



"These things you have done, and I kept silence; You thought I was just like you; I will reprove you, and state the case in order before your eyes." Psalm 50:21 NAS

Sometimes
the kindest thing
we can do for
another, is to tell
Them the truth.

Elizabeth Elliot

Every Christian is either a missionary or an imposter.

Charles Spurgeon



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"Killing Them With Kindness"

Everyone knows 'God is Love'.... He even says that about Himself. Given this, what about this amazing scripture? "Jacob I loved, and Esau I hated."1 It just doesn't fit into this picture, does it? God hates something —and worse — someone! You say, Wait...? I thought He loved everyone...!

Whatever does this scripture mean? Could it be, God is the original version of tough love? He's superior to our thinking, His thoughts & ways are higher than ours.2

We own dogs, often assigning them human characteristics, when in reality, they - tho sweet and loyal- have a 'pack mentality' & you are part of their pack!

We do the same with God. We want Him to be like us!

Jesus came to earth in a body like ours, taking on our limitations (yet remained fully God.) We better understand God in this, for we're told Jesus was the 'express image' of God. Wanna know what God's like? See Jesus!

Yet... there is a 'but' here. God is not like us. We are like Him, made in His image and His likeness. It's a big difference! And Jesus came so we could become Godly 3 He deserves our reverence!4

We have been given a 'birthright' through this exchange, sons & daughters. And we're given life, gifts, intellect, family, friends, and freedom among other things. Yet...birthright opens another vista called 'stewardship.' It means tending and caring for what God has given us. It involves recognizing His involvement & being grateful.

Being a good steward is obsolete in this 'victim mindset' society we have crafted, where people feel they deserve a six figure job fresh out of college. et al.

I have seen youth fresh out of high school who want a house like their parents who worked 40 years to get it!

Jacob and Esau were twins. Jacob came out holding the foot of Esau, and later Jacob was so eager for God he said he would not let go of an angel until he received a blessing! Jacob deceived his blind father for that blessing that belonged to Esau as the older brother. Jacob's name means 'deceiver.' Yet he was eager for blessings of God & God never reproved him for it.

Esau however, didn't value his birthright as more important than a bowl of soup! Christians are warned not to imitate Esau. We should assess ourselves to see if we value what's good.5

Due to his foolishness, Esau lost his birthright ,and the blessings.6 How do we respect our birthright –via stewardship! Utilizing our gifts wisely and with care.

I wonder about people. You could have been born in to slavery or Croatia?. But you were born in America, a land of privilege/opportunity. Where people STILL yearn to be here! Yet many don't exercise their right to vote, or be an active voice for good! It. Has. **No.Value**.

Believers are told they are stewards of the gospel! How are *you* doing? Most don't know it enough to convey it! Fewer than 5% ever share the gospel allowing *neighbors* to glide into hell. On a good note, 90% of all missions are funded by U.S. believers.

Unquestionably though, our society is no longer Biblical. 60% of evangelicals, according to a recent study, believe Jesus is not the only way to heaven! If so, Jesus was the greatest **liar** who ever lived! We can trust nothing he ever said! Nada.

So what if God is not some candy-apple milque-toast we want Him to be? What if He is...HOLY?7 "Consider the kindness and severity of the Lord." 8 What if He hates sin enough to see His Son die...? Oh wait...! 9

Didn't He do already do that? Because there was a gulf between sinful man & a HOLY God; and Jesus bridged that gap, accepting the penalty Himself - for mine & your sins?

That sounds pretty drastic! Yes, sin **is** a drastic problem in heaven – there won't be any *there*! It demanded a radical solution...Jesus dying for it!10

Did you know that when Jesus returns in Rev. 19, it says He 'makes war...?' His war is against the darkness of evil. Have you joined the war? Some are asking, 'Where is that war?' You're in it! So wake up! Despair & disillusionment surround you — today our prayer group prayed for 9 people battling cancer! Darkness shreds people's lives who love them...!

Today, people are afraid to offend & are <u>phony!</u> Political correctness has **muted** them! And the church? They're *most* afraid of offending!11

Can I tell you the gospel is confrontational by its very nature? Why? Jesus demands a decision – for or against Him!12 So it is a loving confrontation, but confrontation it is.

Are you like Esau? Do you value your birthright? Have you wilted under the call to be a warrior by speaking the truth? Stop killing your friends & family with phony kindness! Choose to be authentic! Be. Like. God.

