

# What The Church Needs Today

Intro: There is no way for me to do justice to a topic such as this in the short amount of time we have. There are many things that the church needs today. Thus, I have tried to narrow this subject down to the major things.

## 1. LOVE.

### a. For God above anything else.

- i. Mat. 22:37 “Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.”
- ii. Mat. 6:33 “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”
- iii. Rev. 2:4-5 “Nevertheless I have *somewhat* against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.  
<sup>5</sup> Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.”

### b. For God’s Word.

- i. When we love God, we will love His Word, what He says.
- ii. Pro. 23:23 “Buy the truth, and sell *it* not; *also* wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.”
- iii. Psa. 1:2 “But his delight *is* in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.”
- iv. Psa. 119:35, 47, 97, 127 “Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein do I delight....<sup>47</sup> And I will delight myself in thy commandments, which I have loved....<sup>97</sup> O how love I thy law! *it is* my meditation all the day....<sup>127</sup> Therefore I love thy commandments above gold; yea, above fine gold.”

## 2. RESPECT.

### a. For God.

- i. He is worthy of respect.
- ii. Scriptures
  - (1) Heb. 12:28 “Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear:”
  - (2) As Creator; Gen. 1-2
  - (3) As Redeemer
  - (4) As one who is Holy, Righteous, Good, full of Grace and Mercy, etc.
  - (5) For what He has done for us.

### b. For The Bible.

- i. In General teachings:
  - (1) Thinking; 1 Cor. 4:6 “And these things, brethren, I have in a figure transferred to myself and to Apollos for your sakes; that ye might learn in us not to think *of men* above that which is written, that no one of you be puffed up for one against another.”
  - (2) Speaking; 1 Pet. 4:11 “If any man speak, *let him speak* as the oracles of God; if any man minister, *let him do it* as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.”
  - (3) Actions; 1 Cor. 1:10 “Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and *that* there be no divisions among you; but *that* ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.”

- ii. Specific teachings:
  - (1) Do not add to it.
    - (a) Pro. 30:6 “Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar.”
    - (b) 2 John 9-11 “Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. <sup>10</sup> If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into *your* house, neither bid him God speed: <sup>11</sup> For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.”
    - (c) Rev. 22:18 “For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book:”
  - (2) Do not take away from it; Rev 22:19 “And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and *from* the things which are written in this book.”
  - (3) Do not substitute anything for it.
    - (a) Mat. 15:3, 9 “But he answered and said unto them, Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?... <sup>9</sup> But in vain they do worship me, teaching *for* doctrines the commandments of men.”
    - (b) Gal. 1:6-9 “I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: <sup>7</sup> Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. <sup>8</sup> But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. <sup>9</sup> As we said before, so say I now again, If any *man* preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.”
- iii. We must do only that which is authorized by the Bible.
  - (1) Mat. 21:23-27 “And when he was come into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came unto him as he was teaching, and said, By what authority doest thou these things? and who gave thee this authority? <sup>24</sup> And Jesus answered and said unto them, I also will ask you one thing, which if ye tell me, I in like wise will tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup> The baptism of John, whence was it? from heaven, or of men? And they reasoned with themselves, saying, If we shall say, From heaven; he will say unto us, Why did ye not then believe him? <sup>26</sup> But if we shall say, Of men; we fear the people; for all hold John as a prophet. <sup>27</sup> And they answered Jesus, and said, We cannot tell. And he said unto them, Neither tell I you by what authority I do these things.”
  - (2) Col. 3:17 “And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.”

### 3. THIS LEADS TO OUR DOING WHAT GOD SAYS.

#### a. Obedience is the result

- i. John 14:15,21,23 “If ye love me, keep my commandments...<sup>21</sup> He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him...<sup>23</sup> Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.”
- ii. 1 John 5:3 “For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.”
- iii. Deu. 4:2 “Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish *ought* from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.”

#### b. This will right every aspect of life (whether religious or personal).

- i. It will correct all the moral problems in our society and in the church.

- ii. It will remedy all our problems in the home.
- iii. It will solve all our religious problems.
  - (1) It would end all denominationalism.
  - (2) It would end all false doctrines.
- iv. It would make us evangelistic; Mark 16:15 “And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.”
- v. It will resolve all questions about our salvation.
  - (1) Hear; Rom. 10:17 “So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”
  - (2) Believe; Heb. 11:6 “But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”
  - (3) Repent; Acts 17:30 “And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:”
  - (4) Confess our faith; Rom. 10:10 “For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”
  - (5) Immersed in water for the forgiveness of sins; Acts 2:38 “Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”

**Conclusion:** While the church needs many things today; if we have a love for God and His Word with a proper respect for both, I believe all the things the church needs will be resolved.