

Another "Gospel" Series

General Thoughts on Progressive Christianity

5.25.23

I. *A few thoughts from David Young*

A. *Progressive churches will die.*

Rev 2: 4 But I have this against you: You have abandoned the love you had at first. 5 Remember then how far you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. Otherwise, I will come to you^[b] and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent. 6 Yet you do have this: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.

3:14 "Write to the angel of the church in Laodicea: Thus says the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the originator^[x] of God's creation: 15 I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish that you were cold or hot. 16 So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I am going to vomit^[y] you out of my mouth.

B. *Thoughts on scripture*

1. *The Bible is a take it or leave it book.*

2. *Dealing with the paradoxes in scripture is result of our darkened minds*

II Cor 10:5 and every proud thing that is raised up against the knowledge of God, and we take every thought captive to obey Christ.

Rom 12:1-2_Therefore, brothers and sisters, in view of the mercies of God, I urge you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God; this is your true worship.^[a] 2 Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God.

I Cor 2:12-14¹² Now we have not received the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who comes from God, so that we may understand what has been freely given to us by God. 13 We also speak these things, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual things to spiritual people.^[a] 14 But

the person without the Spirit^[b] does not receive what comes from God's Spirit, because it is foolishness to him; he is not able to understand it since it is evaluated^[c] spiritually.

C. There is a way to respond to progressive Christianity

1. Read your Bible

*Psalms 119:105 Your word is a lamp for my feet
and a light on my path.*

A common theme for progressives is that God is love.....not hate allowed

*Prov 6:16 The LORD hates six things;
in fact, seven are detestable to him:*

*Rev 2:6⁶ Yet you do have this: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which I
also hate., 14-15*

2. Let obedience be your guide

*John 3:36 The one who believes in the Son has eternal life, but the one who rejects the
Son^[a] will not see life; instead, the wrath of God remains on him.*

3. Be suspicious of North American sounding spirituality

*John 15:18-19 "If the world hates you, understand that it hated me before it hated you. ¹⁹If
you were of the world, the world would love you as its own. However, because you are not of
the world, but I have chosen you out of it, the world hates you.*

4. Refuse to sit under compromising teachers

*John 11-13 The man who is so "advanced" that he is not content with what
Christ taught. has in fact no God. The man who bases his life on Christ's teaching,
however, has both the Father and the Son as his God. If any teacher comes to you
who is disloyal to what Christ taught, don't have him inside your house. Don't even
wish him "God-speed", unless you want to share in the evil that he is doing.*

5. Engage respectfully but be willing to walk away.

*1 Peter 3:15 but in your hearts regard^[a] Christ^[b] the Lord as holy, ready at any time
to give a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you.*

Matthew 10:14_If anyone does not welcome you or listen to your words, shake the dust off your feet when you leave that house or town.

II. Thoughts from Alisa Childers

A. Stick to the essentials of the faith

I Cor 15:3-5_For I passed on to you as most important what I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the Twelve.

B. Progressive Christianity offers nothing of eternal value.