

Are We 'Heresy Hunters'?

Written by K B Napier
Sunday, 18 March 2018 22:03

Some within the churches think we are heretics, because we do not adhere to their favourite traditional beliefs. Conversely, some think we are 'heresy hunters', always on the lookout for those we think do not live up to our own standards. We are neither!

Yes, we refuse the traditions of men that are against scripture and God. Yes, we speak out against those who teach other than true doctrine. We do both because we are the **ekklesia**, followers of Christ and not of men. But, we do not 'fit' the label of heresy hunters. Let me explain why...

Are we Concerned with Heresy?

It will surprise those who read and follow our ministry – but we are not concerned with 'heresy'. We have certainly said in the past that we oppose 'heresy', but we only used the term because it was known. It is now time to stop using it. This is because the word is really one that originated with Roman Catholicism or Romish churches (even reformed ones). In this we repeat what Paul said (Acts 24:14):

"But this I confess unto thee, that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets."

Notice that Paul refers to faults condemned by others, not by himself: *"after the way which they call heresy..."* Note that critics said he was an heretic because he believed in what God had said! This is exactly why we at our ministry are condemned! So, we are in good company.

Heresies are those theological views that contradict 'orthodox' or 'accepted' church or religious 'system' teachings and demands, and these are corrupt anyway! The idea is that what is established 'must' be true and 'must' be obeyed by all. As our entire ministry is aimed at teaching true doctrine and opposing what is false, we ARE 'heretics' to all who demand we obey their traditions. But, in terms of scripture, we are not. We expect this ugly reaction from traditionalists as a matter of course, because they feel humanly safer by calling us 'heretics', by pulling up their church drawbridges, and by insisting they are right because their beliefs are 'established'.

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We are not concerned with 'heresy', because it is a false path of argument. What concerns us is NOT the systems and beliefs of men, even if they are Bible-based. Our question is always "***Does this teaching or behaviour agree with God's word, or is it against it?***"

Men will always devise their own systems. They will always write endless tomes in ever-increasing detail, creating their self-absorbed systems and fine-tuning them with additional rules and regulations. The Apostles never did this – they simply taught men what Christ had taught them! The churches, however, want control over every jot and tittle, and they will get rid of any who oppose or even question them.

For us, all this is to do with the 'system', and it generally does not cause us to argue. Even when we DO argue it is not to prove our case, but to say what God says, either in ethos, in principle, or in actual biblical text. Men either obey God and say what He says, or they do not. Simple as that.

What Concerns Us and Times We Speak Out

It would be easily possible to speak out against bad teachings every moment of every day. But, this is NOT what we do... though to listen to some it is our prime activity, hence they call us 'heresy hunters'. This is a very untrue and pathetic accusation. Indeed, we challenge those who accuse us to actually read everything we do and determine the percentage given over to supposed 'heresies'! The percentage will be very small indeed! (I am reminded of the way kings refused to call upon Micah, because he never had anything nice to say about events! See [O-065](#)).

Church systems are ALL corrupt. We do not, then, spend our time searching for what is bad... because they *are* corrupt. Nor are we particularly interested in opposing cults or occultisms. Our thought on these is that they are outside our biblical remit, though we WILL speak against them for particular reasons at any one time.

The ONLY time we might speak out against them is when they openly and aggressively set out to harm those who believe in Jesus Christ; hence many words against Islam in the West (though the time to stop is about now), and when the godless defy the Lord openly and try to corrupt believers. If Muslims wish to harm themselves with their own oppressions it is up to them. But, when their stated intention is to kill or subjugate Westerners, especially Christians, we MUST speak out. This kind of opposition is political because it has to be, but its ultimate aim is to protect our spiritual life.

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It is likely we may have to speak out in the future against Hinduism in a similar way, given that extreme Hindu groups are calling for the death of all Christians in India. In this they are copying Muslim jihadists. Generally, however, we are not that concerned with cults and tend to speak of them in informational terms.

Our opposition to the occultisms is wider, for the occult destroys both Christian and unbelieving souls. We will also speak out against pseudo-biblical systems, such as Mormon, JWism, Spiritism, and so on. This is particularly so when governments and others believe these cults and sects represent genuine Christian beliefs or behaviour. It is why Roman Catholicism is always to be opposed. The same applies to the English version, Anglicanism. ALL of these groups base their warped beliefs on scripture, but defy correct meanings and interpretations: that is, as given by God's word itself. WHO says we are right to do so? God does, in Scripture. (See articles on meanings and interpretations of scripture).

In other words, we ONLY speak out when false believers or even untaught Believers, or others, teach bad doctrines of their own making, pretending they are genuine (the plural, 'doctrines', is only used of 'doctrines of demons', and this is how we view them), or behave in a way that damages biblical witness. This is what the apostles did; it is what Christ did; it is what the whole of God's word does. What, then, makes us deviant? Perhaps those who say we are will explain their unwarranted accusations with specific biblical proofs. We have always said we will amend anything we say if others can prove FROM SCRIPTURE we are wrong. It is telling that accusers never apply this rule to their own statements!

It is common practice amongst bad teachers to make unjustified charges against those who refuse to walk in their demanded paths. So, they will call others names, but will never explain scripturally why they make such charges. They will not do it because they have no real reasons to do so. But, their consciences prick them so they call out names anyway, to avoid having the spotlight on their own sins and errors. This kind of activity is VERY common.

In our ministry we regularly receive condemnations, and they are ALWAYS in single-word form. When asked to further define what they mean and why they make their accusations, they never do, because we always want scriptural reasons. The same goes for the accusation of 'heresy hunter'.

Some believe it is okay for Bible teachers to be wrong. They base this on the idea that 'no-one is perfect'. This is not good enough! We all make mistakes and we all sometimes commit

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deliberate sin. Perhaps some of this is to do with fear of men. Scripture says that the saved are already counted to be perfect by God, because He looks upon His Son rather than on our sinfulness. We are commanded to **"be ye perfect"** (Matthew 5:48, and reflected in Romans 12:2, Phil 3:15 and James 1:4). How dare pundits, then, claim otherwise!

We do not see our detractors and accusers as genuine critics. Genuine criticism weighs up relevant facts and arrives at a real conclusion based on this process. Both inside and outside the churches, no-one bothers with this proper process; they just throw out worthless accusations... and all should know who the prime accuser of the brethren is! If ever we are critical of anyone or any group or teaching we always search the facts. We will only oppose if the facts prove themselves to make criticism necessary. And when we do criticise we will always provide definitions. Those who accuse us never do, or, they give spurious references arrived at by corrupt methods.

Our aim? Simply, to witness against error and to preach the truth of God.

Summary

We are not too concerned with 'heresy', because it is an activity within already corrupt 'churches'. It seems traditionalists love to remain quietly cocooned in their local churches, as if all is well! They neither listen to warnings nor bother with truthful scriptural teaching.

We ARE concerned with those who harm the *ekklesia* (followers of Christ) and who teach bad doctrine and behaviour.

If others mislead or harm fellow *ekklesia*, we WILL speak out. We usually begin generally against the bad teaching. But, if those who teach it continue even after private contact, we WILL name names.

However, we do NOT search out people or organisations to oppose. Our reasons to oppose them in writing will always have a sound reason that has a biblical foundation.

So, if those who like to undermine us will kindly give us scriptural reasons for their opposition,

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we will be only too glad to respond! If they do not, well, it says a lot about the validity of their opposition.

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