

# CHIEF

## MINISTRIES

October 2020

As we move into the last quarter of 2020, we must admit many things have changed. One could say it's for the worse, but I believe it depends on your outlook on life and where you are headed. Every day I talk to individuals here in prison that are so self-absorbed that they don't realize how they are paralyzed by fear. They say they are Christians; they say they love God, yet they complain nothing will ever work out for them. They dwell on the past, whose fault it is that they're in prison, from Donald Trump to the victim. Trust me I've heard it all. Know anyone like that? Or they're a "minister" (self-proclaimed, of course). I guess they're ministering to their bellies when they buy stolen chicken with stamps in the chow line! They talk of how much they've changed, yet all they've done was make up their "mind" to stop doing certain things. How do you know that Chief? Listen to what proceeds out of their mouths. *For by every word that proceeded out of your mouth, you will be justified or condemned. (Matthew 12:37)*. And in verse 34, it says *"out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh."* That's what's really going on inside of them. FILTH! Disgusting verbiage that the Lord hates. So, are they really His? Remember, it's by their fruit (v 33) that the tree is known. Then there are the chameleons which are probably more dangerous than all. They change what comes out of their mouths depending on who they're hanging around. I've had people living around me tell others, "make sure and don't mention my "picture" buying around Chief I don't want him to know". Or they'll play the come on games in the craft shop or when they don't think anyone from the "church" is around. What about the eyes and spirit of God? They've been to every spiritual class you can think of so they can know enough to be able to "grab the mic" and "teach" everyone else what they know or tell how "good" they are. Sly teachers can manipulate their remarks to hide false doctrine. In a debate they can easily deflect criticism and camouflage their remarks by saying, "Here's what I meant". What they can't escape is the behavior of people who practice what they preach. That's why Jesus said, *"By their fruits you shall know them (Matthew 7:16)*. In other words, what happens when people implement the teaching.

I've talked about the hyper-grace message before. Grace truly is amazing, but it is not a license to sin. If there is nothing wrong with the hyper-grace message, why are so many drawing the same wrong conclusion? If saying "all my sins are covered, past, present and future" (the only future sins covered are the ones we repent for, there is no scriptural reference in the Bible for that kind of statement). If that's not teaching a license to sin, why are so many using it as a license to sin? Why does this create an attitude of "how much of the world can I keep and still be right with God"? Why are so many turning this into a binge?

We used to be guilty of legalism (Pentecostals), we use to judge people for their clothes, their makeup, and their hair length. We were guilty of seeing the outward appearance and not the heart. Those days are long gone (except for the UPC movement). But the protest against them continues to create the opposite extreme. We just can't seem to strike a balance.

Satan despises balance with good reason. He understands that the right blend of joy and holiness, godliness with contentment, faith and love, and wisdom and boldness all produce powerful and lasting results. He must drive the church to an extreme. He doesn't care which extreme it is.

Take revival for example. When it first appears, Satan will vehemently oppose it. When he sees that he can't stop it, he will run behind it and push it to the extremes.

In any imbalance, the key is to excite people over one single idea. In the fever of revelation, they conclude that if a little is good then a lot is even better. You should be suspicious of any movement that always talks about the same thing, if you isolate a single truth to the exclusion of all others, you can turn it into a lie. That is why Martin Luther gave his pastor's the requirements to preach every biblical doctrine within a year.

If all someone can talk about is grace, they are in trouble. When they name their movement after it, they have fallen off the rails.

One of the best ways to understand grace is in these words from “Amazing Grace”. It says, “’twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.” To those in hyper-grace I must ask, “Did grace teach your heart to fear God?” To those who oppose grace I will ask, “Did grace relieve your fears?”

But how is this grace abuse a crime against the Holy Spirit? Not only is it a crime, it is one of the most dangerous of all. This teaching on grace has an impact on much more than we think. Not only does it impact those who heartily embrace it, it has touched virtually every aspect of church life.

Even those who don’t agree with hyper-grace still behave in a manner that is far too casual about the holy things of God. The collateral damage of cheap grace is why we have coarse language from the pulpit, underdressed female guests and leaders who get drunk and are hooked on pornography. The looseness from hyper-grace has released a shallowness towards prayer, soul winning, and discipleship in general. It is why so many church gatherings (in prison) are not just casual but crude – homosexual hook ups, self-pleasure in the aisles and soft porn trade. It should make you cringe at the shenanigans that pass for a worship service.

A stupor has settled over the people of God that blurs the lines of what is sacred and secular – what is urgent and what is laid-back – leaving us with people who are not hungry, burdened or even curious about seeking the Holy Spirits. (I actually live around some who teach classes in the chapel – pre-covid shutdown – and in the six months of no church gathering, I have not seen them crack their Bible one time!)

