

"I will set a Plumbline among my people . . ." Amos 7:8



The Plumbline

Assessing Current Teachings, Issues and Events with Scripture

Who is Winning the Infiltration Battle?

Well Do I remember the halcyon days about 15 years ago when the Evangelical church first recognized the arrival of Post Modernism. I remember well a pastors meeting in southern Minnesota. Two youth pastors were giddy thinking a new day had dawned and now we would have an unbiased ear from the culture. These youth pastors were about to attend a yearly annual Leadership Network Conference in San Diego. For them a new opportunity had arrived for evangelism. Now we didn't have to debate about such modernism ideas as creation etc. etc. Now the culture generally could not so easily dismiss our faith ideas and we would be free at last to dialogue with the non christian world without proving miracles, creation, etc. Now postmodern culture would have to respect our faith. Postmodernism declared everyone's truth was equally valid and now everyone had a right to their own truth claims. Whoopee! Now we can openly infiltrate the culture. But likewise, the culture can more easily infiltrate the Postmodern Church. It now comes down to the desires and whims of the people. Who will win the desires contest, the church or the pop culture? Who has the most confidence in their "truth" and win the ratings battle. Who will win the infiltration contest. The World or the Kingdom of God?

Well! 15 years have passed and who has infiltrated who? I remember well when Neo-Evangelicalism was birthed some forty years ago. The compelling thought was that now we could take the battle the culture and infiltrate the mainline churches who had succumbed to modernism at the turn of the century. But! Alas, it is now plain who infiltrated who. I will now just chose from a plethora of current examples of the reverse infiltration of cultural ideas bursting in upon the Neo Evangelical movement, with hardly a peep from Christian leaders, lest they commit the ultimate cultural sin of intolerance. Rather than rally round and contest the infiltration among the faithful in our churches and youth groups, we have retreated to shrill political activism. Our evangelical millennial young people have responded to political evangelicalism negatively. Now 43% of evangelical millennials (18-30) favor same sex marriage etc. Instead our churches have adapted and imitated pop culture at large and it is visibly plain to see. We are so tied to evangelical media stars both on TV and in popular books. Many pastors appear either unaware or don't care and often support these media stars. We also get secondary infiltration from supposedly our own. In that case all the defenses are down. What pastor is eager to take on the evangelical media stars in the prevailing culture of tolerance. Now for just a sampling of current reverse infiltration. You can follow and confirm this sampling on the magnificent tool called Google

1. Same Sex Marriage

The defenses of Neo-Evangelicalism are being breached. A friend of mine once said a tsunami of homosexuality is coming toward evangelicalism, just beyond the horizon. Well! Its here. My preferred illustration is taken from surfing. The same sex surfers are just paddling and waiting to catch the best wave to break unto the evangelical shore. Phillip Yancey of Christianity Today already caught an early wave in speaking to a gay Christian national gathering. Jay Baker also has caught a wave. The supreme court will surely make same sex the law of the land in June. But, as if anticipating this, two Evangelical mega churches have declared their gay affirming status. Stan Mitchell, pastor of Grace Point Church recently announced to the cautious response of his church that the church was offering full equality and inclusion to the LGBTQ community. Grace Point is located in the heart of the Nashville Christian Music area. It appears it will be

Evangelical Mega churches that will pioneer evangelical same sex acceptance. Earlier another Evangelical Mega Church East Lake Community Church, with 6 campus locations near Seattle, announced the same affirming stance to same sex partners.

Others appear on the cusp of the same. Carl Lenz, Mega-church pastor of Hillsong in NYC, dubbed by Charisma as this generation's future Billy Graham and who touts the Lord as his swagger coach, when quizzed by Katie Couric about his stance on homosexuality replied "we have a stance of love in everything and in everything else we have conversations." The word "homosexual" has been removed from the Hillsong International Leadership College Student Handbook. A pastor of a large evangelical denominational Mega church in Sacramento has said homosexuality is sorta like watching porn. Many other evangelical Mega church personalities are currently carefully speaking out of both sides of their mouth on the issue. How long will this last?

New Age Infiltrations

Many New Age infiltrations are not so obvious. Quantum science has been widely co-opted by New Age teachers creating links directly to New Age mysticism. Nevertheless, Leonard Sweet's book "the Quantum Leap" qualifies him to speak at our evangelical colleges and conferences. Contemplative Prayer, which is hidden by a code word called "spiritual formation" has obvious New Age affinities which are covered with a veneer of Catholic monastic mysticism, which centuries ago Catholic monks (desert fathers) learned contemplative techniques from the East and adapted it to Catholic monastic mysticism. Recently, Bill Johnson's Bethel Church recently floated the idea of recapturing directly things from the New Age which they assert the New Age had previously stolen from the church. Wow! Can we guess which way this infiltration will go?

