

Culturally Relevant or Christ Revealing

In current times we assume that the Bible needs to be "reinterpreted" to make it relevant for today's culture as well as our personal lifestyle. We don't make the Word of God relevant -it was, is and will always be relevant because God is the source of relevancy, not the culture.

We think that Jesus Christ needs to be "redefined" to conform to our way of living and to be attractive to our contemporary culture.

"Contemporary" has become the byword of the Church today: "We must be contemporary if we are going to win people to Christ!"

The word "contemporary" is a compound word: the prefix, "con" means "with" and "tempo" meaning "times" or "timing". Thus, its connotation is "keeping with the current times" which is determined by the present-day culture.

Since Satan is the god of this world or culture (2 Corinthians 4:4), to be contemporary implies being in tune with Satan's program!

Is the Person and Life of Christ being manifested in and through our lives (see Philippians 1:20)?

When Christ accentuated "you are the salt of the earth" (Matthew 5:13), He was not speaking of the believer flavoring or preserving a culture that is corrupted, but rather creating a thirst for the Savior.

Christ punctuated, "you are the light of the world (vs. 14).

The primary function of light is to reveal -we are to be revealing Him!

Are we culturally relevant or Christ-revealing?

When the Church attempts to be culturally relevant, we then take our cues from the world. Consequently, the Church (becomes) more a reflection of the culture than of Christ.

... a Christian is one characterized by Christ (Himself) -no longer my life, but His Life -one whose life (reveals) Christ.

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