Some have even turned grace into a weapon against authority. It is not a coincidence that many who have glammed on to cheap grace are leaving the church. At first, they claim it’s to find a family of believers who agree with their new insight on God. (I know guys here that have tried every single religion there is offered on the unit). But I have noticed they often end up out of church completely, bringing their self-centered ways to their logical conclusion.

Grace is cheapened by Satan for a good reason. Few things handicap a child of God faster than the lie that grace is an inexhaustible source of credit to do whatever you want. Dietrich Bonhoeffer (read his biography if you can get hold of it) said, “Grace is represented as the churches inexhaustible treasury, from which she showers blessings with generous hands, without asking questions or fixing limits. Grace without a price; grace without cost! The essence of grace, we suppose, is that the account has been paid in advance; and because it has been paid, everything can be had for nothing. Since the cost was infinite, the possibilities of using and spending it are infinite.”

No wonder Paul issued a warning to Timothy that is even more glaring when you consider today’s contaminated crowd. *“But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of the evangelist, fulfill your ministry.” (2 Timothy 4:5).*

“But you” infers that many will be compelled to give in to the bad appetites of a contaminated audience. He’s saying, “A lot of teachers are going to be sucked into this, but you stand your ground and hold your integrity.”

“Endure afflictions” means that you may be shocked to see that the most painful disappointments may not come from the world at all, but from a church that oppresses you for preaching the truth.

“Do the work of an evangelist” – just because they, in their gluttonous selfishness, no longer care about lost souls, you keep reaching the lost.

This cheapened – grace virus is a high crime against the Holy Spirit. It is one big reason the army of God didn’t notice the gathering darkness over America. Even if they did, they were too groggy and too flabby to respond to the Holy Spirit’s urging to get ready. Which leads to the final fruit of this hideous tendency.

Under the spell of the contaminated crowd, preachers start attacking people who want to be holy. How dare you punish a heart for wanting purity? How can it be that vessels chosen to uplift the righteous and equip the saints, instead accuse the hungry of having a religious spirit.

They reserve their praise for those who aren’t even trying to serve God. Honestly, does it look like the church is trying to wear itself out to serve and follow Jesus? You’d sure think so by the way some ministers keep telling people to relax and quit trying so hard because Daddy is so pleased with them.

Even when the congregation is a lifeless, flabby, biblical illiterate club of moody consumers, preachers will pamper them with one more pep talk about how God is pleased with them. It had gotten so bad that Sunday’s had become more of a celebration of how much God lets us get away with.

Gently suggest the church could go deeper, call for more prayer, voice concern about inappropriate behavior, tell them you don't want to party with them, and they will scream, "You have a religious spirit!"

Normal discipleship has become legalistic. Anything dampening the latest fad or festivities is judgmental.

What is being done? We have released a counterfeit liberty. These are not features of a Spirit-led people. Those are the symptoms of a people with sick souls, deceived and careening towards disaster.

Here is a chilling Scripture that speaks to the evil that is twisting the church. Isaiah 59:15 says; *"So truth fails, and he who departs from evil makes himself a prey. Then the Lord saw it, and it displeased Him that there was no justice."*

Then along came the coronavirus. It has changed our way of congregating. An unsaved neighbor told me shortly after the lockdown, "now we'll see who the real Christians are." And he was right. two of our theology graduates cuffed and stuffed, and moved due to relationships with free-world "ministers", three of our teachers got caught with either a cell phone or soliciting an inmate. I could go on and on, but I must say also *"take heed lest you fall."* (1 Corinthians 10:12).

The greatest gift God can send a church is a holy child of God. Their heart is towards revival. I know that I know that I know it is why God allowed me to stay in prison this long. I have wanted the fire, the glory and the power to electrify the church. I have seen those that have made me their enemy due to speaking the truth, but they have also made an enemy out of God and he has dealt with some of them, but I know He'll eventually deal with all of them.

Bonhoeffer concludes with; "Cheap grace is the preaching of forgiveness without requiring repentance, baptism without church discipline, communion without confession, absolution without personal confession. Cheap grace is grace without discipleship, grace without the cross, grace without Jesus Christ, living and incarnate."

Cheap grace is a modern crime against the Holy Spirit.

Don't give in to it. *"In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your path."* (Proverbs 3:6).

Begin, continue and end every work, purpose and plan with God. Self-sufficiency and self-confidence have been the ruin of mankind ever since the fall.

Man's sin has been to live independently and without God in the world.

True religion consists of full acknowledgment of God in all human affairs.

Remember to pray for our country and its future in the upcoming election. Your prayer is even greater than your inability to vote. (felons).

God Bless You All

Keep the faith

## **Chief**

*If you want to know more about CHIEF Ministries or would like to be a part of this, please go to [www.chiefministries.com](http://www.chiefministries.com) and [www.chiefshouse.org](http://www.chiefshouse.org)*

*Christ's*

*Heart*

*In*

*Every*

*Felon*