Spiritual Union with Rome

This started decades ago in the crusade ministry of Billy Graham. Catholic prelates were recruited and given access to all respondents with a Catholic background to be counseled and re-introduced if need be to the Roman church.

Many years later Chuck Colson introduced an initiative called Evangelicals and Catholics Together. ECT called for a spiritual reunion with Rome attempting reconcile their theological views.

More recently the New Pontiff Francis was able to call for and get a remarkable response from Evangelicals. Bishop Tony Parker was able to organize a cell phone visible connection from Pope Francis with Kenneth Copland at his annual pastors convention in Fort Worth. Tony Parker, a former worker for Kenneth Copeland in South Africa, later was ordained a bishop in a quasi Catholic convergence movement seeking to combine evangelical Christianity with Rome. Palmer, later befriended Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio later to become Pope Francis in Argentina. Bishop Palmer then became the conduit for an appeal for spiritual unity with American Charismatics. Surely, with Copeland's knowledge, Bishop Palmer showed Copeland and hundreds of Word/Faith pastors via a cell phone camera the Popes tearful plea for unity with charismatics. Kenneth Copland promptly prayed in tongues for guidance and then responded back by cell phone to Francis at the Vatican. An elated Copeland announced "Heaven is thrilled over this." Copeland's assembled pastors burst into applause. A week later James Robison invited Bishop Palmer to his TV program "Life Today." After hearing the pope's same cell phone plea, Robison a long time Southern Baptist evangelist/politician/charismatic responded "In Christ we are brothers." Then on national TV Pope Francis's plea was played for a national audience. Bishop Palmer then arranged for Robison and Copeland to visit the Vatican. Surprisingly, Palmer was shortly killed in a motorcycle accident in the UK. Pope Francis insisted that Palmer be buried with full Catholic rites.

The following article "The Necessity of Separation from Heresy" is helpful to put the current situation in historical context.

DISCERNMENT NEWSLETTER

“...how is it that ye do not discern this time?” Luke 12:56

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The Necessity of Separation from Heresy

A number of years ago there was a joke circulating that went like this:

Q: How can a man avoid falling hair?

A: Jump out of the way!

This is also a formula for avoiding heresy. One must “jump out of the way” whenever it comes near. The biblical doctrine of separation is founded upon a verse that appears in both the Old and New Testaments: *Come ye out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord.* (2 Cor. 6:14; Is. 52:11)

For the past several hundred years, as the world has become increasingly evil and corrupt, believers from various fundamentalist groups clung to the principles of biblical separation. By the mid-20th century, this focus was sometimes reduced to a list of “don’t do’s” – forbidden activities that a good Christian shouldn’t participate in such as gambling, dancing, drinking, going to movies, etc. An emphasis on separation in terms of external appearance and worldly conduct is a worthy one and biblically solid. But there is much more to biblical separation.

The Bible also warns about separation from IDEAS – the philosophies, beliefs, teachings and writings of worldly or pagan men. Historically, many fundamentalist groups chose to separate from un-Christian ideas by forbidding or discouraging attendance at secular institutions of higher education. This is because universities have traditionally been the arena where the new philosophies entered into a culture. Today’s homeschool movement is just one example of separating one’s children from a government-sponsored teaching culture that is antithetical to orthodox Christianity.

How the Evangelicals Repudiated Separation

Few Christians know the history of the modern evangelical movement. Nor do they realize that the “repudiation” of the biblical doctrine of separation became a central tenet of evangelicalism. The abandonment of separation was a planned exercise by leaders. The historical evidence below shows that this doctrine’s untimely demise created a new era of lax standards and engagement with the world.

Dr. Harold John Ockenga (1905-1985) has been called “The Father of New Evangelicalism.” Dr. Ockenga was a highly esteemed and credentialed Presbyterian minister who served as the first president of the National Association of

Evangelicals. He coined the term “neo-evangelical,” which means “new evangelical.” He explained, in the Foreword to Dr. Harold Lindsell’s book *The Battle for the Bible* (1976), how neo-evangelicalism was created

Neo-evangelicalism was born in 1948 in connection with a convocation address which I gave in the Civic Auditorium in Pasadena. While reaffirming the theological view of fundamentalism, this address repudiated its ecclesiology and its social theory. The ringing call for a **repudiation of separatism** and the summons to social involvement received a hearty response from many evangelicals. . . It differed from fundamentalism in its determination to **engage itself in the theological dialogue of the day**. It had a new emphasis upon the application of the gospel to the sociological, political, and economic areas of life . . .

