

Pastor's Pen

En Garde!

"Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. 2 By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, 1 John 4:1-2

The phrase *en garde* is French, which means to be on guard, a call to a fencer to adopt a defensive stance in readiness for an attack or bout. Christians need to be alert to the false teaching that tries to infiltrate the Church. Eighteen months ago, Ligonier Ministries published a survey they conduct every two years entitled "The State of Theology." The following is their statement about the survey,

What do Americans believe about God, salvation, ethics, and the Bible? Ligonier Ministries and LifeWay Research partnered to find out. Every two years, we take the theological temperature of the United States to help Christians better understand today's culture and to equip the Church with better insights for discipleship.

What they discovered should not surprise us. However, it should be a warning of how false teaching has affected the Church. I will share some of the results of that survey with you.

1. God learns and adapts to different circumstances.

U.S. Adults-51% agree

U.S. Evangelical-43% agree

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." Hebrews 13:8

2. Everyone is born innocent in the eyes of God.

U.S. Adults-70% agree

U.S. Evangelical-48% agree **"There is none righteous, not even one;"** Romans 3:10

3. The Bible, like all sacred writings, contains helpful accounts of ancient myths but is not literally true.

U.S. Adults-53% agree

U.S. Evangelical-10% agree

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,"
2 Tim. 3:16

4. Gender identity is a matter of choice.

U.S. Adults-42% agree

U.S. Evangelical-22% agree

He answered, **"Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female,"** Matthew 19:4

5. The Bible's condemnation of homosexual behavior doesn't apply today.

U.S. Adults-46% agree

U.S. Evangelical -28 % agree

"You shall not lie with a male as with a woman; it is an abomination." Leviticus 18:22

6. Religious belief is a matter of personal opinion; it is not about objective truth.

U.S. Adults-60% agree

U.S. Evangelical -20 % agree John 14:6

7. God accepts the worship of all religions, including Christianity, Judaism, and Islam.

U.S. Adults-67% agree

U.S. Evangelical -39 % agree

8. Jesus was a great teacher, but he was not God.

U.S. Adults-53% agree

U.S. Evangelical -27 % agree John 10:30

As you can see in the survey, too many people who claim to be believers have non-biblical views on God and what the Bible teaches about sin. Christians, be on guard against those claiming to be believers yet seeking to deceive the elect (Gal.5:7-9).

Your shepherd,

Pastor Mark

Quote of the Week

"He who does not hate the false does not love the true; and he to whom it is all the same whether it be God's word or man's, is himself unrenewed at heart."

– Charles Spurgeon

*Evangelicals were defined by LifeWay Research as people who strongly agreed with the following four statements:

1. The Bible is the highest authority for what I believe.
2. It is very important for me personally to encourage non-Christians to trust Jesus Christ as their Savior.
3. Jesus Christ's death on the cross is the only sacrifice that could remove the penalty of my sin.
4. Only those who trust in Jesus Christ alone as their Savior receive God's free gift of eternal salvation.

Grace Gems

The diamond in that ring!

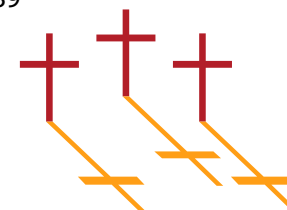
- Thomas Brooks

The whole of Scripture is but one entire love-letter, all written in golden letters, dispatched from the Lord Christ to His beloved spouse on earth. In it, there is so much to be read of . . .the love of Christ, the heart of Christ, the kindness of Christ, the grace of Christ, and the glory of Christ, that a holy heart cannot but love, and embrace, and endeavor to conform to every line.

The whole Word of God is a field—and Christ is the treasure which is hidden in that field!

The whole Word of God is a ring of gold—and Christ is the diamond in that ring!

"The Scriptures point to Me!" John 5:39



Weekly Gatherings

Bible Classes

Old & New Testament Classes
Ladies Class
Young Adults Young Parents
Youth Surge
Sunday Morning @ 9:30AM

Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM Men's Bible Study
1st and 3rd Saturday
Women of Grace | 9AM
Wednesdays | 6:30PM AWANA

Family Groups

Thursdays @ 7PM
Please check church website
for start date and directions to each

Build the Body Teams

If you would like to serve on a BtB Team
and need to sign up, please contact the
team leader at the appropriate email
address on the back of this bulletin.

Youth Study

Wednesdays @6:30PM
Youth Study & Surge!

Service Times

Sunday Services 8AM & 11:00AM
Sunday School 9:30AM
Children's Church @11:00AM

Giving from service on 02/28/2024

General Offering 11,753.37
Building Fund 1,825.75
Uganda Missions 205.00
G3 Offering 350.00

Total.....\$14,134.12
Attendance 212
Online.....75
G3 so far\$455.00

Build the Body Ministries

Women's Ministry-women@ghbcva.org
AWANA-awana@ghbcva.org
Outreach Ministry-outreach@ghbcva.org
Worship Ministry-worship@ghbcva.org
Men's Ministry-men@ghbcva.org
Children's Ministry-children@ghbcva.org
Youth Ministry-youth@ghbcva.org
Prayer Team-prayer@ghbcva.org
Maintenance-maintenance@ghbcva.org
Fellowship-fellowship@ghbcva.org
Communications-communications@ghbcva.org
Front Line-frontline@ghbcva.org
Security-security@ghbcva.org



GRACE HARVEST BIBLE CHURCH

GO GATHER GROW GO

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Grace Harvest Bible Church

Mar 3, 2024

Welcome