

(CIVIL RESPONSIBILITIES OF CHRISTIANS)

INTRODUCTION

The other day my eyes fell on a certain headline in a small paper that I receive, CHRISTIAN ECONOMICS, and the headline read in bold letters: ITS TIME FOR A BACKLASH! First, we raise the question: WHAT IS A BACKLASH ANYWAY? Webster says:

1. That a backlash is a sudden and violent movement backward.
2. A "backlash" then can be a very unpleasant thing as any fisherman would testify.
3. The backlash is in that part of the fisherman's line wound on the reel. REEL ITSELF O K. Then does America need a backlash? America certainly does but not the sudden, violent, backward type backlash.

1. AMERICA DOES NOT NEED:

1. A political backlash aimed against any party political or otherwise.
2. A philosophical backlash that would stifle creative thinking.
3. A sociological backlash that would set race and against race.

2. AMERICA DOES NEED:

1. A backlash that would create a snarl in the specially designed reel of all those who would set us adrift on a chartless sea without the guidance of the Word of God.
2. What America needs then is a moral backlash that can come only by a renewal of the preaching of the Word of God. Many are confused over what is right and what is wrong. Many are like the farmer who could not tell his horses apart:
 1. He cut off one's tail and that did not work because it grew right back.
 2. He cut the mane off the other horse. This didn't work either because the mane grew right back.
 3. Finally he measured them and discovered that the white horse was two inches taller than the black horse. THAT WAY HE COULD TELL THEM APART:

WHY THIS CONFUSION AND CRISIS IN AMERICA TODAY?

1. Unfortunately, many theologians and "pastors" so called are in the very situation described by our Lord as "The blind leading the blind, both shall fall into the ditch." Matt. 15:14
 1. These theologians and pastors have lost their faith. "YOU cannot rightly communicate anything to anyone else until you deeply believe it yourself," one man has said.
 2. Our apologetic approach and attitude toward the Word of God has confused many to the point of leaving them in utter confusion as to what is right and what is wrong.
 1. Movies, radio-programs, TV-programs, almost without exception are filled with profanity and vulgarity of every sort.
 2. Today, there is very little, if any negative reaction to all this. It is accepted as a way of life.
 3. Our failure to teach and preach the Word of God as it is.
 1. "Here is what the Bible says" is not heard much any more. But it is:
 1. Here is what I think it says.
 2. Here is what I would prefer to say.
 2. Our failure at this point, to preach the Word of God as it is has produced:
 1. A naturalistic, humanistic, materialistic, watered down "Christianity."
 2. One's own standard becomes his religion, his way of life, his own brand of Christianity that is pleasing to him and without any regard for the Word of God.
 4. The above list, along with some others I could name, are in the main that which has produced our National Crisis.
 1. Disrespect for God's word, disrespect for government officials will always lead to

CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE

GLASGOW, KENTUCKY 42111 SOUTH GREEN STREET

Church of Christ

(CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE OF CHRISTIANS)

INTRODUCTION

The first day we lay out a certain headline in a small paper that I received, CHRISTIAN RECORDS, and the headline reads in bold letters: THE TIME FOR A BACKSLASH. We raise the question: WHAT IS A BACKSLASH ANYWAY? Webster says:

1. A "backlash" is a sudden and violent movement backward.
2. A "backlash" may also be a very unpleasant thing as any fisherman would testify.
3. The backlash is in that part of the fisherman's line wound on the reel, REEL ITSELF O.K. Then does America need a backslash? America certainly does not need sudden, violent, backward type backslash.

THE BACKSLASH DOES NOT MEAN:

1. A political backslash aimed against any party political or otherwise.
2. A philosophical backslash that would nullify creative thinking.
3. A sociological backslash that would set race and against race.

THE BACKSLASH DOES MEAN:

1. A backslash that would create a sharp in the specially designed reel of all those who would set an article on a checklist set without the guidance of the Word of God.
2. What America needs then is a moral backslash that can come only by a renewal of the preaching of the Word of God. Many are confused over what is right and what is wrong. But give the farmer who could not tell his horses apart:

 1. He cut off one's tail and that did not work because it grew right back.
 2. He cut the mane off the other horse, this didn't work either because the mane grew right back.
 3. Finally he measured them and discovered that the white horse was two inches taller than the black horse. THAT WAY HE COULD TELL THEM APART.