Neo-evangelicals emphasized the **restatement of Christian theology in accordance with the need of the time, the reengagement in the theological debate, the recapture of denominational leadership, and the reexamination of theological problems** such as the antiquity of man, the universality of the flood, God’s method of creation, and others. [emphases added]

In an earlier press release dated December 8, 1957, Dr. Ockenga made the following statement:

The New Evangelicalism has changed its **strategy** from one of **separation** to one of **infiltration**. Instead of static front battles, the new theological war is one of movement. Instead of attack upon error, the New Evangelicals proclaim the great historic doctrines of Christianity. . . . The strategy of the New Evangelicalism is the positive proclamation of truth in distinction from all errors without delving in personalities which embrace error. [emphasis added]

Pastor John E. Ashbrook authored a book critical of neo-evangelicalism’s “repudiation of separation.” Entitled *New Neutralism II: Exposing the Gray of Compromise* (Here I Stand Books, 1992), it is well-documented history of this “repudiation of separation.” His book is also a biblically-based analysis of the ensuing neo-evangelical compromises that took place over the next 40-50 years. Pastor Ashbrook based his critique on the following biblical premise:

Separation is God’s prescription for treating the disease of apostasy. It is not ours to repudiate, for it is a divine command, not a human idea. (p. 5)

In his 1957 press release, Dr. Ockenga described six organizational foundations upon which New Evangelicalism was built:

Since I first coined the phrase “The New Evangelicalism” at a convocation address at Fuller Theological Seminary ten years ago, the evangelical forces have been welded into an

organizational front. First, there is the **National Association of Evangelicals** which provides articulation for the movement on the denominational level; second, there is **World Evangelical Fellowship** which binds together these individual national associations of some twenty-six countries into a world organization; third, there is the **new apologetic literature** stating this point of view which is now flowing from the presses of the great publishers, including Macmillans and Harpers; fourth, there is the existence of **Fuller Theological Seminary** and other evangelical seminaries which are fully committed to orthodox Christianity and a resultant social philosophy; fifth, there is the establishment of *Christianity Today*, a bi-weekly publication, to articulate the convictions of this movement; sixth, there is the appearance of an evangelist, **Billy Graham**, who on the mass level is the spokesman of the convictions and ideal of the New Evangelicalism.

Modern evangelicals don't know about this history, nor do they understand how comprehensively organized this movement was from its very inception. The neo-evangelical movement has now impacted Christian groups far outside the parameters of the evangelical subculture. This is because neo-evangelical leaders focused their attentions on changing Christian attitudes and beliefs through literature, media, colleges, and superstar personalities – in other words, they disseminated new *ideas*. Pastor Ashbrook took note of Ockenga's worldly goals for neo-evangelicalism:

From its inception new evangelicalism has been determined to impress the world with its intellect. It has craved the respect of academia. It has determined to earn the plaudits at the fountainheads of secular learning. Why should this be a goal for the Christian?

. . . The goal was to be published by publishers that the world respected. . . . [T]his craving for acceptance shows itself . . . in the desire to make the gospel more palatable to the natural man. . . . New evangelicalism made it acceptable to water down the gospel. (p. 8-10)

Today, over fifty years later, we can see the devastating consequences of neo-evangelicalism's accommodation to the culture. Neo-evangelicalism has thoroughly embraced many worldly philosophies and practices. The recent phenomenon of "post-modern" evangelicalism, which merges neo-paganism with neo-evangelicalism (e.g., the Emergent Church) is an indication of how far this "repudiation of separation" has come. The new post-modern, paganized philosophies of Leonard Sweet, Dallas Willard, Jay Gary, Larry Crabb, Richard Foster and many others are rapidly making inroads into Christianity via the evangelical mass media, and college and Bible school courses.

It seems obvious that a "repudiation of separation" would be the first necessary step to break down the church's ability to function as "salt" and "light" in a dark and lost world. Separation is much more than the physical act of avoiding or removing oneself from a sinful activity. Believers are also warned in Scripture to separate from *ideas*. Separation is an act of the mind and spirit, not just the flesh. In fact, one must

first separate mentally, because to linger one's thoughts upon a temptation is just as serious as committing the sin itself. Adultery is one example: *But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after he hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.* (Matthew 5:28) Covetousness is another example.

