and immoral men and homosexuals and kidnappers and liars and perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound teaching,

1TI 1:11 according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, with which I have been entrusted.

4. Numerous creed books **authorize women to preach**. What does the Bible say?

1CO 14:34 Let the women keep silent in the churches; for they are not permitted to speak, but let them subject themselves, just as the Law also says.

1CO 14:35 And if they desire to learn anything, let them ask their own husbands at home; for it is improper for a woman to speak in church. Quote 1 Tim. 2:12

5. Many creed books affirm **the kingdom of Christ is yet to come**. The New Testament teaches the kingdom of God or Christ is already here. (Acts 2:33, 36; Col. 1:13; Heb. 12:28; Rev. 1:9).

- B. I could give hundred of illustrations of the fact that human creed books contradict God’s word. These creeds should therefore be exposed and rejected.

III. Human Creeds Promote Religious Division - We should reject human creeds because they promote religious division.

- A. Human creeds conflict with one another and hinder the unity for which Jesus prayed. (Jn. 17:20, 21).

B. The Bible condemns religious division. (Rom. 16:17; 1 Cor. 1:10; Eph. 4:4-6).

1. Since human creeds promote religious division and the Bible condemns division, we must reject them.
2. We must not embrace that which destroys unity.

IV. **Human Creeds Will Not Be The Standard Of Judgment** - We should reject human creeds because they will not be the standard of judgment.

- A. In that great day men will not be judged by **fallible human creeds** written to please men.
- B. They will be judged by God's infallible word. (Jn. 12:48; Jas. 2:12 (Jas. 1:25); Rev. 20:12b).

V. **Human Creeds Cannot Produce Christians** - We should reject human creeds because they cannot produce Christians.

- A. A **Catechism** will produce a Catholic, a **Methodist Discipline** will make a Methodist, the **Book of Mormon** will make a Mormon, the **Baptist Manual** will produce a Baptist, but it takes the word of God (the gospel), and that only, to produce a Christian.
- B. The word of God (the seed of the kingdom, Luke 8:11), not human creeds, is the power of God unto salvation. (Jn. 8:32; Rom. 1:16; 1 Pet. 1:23).

Conclusion.

I. **Beloved, these are some reasons why we should reject human creeds.** Human creeds, which are written by men and change with the whims of men, lead to condemnation. Only the New Testament contains the truth that will save our souls and lead to life everlasting with God.

II. **Once I read this interesting statement about God's word.**

A. "Men do not reject the Bible because it contradicts itself, but because it contradicts them."

B. **Don't reject the soul-saving word of God.**

1. "Receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls." (Jas. 1:21).
2. Let truth become deeply rooted in your heart and transform you into the likeness of Christ.

C. Accept the Lord's invitation. Come to Jesus and submit to Him in faith and in baptism and in obedience. Come to Him as we stand and sing the hymn of invitation.

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