Man Builds His Church

Tony Mauck · Matthew 15:1–14

INTRODUCTION

- Tonight we're going to more focus on what more commonly occurs as God's intention and design for his people is corrupted and distorted.
- The result is not the church that Jesus has built, where he is the king, but it becomes a religious organization where man has determined boundaries and rules and beliefs that are not consistent with what the New Testament teaches.

1 Teaching as Doctrines the Precepts of Men

Matthew 15:1–14

- These are people who believe they are loyal to God. They are not atheists. They do not neglect worship.
- Why do you yourselves transgress the commandment of God for the sake of your tradition?
- This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far away from me.
- Every plant which my heavenly father did not plant shall be rooted up. Let them alone. They are blind guides of the blind.

2 The Rise of Denominations

2 Timothy 3:1–4

- In the last three decades, the number of denominations has proliferated to nearly 40,000.
- Attitudes toward the Bible have changed dramatically. Ignorance of the word increases. Homes are more secular and fragmented. Apathy proliferates.
- Religion is invented on the basis of man's whims. Somebody comes along and says, I want to do church this way.
- It's sort of a smorgasbord. I can pick and choose. These are the parts I like, these are the parts I don't like.

3 Denominationalism Is a Flawed System

John 17:20–21

- Denominationalism is the system and ideology founded on the division of the religious population into numerous ecclesiastical bodies, each stressing particular values or traditions, and each competing with the other.
- Each of them are trying to appeal to the consumer. We've got something that you might be interested in. And it's competition.
- We're all on the same boat, just perhaps different decks of the same boat.

- That they may all be one, even as thou, Father, art in me and I in thee. He prayed that his disciples be one.

4 Every Plant Not Planted Shall Be Rooted Up

Matthew 15:13; Ephesians 1:22–23; 2 Peter 3:16

- If the Lord didn't plant it's not his.
- It really goes back to something extremely simple, a game that we play as little children. We call it follow the leader.
- Your head tells your body what to do. And your body listens to what the head is telling it.
- If we don't plant what the Lord planted, the Father will root it up. Even people who are religious and worshipful.

5 The Good and Honest Heart

John 15:1–6; Matthew 15:14

- To be the Lord's people, and to be a part of this kingdom where he's the king, we have to submit to his reign.
- It is the good and honest heart that produces the fruit of this kingdom.
- People aren't coming to the table with the right heart. That's why it's so fragmented.

6 We Have to Convert People to Christ

Ephesians 5:23; Philippians 2:3–8

- It is easy to convert people to a religious system that claims to honor Christ, but then not be converted to Christ.
- He encouraged them all with resolute heart to remain true to the Lord.
- You need to be loyal to Him and not men, not a group.
- Whatever he says to you, do it. And that really reflects what conversion to Christ is all about.
- They've never developed the submissive and servant mind that Jesus displayed.

THE CHALLENGE

Let us model his attitude. Let us think long and hard about what it means to have the mind of Christ in us in relation to each other.

MY NOTES