

Temcat's Open Letter

9-16-2014

It is about a year and a half ago that I began to see that there really was trouble among us who call ourselves 'Students of Prophecy. Why I did not really recognize this much sooner I do not know. I do know that for years I did notice various things that just did not seem right, but we all seem to shrug off little things maybe more than we should. Maybe some of these moments of question that pop into our minds are actually the nudgings of the Holy Spirit seeking to open our eyes to something important that we need to recognize.

At first my reaction was to look at the problems last year as a doctrinal issue; but then I began to see that attitudes were wrong; I addressed concerns about attitudes privately to the director of FFA and it was dealt with as a problem in doctrine and not attitude. It seemed so easy just to focus on differences in dealing with Joel, and pull myself into the main camp and ostracize those with some other views. Then it hit me that this was not the answer, the attitude and unchristlike behavior of the main group was untenable! And I began to back-pedal from what I had said, and then back-pedal again—then again; and as this was happening it began hitting me that doctrinal differences are no excuse for attacking and publically dismembering our fellow believers! This practice was wrong no matter whose doctrinal position was right. I also realized that there is no way that the Holy Spirit would be guiding a person or ministry that was using these tactics and viciously attacking anyone who was putting their thoughts out to share with others, just because I myself saw it differently.

I was starting to awaken; and the more I looked in Bible and SOP about our conduct as Christians and how it should be among one another, I could see that while we should lay out doctrine and show corrections from Bible and SOP, making personal raids on our brethren, especially publically, is going to sever us from the guidance and blessing of God.

Then I slowly began to distance myself from those who were making these scathing attacks and as I did my eyes opened more and the Lord began to show me how I had been party in the past to this very attitude as demonstrated by FFA, I was guilty of reveling at times in this very behavior; I was guilty of listening without rebuke or question to discourse after discourse which would contain attacks against persons that disagreed with the presenter. Oh, I knew enough to remove them when doing transcripts, but how was I fooling myself that such dishes served up and tasting of the attitudes of the presenter could be God's pure light anyway?

I am now sorry and repenting for anyway that I have promoted these attitudes and attacks to others by spreading and sharing them and even reflecting them; also and especially how I have entertained criticism and rejection towards my brethren of the various ministries because of the influence of the acidic attitudes of FFA.

I also want to state plainly that the reason why I could find such attitudes tolerable and even take delight in them was because my character harbored these same plague spots. Birds of a feather, it is said and truly so; if I had not any desire to feast on bits of succulent criticism of others, I would not have failed for so long to have seen this wrong spirit for what it is, nor would I have reflected it or delighted in it. Even when scathing attacks were made against fellow laborers who had served side by side with the presenter for years, I got a nudge, but did not clue in; I repent of my denseness of heart. Pieces of one another are what wolves like to feast on; a weak wolf will often be eaten by his pack members; but we are to reflect the Lamb! If our Savior takes the attitude towards any one of us that we have taken towards other brethren, what hope would we have?

There are two things that should never find a place in any of our discourses from the desk or in writing; "me, myself, I and mine", unless we are giving our true testimony of God's grace to us as part of our message. The second is our personal criticism of other people by name or not; with identifying details or not; spots of darkness have no part mixed into God's light. The errors and failings of others are not a Christian's diet.

If we feel that a doctrine is incorrect, we are told we are to simply and plainly put forth the true and NOT attack and thus broadcast the error. Where do we get our authority to put forth the true? We are to use the clear statements of the Bible and the SOP. We are not to put forth what cannot simply and clearly be shown from inspiration. If something takes a hundred hours of video to prove, it is not the kind of messages the Lord is giving His people for this time.

When the Holy Spirit began to point out to me how I have reflected these attitudes; how little Christian respect and courtesy I have felt towards other speakers than my former favorites; I have had to hang my head in shame. If the Lord has seen fit to have someone present a message in my hearing, who am I to despise that presenter? My only right and duty is to check out the message and cherish what proves truth; I can lay it aside if I find it in error.

I ask forgiveness of the Lord wherein I have served or passed on dishes for consumption by others that contained pieces and bits of others served up with the gadal-gravy of self-exaltation. I hope to remove any such from my sites if they still exist. I pray that in the future that spirit will not be active through me anymore and also that I will not align myself with presenters or ministries that serve such dishes.