Question. Is this blasphemy? What is Chrislam?

"Are you tired? Worn Out? Burned out on religion? Walk with me & work with Me. Learn the unforced Rhythms of Grace." *Jesus Matt..11:28 MessageBible*

This is the *Real* Jesus!

It has been said that there are three persons inside of us – the one we think we are; the one others think we are; and the one we *really* are!

It is also said that most people go to their grave with their song unsung. What does that mean...?

Could it mean that people never really discover the real 'you' inside each one of us?

There are numerous reasons why. Possibly the greatest one is that Proverbs says 'fear of man is a snare.' What people 'think' is way too important to most people. It inhibits decisions and decisions are the hub of life. It only matters whether it's right or not – Better, choose to live for an audience of One!

Oftentimes, we live for pleasing someone else.

You will never be able to please someone else all the time....we're all human and will ultimately disappoint them. And them you! That's why our focus should be upon pleasing God... Jesus will never disappoint us.

When we're told to 'love our neighbor as ourselves' then we should consider ourselves - soul and body. This is something I never did! I had to learn to love myself.

How can you ever love other people if you fail to regard yourself as worthy of love...? You can't. When I learned how greatly God loved me, I could do so too. Then I realized that life would be pretty boring if it weren't for other people! That discovery changed my life. Others deserve your honor!

Aging helps us learn not to value other people's opinion so much. And it's liberating!

Many of us wear our Sunday 'go to meeting' face to church and greet people with a smile...while we fought in the car on the way therebefore the children. And on the way home too, perhaps!

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Do you think reverence inside pleases God? Not. God wants us to be real. To walk in forgiveness, His and ours!. None of us are flawless, but "Him who knew no sin was made to be sin, that we might become the righteousness of God in Christ."13 It's appropriated via faith. That's our status before God! He doesn't see us as we are, He sees Jesus! All we do is ask, daily, and it's ours! I say daily because we must take up our cross, daily.

The world is shallow, Friends. People are starving for substance & Truth. Will you lay down all pretense & be real (Jesus) to them?



References 1) Mal. 1:1 2)ls.55 3) Il Cor. 5:21 4) Rev. 4:2-11 5) Ii Cor. 13:5 6)Gen.25:29-34 7) Ps.99/Rev.4 8) Rom. 11:22 9) Is. 59:2 10) John 3:16 11) I Pet. 4:17 12) John 3:36 13) Ii Cor. 5:21 14) I Pet. 5:7 15) Proverbs 3:5-6

Worrying

Does not take away Tomorrow's trouble It takes away today's

Peace

Rhythms of Grace - Ask Agatha

Dear Agatha: What are we to do about all the violence that seems to be virulent in society these days? The future looks bleak, Agatha! We walk out children to their bus stop so human traffikers don't get them, then hope no shooters enter their school. What kind of future is that? We avoid mass crowds for fear of terrorism. And now we avoid most newscasts. What's the world coming to? Don.

Dear Don: Well I do have the answer to your final question... When the world seems to be falling apart, God is laying His final plans!

Chances are that society is not going to get any better!
How can I say that?
Because I believe Bible prophecy when it says times

will be like in Noah's days before the coming of Jesus! And how was that...? "The whole earth was filled with violence!" Also like Lot's day.

Again looking at scripture, Jesus said hatred *is* murder. So what then? Do we just relent & stay home? No! *We prepare*, Deion. No one can do that for you...Only You!

Now that the *race war* card is being played, **and. no. one.** has nipped it in the bud,; with Soros & communists fueling it, things may get very bad-some say even civil war. But this pales in what organized religion has planned, like one world religion!

Yours is no way to live. Fear is your governor, a poison to body & soul, with anxiety attacks - then Xanax! Learn to trust in the **keeping** power of God!. Don, if God isn't good, **there is no good** on earth. Way too much evil exists...! So here's your answer!

Personal peace is your only avenue in the midst of a storm! Chaos may surround you... yet **real** peace can be yours if you "Cast all your cares upon Him, for He cares..."14 Read Psalm 46 & 91-memorize what you can!

Jesus Christ. can guide your daily life! Start with a daily devotion. Walk in forgiveness. Learn to Pray. Get in the 'blessing place!'

God's plan for you means you being here until the very day you're not supposed to be! Trust...15

If you'll just allow Me to run the world, you can deal with the stuff I've told you to do."

Signed,

