

Not Biblical Anymore Exodus 1:6-10

Where is the _____ and our convictions these days? Many people _____ abandoned by their spiritual leaders. Many people today feel spiritually _____ because their denomination or church has forgotten God. Do you feel empty? The Lord Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. And no one comes to the Father except through Me" (John 14:6). If Jesus is the way to the Father, we need to _____ what the Lord Jesus _____. If we love the Lord, we need to be _____ to what He says. If He has given us His way in the Scriptures, then we need to _____ what they teach and _____ firmly to them. We want the Lord's way because we know that nothing else can take its _____.

You've probably noticed that our _____ has changed in recent years. Both morality and religion seem to have _____ upside down. What used to be _____ is now _____, so society is telling preachers not to _____ against immorality. Society says we can't _____ certain immoral behaviors sinful any more. Some say that _____ is obsolete. Society says husbands and fathers are no longer the _____ of their homes. Some are pushing women to take _____ roles in the church. Many who stand with God's Word are amazed and they _____, "What has happened that people no longer hold to the Bible?"

Our reading today comes from Exodus 1:6-10.

I once had dinner with an acquaintance who belonged to a prominent denomination, and the conversation _____ to religion. This man told me how much his church had _____ and how alienated he felt. He grimaced at the moral and spiritual compromises that the leadership of his denomination had _____. He felt like he was no longer in the _____ denomination. What he knew growing up and what he saw in the present were very _____. He felt that his denomination had abandoned what it had believed and had _____ something unbiblical.

Society and secular progressives have pushed many religious groups to accept views that _____ the Bible. They told the religious world that they were childish and backward believers and must _____ what a more advanced society thinks or they will die. They said evolution is _____, and the church must give up its belief in _____. They said the _____ are not viable people until they are born and may be aborted. They glorified non-traditional _____ and said marriage was obsolete. They said the Bible wasn't for us _____ but spoke to people in other ages. They decided that love for _____ was more important than loving and obeying _____. They argued that the _____ of God meant that we didn't have to keep any _____ at all. In the end they _____ that God has any authority over their lives or that He matters to them.

Sadly, the more any culture _____ God out of their thinking, and their ethics, or their morals, the more miserable and difficult their lives will become. Societies can't thumb their noses at God and expect the Lord to _____ them and _____ them. Just because the thinking of a people changes with time doesn't mean that God has changed His _____. Psalm 33:11 says, "The counsel of the LORD stands _____, and the plans of his heart to all generations." People's attitudes may change, but God's _____ on the sanctity of life and the sanctity of marriage haven't changed. Just because people permit themselves to _____ God's law doesn't mean that God will _____ it. We can't _____ on God's will. God is God, and we are not. Wherever you live, whoever you are, God's Word is still _____ on you.

Read what God said in Jeremiah 18:7-10. God _____ nations, and God _____ nations. He deals with nations on the basis of whether they are _____ to listen to His voice. Are you listening to God?

I fear some think that because _____ believes or practices something, that it must be approved by God. God, however, doesn't take a _____ to determine what is right and wrong.

Read what the Lord Jesus said in Matthew 7:13-14. The popular, easy way is not _____, but leads to destruction. Only a few people will _____ God's narrow way, but it leads to life! Even if everybody tells lies, lying is still _____. Even if everybody steals, stealing remains _____. No matter how popular a sin is, sin will never be okay with God. You can't solve the problem of sin by making it _____.

The same is _____ with regard to religious groups. When people _____ the Lord's voice and _____ His teaching, He blesses them and counts them as His own. But when an individual or some group ignores His teaching or departs from the way of the Lord into moral or doctrinal error, God _____ them all accountable. Sometimes people create religious groups and cults according to their _____ thinking rather than listening to _____. Even if that group grows very _____, it's still accountable to God. The Lord created every person and will someday _____ each one according to the words that are found in the books. He commands all men everywhere to _____. We're all accountable to the Lord whether we know it, whether we acknowledge it, or whether we agree to it.

Read Hebrews 4:12-13. Time and distance don't _____ accountability. A change in the winds of _____ worldviews doesn't release anyone from God's jurisdiction. We're accountable to the Lord in matters _____ and _____. Rebellion over a small matter is _____ rebellion against God.

More than accountability, _____ is our motivation to follow the way of the Lord. When people love the Lord they enjoy being _____ Him. The Lord's way lifts up virtue and makes every person _____ and nobler. Aren't you _____ of all the ungodliness, dishonesty, and indifference in our world today? Aren't you _____ of the selfishness, greed, pride, and

power-hungry attitudes? Aren't you _____ for what's pure and good? Don't you _____ people were kind and trustworthy? We love the Lord because we have seen what the love of the Lord does in the _____ and _____ of the people who turn from sin to righteousness. They become _____ people filled with faith, and hope, and love. Men become _____ and loving husbands and fathers when Christ is in their life. Wives become warm and _____ wives and mothers when Christ is in their life. Children look to parents with _____ hearts when Christ is in their life. Neighbors _____ each other and bear one another's burdens whenever Christ is in their life. Second Corinthians 5:17 rightly says, "Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a _____ creature; and the old things passed away; behold, new things have come." Those new things are so much better than the old ways.