Why, when we are so few, do we allow Satan to keep dividing and chopping off pieces and 'stoning those that are sent to us' and so on? How will 'Jacob arise' if he keeps eating himself? Brothers and sisters, we all know or ought to know, inspired counsel is clear enough, but I fear we don't REALLY believe it, that very soon we are going to be faced with a world that hates us and wants to destroy us like vermin; and the very organization many of us have considered our church family is going to be the most rabid in their hatred against us; we already are seeing glimpses of this now! Who are we going to stand with in that day when we have attacked one another until we are only huddling in our little groups, turning our weapons on all the other little groups; many don't even have a group left anymore but stand in self-righteous isolation shooting out our cutting criticisms on all! Oh sinners where are we going to run to all on that day?

We all usually recognize that Adventism is following the same pattern as the Jews in the time of Christ; however, though we will acknowledge this fact, and we can sure see it in the other guy over there, but we fail to open our eyes to the fact that Adventists mainly are caustic; critical; narrow-minded; selfish; covetous; bigoted; hard-hearted and unmerciful; loving nothing better than to get together in little or larger cliques and pontificate and form our own Sanhedrins, proudly sitting in judgment on others; being so quick to condemn and shake our fancy robes of self-righteousness against all and even against our fellow believers. Our attitudes are mostly like the old Quaker, who was said to say; "They are all wrong but thee and me; and I am not so sure about thee!"

But we all have our 'high priests' we admire, our heroes that can do no wrong, and we tend to form our cliques around one of those, while turning our critical minds to finding things to disparage in all others but our own favorites. Jesus said "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, . ." We know they did it; and as people of prophecy, we can quickly apply this to those who reject the writings of Sister White; but does it dawn on us that God is sending to us many voices and raising up ones among us and putting His message into their minds? Are we not stoning all too many of them?

Open Letter

We do not own 'Present Truth'; not one of us from the top presenters on down, have gone into that throne room and been able to take that Book from the Father's hand and open those Seals! This is Christ's movement; none of us own it.

I have wept as I see the hardness and cruelty of my attitudes; and yes, I reflected them, but that is no excuse because if I were not harboring the same I would have done years back what I am doing now, backing off from it and repenting in sack-cloth and ashes, pleading with the Lord to dig out all the hardness and sharp pieces from my heart. I ask forgiveness of all the brethren I have had less than Christian respect for; and that I have not stood against the wrong attitude from the very first glimpse of it beginning to come in and for where I have help to sow confusion. May God forgive and send His Holy Spirit to make a clean sweep in my character. May the confusion that has occurred all be swept away by fresh showers of His grace!!

"Those who are fighting the battles for the Prince of life, must point their weapons of warfare outward, and not form a hollow square and aim their missiles of destruction at those who are serving under the banner of Prince Immanuel. We have no time for wounding and tearing down one another." RH, August 27, 1901.

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ADDENDUM:

I find it needful to place a short explanation of the above letter as some seem to see it from a different perspective than I actually wrote it. Some have thought that I was writing this to repent of having believed the Present Truth Prophecy message; rest assured this is in no way my purpose! When asked if I still believed in the 2520, and so on; my reply has been:

Yes; my Prophetic position is the same, it is truth and has changed my spiritual life like nothing I ever encountered before! I have no intention of plucking out my eyes and returning to darkness! The 'open letter' was actually due to some attitude problems among some of my fellow Students of Prophecy; it was about how I have promoted FFA ministry at times when he was attacking others because they did not follow him—and he is off track in this! I am saying in that letter that I am not going along anymore with his methods of attacking people who do not agree with him and trying to force all to accept his views even though they are partly wrong.

Yes attitude is the BIG problem and we will never meet the Lord in peace with the attitudes of the devil! Returning to the old paths is where we are to go; and yes the 2520 is part of the truth that the Lion of Judah is bringing before His people. History shows that God always brings it forth always just before judgment hits His people! God brought these things forth—they are not man's invention. People think that only Jeff cooked them up but this is not at all true; they were found by different folk and gradually merged just like the early advent doctrines came together from several sources as God brought them forth.

While we cannot just ignore and hide truth so we can mingle and have a big lovey-dovey, I'm OK you're OK, sentimental love-feast—we must hold up truth and stand for it—but at the same time we must respect others right to go their own ways. Freedom of religion must begin in our own hearts.

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Fighting Truth Decay