



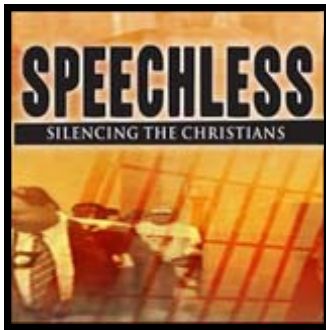
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Evangelism Update 03-02-08

This newsletter has been formatted for HTML capable email clients (like Outlook Express, Thunderbird, or Hotmail). If you're using a text-only email client, I suggest reading the Evangelism Update at the Newsletter link on our website: www.fool4given.com

To unsubscribe from this newsletter please email fool4given@gmail.com.

Note from Jim:



Please watch [Speechless ... Silencing the Christians](#) a free web cast for onenewsnow.com subscribers.

Renowned author and commentator Janet Parshall takes you on a journey across the country to meet citizens who have been arrested for speaking out at a public rally, students who are being forced to attend classes that require them to recite verses from the Koran and to stage their own jihad and activists pushing social tolerance to such an extreme that the Bible itself is being labeled "hate speech."

Scripture of the Week:

So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. (1 Corinthians 10:31)

Quote of the Week:

"It takes spiritual authority to bless others. Many Christians say, 'God bless you,' but one clearly senses that although the words express a kind wish, they lack real spiritual authority." (M. Basilea Schlink)

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"AND IF THIS FOOD DOES WHAT I THINK IT WILL -
MAY WE ALL MEET IN HEAVEN."

Recommended Resource:



Check out the [One Minute Gospel](#) video. (MP3 audio also available for download [here](#).)

Questions & Objections:

This Q&A comes from [The Evidence Bible](#).

Q. My God would never create hell.

A. Those who say that are right: their "god" would never create hell, because he couldn't. He doesn't exist. He is a figment of their imagination, a god they have created to suit themselves. It's called "idolatry," and it's the oldest sin in the Book. Idolaters will not inherit the kingdom of God. The one true God, however, could and did create hell for those who reject His mercy. They will reap His just wrath.

One-Day Way of the Master Training:



We would be glad to host a Way of the Master evangelism training for your church or small group. This one-day seminar is a proven, effective way to help people overcome their fear of witnessing and show them how to reach out to the lost. We will quickly equip those who attend to simply and effectively share their faith with family, friends, and strangers. What makes our training unique is when the classroom training is over, you have the option to hit the streets and immediately start to use the new tools you have just learned. The seminar consists of the following activities:

- Three powerful interactive messages that will equip the attendees in how to share the gospel effectively and biblically with anyone, anytime, anywhere.
- Quick Tips on how to have fun sharing your faith while overcoming your fears.
- Quick Tips on how to effectively witness one-2-one using the Way of the Master.
- Hands-on, in-the-trenches training with proven leaders.

The One-Day Way of the Master Training is **FREE** for the host and to all who attend.

** The Way of the Master has been commended by Franklin Graham, Dr. D. James Kennedy, David Wilkerson, Bill Gothard, John MacArthur, Ravi Zacharias, David Jeremiah, Joni Eareckson Tada, Josh McDowell, and many other Christian leaders.

Weekly "Fishing" Report:

We met for street fishing on Saturday and were able to give out some [Tickets to Heaven](#) and other tracts before rain and hail drove us off the streets.

We retreated to Denny's where we once again pulled out our Bible's and sharpened our swords over coffee. Something interesting came up and I thought I'd pass it along.

*However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.
(Ephesians 5:33)*

In Ephesians 5 we see that the roles of husbands and wives in marriage also reflect the relationship of Christ and his church. The verse above commands the husband to love his wife. The word is "agapao" meaning an unconditional agape love; this is further revealed in v25 which adds "as Christ loved the church". With that in mind, look back at v33 to see the role or response the wife is called to - she is to respect her husband. This is even more interesting when we consider this is not only talking about earthly marriage (small scale) but also the relationship between the church and our Lord (grand scale). Isn't there something that's missing in the response of the Bride of Christ to her heavenly husband today?

Has our modern church forsaken its respect, reverence, awe ... and dare I say fear of the Lord? There a plethora of songs, sermons and articles out there about God's love for us and our love for him ... but what about our call as his bride to respect him?

It's all over the place in Proverbs. This is just a handful from what I found with a search at BibleGateway.com.

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge. (Proverbs 1:7a)

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight. (Proverbs 9:10)

The fear of the LORD is instruction in wisdom. (Proverbs 15:33a)

The fear of the LORD leads to life. (Proverbs 19:23a)

The word used here is "yirah" which means to hold in awe or morally reverence.

Notice the instruction from Moses below. What is given first? Note also that loving the Lord is listed separately, so we may logically conclude that our respect for the Lord and love for him are not necessarily the same thing.

And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the LORD, which I am commanding you today for your good? (Deuteronomy 10:12-13)

Some will probably say, but Jim ... that's Old Testament! Things in the New Testament age are different. Let's see...

In reference to the ministry of reconciliation, the Apostle Paul says *"Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others. (2 Corinthians 5:11a)"*

You're probably familiar with the story of Ananias and Sapphira in Acts chapter 5, if not stop here and read it (verses 1-11). Notice the response at the end is that *"great fear came upon the whole church and upon all who heard of these things. (Acts 5:11)"* Further, we see in verses immediately following (vv12-14) that this response lead to active evangelism, the people holding the church in esteem and God readily increasing the number of believers.

Lastly, I know people will say "but Jesus said the greatest commandment was to 'LOVE the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength' (Mark 12:30, emphasis mine)" True. However, note how Jesus and the Apostle John further define this love for God...

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments." (John 14:10)

"If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love." (John 15:10)

"For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome." (1 John 5:3)

The spirit of each of these three verses seems to harken back to what we saw from Moses in Deuteronomy 10:12-13, don't they? Within our love for God should lay an inherent "yirah" -- an awe, reverence and obedience ... RESPECT. Perhaps this is the response that lead the apostles to refer to themselves as bondslaves to Christ.

The Lord loves us in "agape" form as we see commanded of husbands in the opening verse; a love that even lays down his life for his bride.

In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. (1 John 4:10)

We then as his bride should respond in respect, reverence and awe for who he is and his amazing grace, but is this the heart of the church today?

Anyways, this just came up in our study and conversation on Saturday and I've been trying to gel my thoughts and put them to words since then. It's something I'm just scratching the surface on, but it has put words to something I'm sensing is missing on the landscape of most of the church today. Chew on it, kick it around amongst yourselves and see what comes of it. I welcome your thoughts, input and feedback.

Jesus, may you receive the honor that you're due!

Prayer Points:

- Pray for the salvation of Roman Catholics this week.
 - ""The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."" (Matthew 9:37-38, ESV)
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Calendar:

- **Downtown Fishing Hole** (Recurring)
Saturdays
Street witnessing (3pm to 6pm) downtown along 6th Street. Meet in the Budget Internet parking lot (4th St & F St).

If you would like to join us, [email us](#) your contact info.

These newsletters have no copy-right. Take the liberty to share them with others.

'til the nets are full...

