The Church of Monett

"Knowing therefore the Terror of the Lord we persuade men."

The Root and the Fruit of the Modern Salvation Message

Introduction

Here is a little report of some of the conclusions that our fellowship has come to in our search for truth. Here in I've tried to piece together some of the valuable information some of us have dug up in our correspondence with each other, and with others that have asked questions regarding what we believe and teach..

First off, I think that everyone among us would agree that salvation is impossible with out faith. Our concern however, is that in most plain circles their understanding faith has been heavily influenced by the evangelical or protestant view. Sooner or later we can't expect the fruits to be much different.

Brother David Keeling started to see the bad fruits that result from the popular widely accepted view of salvation in evangelical Christianity. This view is sometimes referred to as the "Romans Road" leading the unbeliever through a series of scriptures in Romans provoking them the admit theyre sin and fix it all up with a "Sinners Prayer". The result of this is an initial experience where the person is believed to get "Saved " or " Born Again". This initial "prayer of faith" message can be found anywhere from popular gospel tracts or literature, to the back cover of a Gideon's bible. There may be some variations in how it's presented, but the basic tenets are accepted by nearly every group ranging from Conservative Plains Anabaptist groups to the most liberal evangelical protestants.

This report is for those like my self who have been confused by this message, it is for those who have seen the bad fruits result from this teaching, for those who have experienced doubt and confusion, who have struggled with it's inconsistencies and are searching for answers.

A light in all of this to me has been Brother David Keeling, a farming man who shares a little down to earth common sense in regard to the foolishness of the Modern Slavation message. He gives a little analogy like: when you plant a field of corn and the seed doesn't come up or comes up and doesn't look anything like corn. What do you do? Would you get more the same seed and just plant more of it? Would you put more

fertilizer on it? No. You'd check to see if the seeds bad. But yet that's what most people are doing. They know they're not getting the results they should out of the message they're preaching, so they preach it more often, print more tracts and literature with the same message ,add some music to it (maybe a rock band), turn the volume up a little louder. But wait a minute, hasn't anyone had the sense enough to stop and check the seed and find out if it's bad seed and maybe check out where it came from.

That's what we attempt to do in this report, we will try to take a look at where the modern salvation message originated, where it has infiltrated, look at its fruits and see where it's leading to. Throughout this essay we will mention the Anabaptists. If you are unaware of Anabaptism, they were a Kingdom Christian movement that spawned from the reformation of 1600's. This essay reffers to primitive Anabaptists, as well as modern, so a knowledge of some Anabaptist history is definitely useful to get-a-hold of what we are trying to communicate. You might give this a listen first if you are intrested : The Anabaptsits.mp3

-Brian Gray

Chapter 1 →

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