Old Testament Separation from IDEAS

In the Old Testament, God separated unto Himself Israel, which was to be a holy and righteous nation. There were moral and ceremonial laws pertaining to this separation. The sacrificial system was markedly different from the idolatry of pagan cultures, whose religious systems involved human sacrifice. Even food, clothing and agriculture were to be practiced differently and distinctively by the Hebrews. J.C. Wenger, in his classic book, *Separated Unto God* (Herald Press, 1951) observed:

All of these ceremonial regulations, whether of food, of clothing, of agriculture, or of sacrifices, were not ends in themselves, possessing intrinsic merit, but were vivid symbols of the fact that Israel was a holy nation, belonging to Jehovah, dedicated to holiness of life, to faith and obedience, and called to exhibit the character of God here on earth. To this truth the prophets of Israel again and again tried to recall the children of Israel.

In the book of Deuteronomy, the Lord forewarned His people to separate from false prophets, idolatry and pagan practices. Chapter 13 and 18:9-14 describe the occult practices which are to be avoided. Deuteronomy 28:17-20 warns of those *whose heart turneth away this day from the LORD our God, to go and serve the gods of these nations*. Notice that the seduction of idolatry begins in the heart.

There are many Old Testament verses that apply to biblical separation, particularly guarding one's mind and heart, and refraining from taking a worldly path. Two antidotes to worldliness are 1) Wisdom from instruction in God's Word and 2) physically removing oneself from temptation.

Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments. Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee. (Psalm 119: 9-11)

My son, walk not thou in the way with them; refrain thy foot from their path; For their feet run to evil, and make haste to shed blood. (Prov. 1:15-16)

When wisdom entereth into thine heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul; Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee: To deliver thee from the way of the evil man, from the man that speaketh froward things. (Prov. 2:10-12)

Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the Lord, and depart from evil. Envy thou not the oppressor, and choose none of his ways. (Prov. 3:7, 31)

Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil men. Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away. (Prov. 4:14-15)

Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life. . . . Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee. . . . Turn not to the right hand nor to the left: remove thy foot from evil. (Prov. 4:23, 25, 27)

Remove thy way far from her, and come not nigh the door of her house. (Prov. 5:8)

During Israel's national time of great apostasy the Lord pleaded with His people through His prophets to return unto Him with their whole heart. In Joel 2:12b-13a, the Lord tells apostate Israel: *Turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: And rend your heart, and not your garments.*

Psalms 106:34-37 summarizes what happened when God's people did not obey Him: *They did not destroy the nations, concerning whom the LORD commanded them: But were mingled among the heathen, and learned their works. And they served their idols: which were a snare unto them. Yea, they sacrificed their sons and their daughters unto devils.* This progression into apostasy is a direct result of abandoning holy separation. Note the parallels to modern neo-evangelicalism's slide into apostasy:

1) *They did not destroy the nations.* In the New Testament this is no longer a literal mandate, but rather believers are called to share the Truth of the Gospel with heathen nations. Practicing biblical separation serves as a hedge of protection for missionaries going into such pagan cultures. Without this doctrine, there is no protection. In its place neo-evangelical leaders substituted the doctrine of "contextualization," which is dialectic integration.

2) *But were mingled among the heathen.* The Israelites disobeyed God's commandments and began worshipping idols and intermarrying with heathen women. When Dr. Ockenga called for evangelicalism to "engage itself in the theological dialogue of the day" he placed an emphasis on the word "dialogue." "Dialogue" is the mingling of ideas – a mixing of truth with error – i.e., integration. Pastor Ashbrook commented,

Notice that it is described as "dialogue," not debate. A debate is a conflict which clarifies a position. A dialogue is a conversation which compromises a position. (p. 7)

3) *They served their idols.* Even King Solomon, the wisest man who ever lived, when he married heathen women was seduced into serving their idols. If Solomon couldn't play with fire without getting burned, then how could a modern-day intellectual Christian fare any better? The history of neo-evangelicalism reveals that once the doors were opened to a "reengagement in the theological

debate" and a "reexamination of theological problems," a flood of new heretical doctrines entered in. Rather than being "salt" and "light" to the world, the neo-evangelicals let the world come in to corrupt the Gospel.

4) *They sacrificed their sons and their daughters unto devils.* In the Old Testament, babies were burned as human sacrifices unto the pagan deities. Likewise, Ockenga's strategy of "infiltration" rather than "separation" has resulted in a noticeable rise in the disparagement of human life. This natural progression into idolatry reaches its zenith in actual participation in pagan rituals – evidence of which can be found in various streams of neo-evangelicalism today.