Take God and His Word out of people's lives, and people will be _____ and in misery. They'll turn to destructive behaviors that _____ them. They will become indifferent to other people; they will be selfish, and ungrateful. They'll seek in _____ to find something to take God's place, but nothing will. The Lord's way is so much _____ than the ways of the world; and we have to wonder how anyone could prefer sin to righteousness, or prefer lies to the truth, or prefer selfishness to love.

When churches _____ story-telling, and pop-psychology, and humor for a study of the Word of God, they've _____ from following the instructions of Scripture to being a social club. **Read what Paul charged the young preacher Timothy in 2 Timothy 4:2-5.** God expects preachers to preach the _____, not their opinions, not their experiences, and not their imaginations.

If you attend a worship service that doesn't study the Bible, you're being cheated out of God's _____. Has your religious group deserted the _____ of Scripture so they can entertain you or make you feel good? One popular speaker decided that he will not speak out against _____ or speak about salvation; he said he would leave that to others. He may be a famous motivator, but he's no preacher of the _____. He has made his _____ religion that has references to some of the Bible, but he has cheated his listeners out of the whole counsel of God.

Some religious groups study religious books written by men but never open the _____. They may not realize that the _____ author may be contradicting Scripture or teaching something false. People who _____ studying Scripture often _____ their minds with half-truths and mistaken ideas. The Lord Jesus said, "It is written, that Man shall not live by bread alone, but by _____ that comes from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). We need _____ of God's Word to live as God wills. Second Peter 1:3 says, "His divine power has granted to us _____ that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who has called us to his own glory and excellence." In the Bible, we find the truth, the _____ truth, and nothing but the truth. When we stop hearing the Bible, we can't be sure that what we're hearing is _____. Just because someone _____ himself a preacher doesn't mean what he says is true.

This is why the Lord Jesus gave the apostles the charge in Matthew 28:19-20. We must know the truth so we can _____ what God really says from what people think. Acts 17:11

calls the Bereans _____, because “they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so.” We too must begin examining the Scriptures so that we won’t be _____ by something that is unbiblical. Colossians 2:8 says, “See to it that no one takes you _____ through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, and according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ.” Study your Bible; don’t let anyone _____ you astray from the truth of God’s Word.

Perhaps you attend where they substitute entertainment for worship; you may be cheating yourself out of _____ Biblical worship in spirit and in truth. Many religious groups have given themselves over to religious entertainment, where worship leaders and soloists perform religious music like at a _____. God wants everyone to worship Him, not _____ someone else perform for them. The Lord Jesus said, “Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in _____ to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven” (Matthew 6:1). When people take the _____ off of God and put it on themselves as in a concert, they aren’t worshipping God; they’re performing. **Read what Jesus said in John 4:23-24.** Don’t substitute praising someone’s talent for the worship of God.

For some time you may have _____ what we’ve discussed today. Perhaps you’re attending a religious service or you belong to a religious group that doesn’t hold to Bible _____ anymore. You’re hearing preaching that isn’t preaching from the Word of God and isn’t leading you _____ to God. You are being entertained rather than called to _____. You need the Lord. God said through Isaiah, “‘For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor your ways My ways,’ declares the LORD. ‘For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways And My thoughts than your thoughts’” (Isaiah 55:8-9). What our sick world needs is not more looking from side to side at what people think or feel; we need to look up to God for His _____. What God teaches is far _____ than the ways of the world. Don’t substitute human ways for what is genuinely from God, and by doing that _____ yourself.

Isaiah 55:7 says, “Let the wicked _____ his way And the unrighteous man his thoughts; And let him _____ to the LORD, And He will have compassion on him, And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon.” God yearns for every heart to come to Him, for people to _____ their own ways and follow His teaching. When people turn their hearts, God abundantly _____ their past and blesses their future. Don’t _____ yourself out of a genuine faith.

To get right with God, place your _____ in Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the living God. Believing in Him as Lord means believing His teaching is true and necessary to be _____. Real faith and real love leads to _____. Repentance means I will forsake every wrong and turn to what is right and be Biblical. Repent and be _____ into Christ upon the confession of your faith. When you are baptized, the Lord will _____ away your sins according to Acts 22:16; and He will _____ you to His church according to Acts 2:47.