WHY THIS QUESTION AND ANSWER IN AMERICA TODAY?

1. Unfortunately, many theologians and "pastors" so called are in the very situation described by our Lord as "the blind leading the blind, both shall fall into the ditch." Matthew 23:16. These theologians and pastors have lost their faith. YOU cannot rightly communicate anything to anyone else until you deeply believe it yourself. One man has said:
2. Our apostolic approach and attitude toward the Word of God has continued away to the point of leaving them in water confusion as to what is right and what is wrong.
1. Novels, radio-programs, TV-programs, almost without exception are filled with profanity and vulgarity of every sort.
2. Today, there is very little, if any negative reaction to all this. It is accepted as a way of life.

Our failure to teach and preach the Word of God as it is:

1. Errors when the Bible says "is not heard much any more." But it is:
2. Here is what I think it says.
3. Here is what I would prefer to say.

Our failure at this point, to preach the Word of God as it is has produced:

1. A naturalistic, humanistic, materialistic, watered down "Christianity."
2. One's own standard becomes his religion, his way of life, his own brand of Christianity that is pleasing to him and without any regard for the Word of God.

The above list, along with some others I could name, are in the main that which has produced our National Crisis.

I disagree strongly with the proposal for government officials will always learn to

THE AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE

Wm. F. Buckley Jr.

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ONLY TWO ROADS TO TRAVEL. These two roads are:

1. THE ROAD PAVED WITH SELFISH INTEREST. This involves:

1. "SELFISH" not used in the Bible. Gen. 49:1 "And Jacob called his sons, and said, Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you that which shall befall you in the last days. in Gen. 49:6 he said, of Simeon and Levi, "...in their anger they slew a man, and in their self-will they digged down a wall." When they "digged down a wall" what did they do? Here it is:
 1. In self-will (selfishness) they took the sheep, oxen, wealth, even the wives and little ones from their neighbors.
 2. Because they were selfish and traveled the road of "Self-will" they violated every principle of right as any and every person given to selfishness will do in time and in one way or another.

2. THE ROAD PAVED WITH LOVE

1. The little four letter word "love" has a very prominent place through out the entire Bible. LOVE can be a solvent for all the ills of the world. We read:
 1. Romans 13:8; "Owe no man anything, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law."
 2. 1 Cor. 12:31; "But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way."

THE REMEDY FOR OUR PRESENT DAY CONFUSION AND STRIFE

1. History reveals that as times become easier financially they become harder spiritually

1. Our attitude toward God's Word must be corrected.

1. First, there is not anything wrong with the Reel: the Bible.
2. The trouble is in the backlash of the string (opinions, creeds ETC) with which men have bound it.

2. The evils of our day must be met with a clear word from the Lord. Examples:

1. Hosea 4:6, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee..."
2. Amos 8:11, "Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord: Verse 12 also, And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro and seek the word of the Lord, and shall not find it."

*Prayer for return
Ezra 4:10, Jer 29:7
1 Sim. 2:1, 2
1 Thes 5:15, 17, 25
Titus 2:1*

1. They have departed so far from the word of God and right living that they will look right at, even read God's word with out recognizing it. (Confusion is on every hand)
3. Luke 6:46, "And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say."

3. We need to rebuild, reshape, remodel, the American home. Three things necessary:

1. HOME-GOVERNMENT
 1. Home is the first form of society.
 2. The mutual relationship of parent and child implies two things:
 1. Authority (parental authority) on the one hand.
 2. Obedience (children obey your parents) on the other.
2. HOME-DISCIPLINE
 1. Home discipline is the method of regulating and executing the principles and practice of government.
 2. It includes the rein and the rod, the treatment of offences against the laws of home.
3. HOME-EXAMPLE
 1. Right example of the parents has much to do with the interests of home. Example may be good or bad.
 2. The parental example may lead the child to happiness or ruin.

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