New Testament Separation from IDEAS

Dr. Ockenga's strategy of "infiltration" into the culture effectually operated like a public relations campaign. Setting up six "organizational fronts" guaranteed that the new ideas of neo-evangelicalism would permeate throughout the world through one "front" or another, particularly changing evangelical culture. One would have had to separate oneself from evangelicalism entirely in order not to be affected by this. Subsequent evangelical movements have also employed this conspiratorial and unbiblical strategy of "infiltration."

"Infiltration" works both ways. The bad leaven described in the Bible also infiltrates. It introduces a tiny bit of error into the Truth of the Gospel. Galatians 5:7-9a speaks of leaven in the context of false teaching. *Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth? This persuasion cometh not of him that calleth you. A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump. I have confidence in you through the Lord, that ye will be none otherwise minded:* Note the reference to "not obey the truth." Exposure to heresy results in lack of obedience to God's Word. Also note "otherwise minded." Seduction to heretical ideas begins with dabbling in philosophies and teachings that entice and lure the mind.

New Testament Scriptures contain many warnings to believers to separate from false teachings and false prophets. In 2 John 10 believers are commanded to physically separate from those who carry the leaven of heresy: *If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed. For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.* Tolerance is a popular teaching in neo-evangelical circles today, but this Scripture indicates that biblical separation is a grave matter, and that preserving one's faith must be taken seriously.

Romans 1 vividly portrays the natural progression from worship of the Creator to the idolatry of worshipping the creature: *God gave them over to a reprobate mind to do those things which are not convenient (vs. 28).* The carnality of the mind leads directly to the carnality of the flesh. James 1:14-15 reiterates this point: *But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when*

lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

New Testament believers are to *flee from idolatry* and are warned about mixing paganism with the Gospel: *Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils* (I Cor. 10:14b, 21a). Paul asks in 2 Corinthians 6:15, *And what concord hath Christ with Belial? Or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?* In our modern time there has been a revival of ancient paganism called the New Age movement. The occult practices that the Old Testament warned about are now widely popular in American mainstream culture. Believers should beware of the enticing nature of these beliefs and practices. Many pagan doctrines have been dressed up in new garb. They enter into a believer's life through alternative medicine, meditative prayer practices, spiritual and physical "disciplines," art and music, mysticism, and many other unusual ways.

These pagan doctrines are also coming in via neo-evangelicalism, a far more subtle and dangerous method of "infiltration." Believers must test everything, including the words of those who claim to be Christian brothers. 2 Corinthians 11:3 warns, *But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.* In 2 Corinthians 10:4, just a few verses earlier, Paul wrote, *Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.*

Believers are particularly vulnerable to the seduction of heresy when it comes from esteemed, respected or well-liked Christian leaders. The New Testament contains many warnings about leaders who teach heresy: *false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ* (2 Cor. 10:13). Colossians 2:8 warns: *Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.* Today there are *many false prophets who have gone out into the world that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh* (I John 4:1-3). This verse has current relevance because there is a revived Gnosticism within neo-evangelicalism.

Paul also warns *Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind* (Col. 2:18). Perhaps 100 years ago this verse seemed strange. But it has new relevance in today's neo-evangelical culture. "Voluntary humility" perfectly describes the neo-evangelicalism teaching for "voluntary simplicity" – a radical new lifestyle for global "sustainability." And recent false teachings on spiritual warfare excessively emphasize angels and demons.

Ephesians 4 has much to say about biblical separation. Paul warns the Ephesians to *henceforth walk not as other Gentiles*

walk, in the vanity of their mind, Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart; who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness (vs. 17b-19). Again, note the natural progression downhill. What begins in the mind, ends up manifesting in the flesh.

Paul advises the Ephesians to *be renewed in the spirit of your mind* (vs. 23). He lists positive examples of holy living that should accompany such a conversion. Paul also cautions about seduction by "vain words," and warns believers to separate from those who would use them: *Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience. Be not ye therefore partakers with the* (Eph. 5:6-7).

Many other New Testament Scriptures warn about beguiling with enticing words (Col. 2:4). It is important to recognize that these words are not just the spoken word of popular Christian media personalities (radio/TV) but also the written word in bestselling Christian books. These writings or teachings may appear "Christian" superficially because many Bible words are used. But if believers exercise godly discernment, as Scripture commands, they will be less vulnerable to this subtle type of seduction (I John 2:28).

In addition to beguiling words, the Scriptures also warn about a profit motive for false prophets. There are many verses on this topic, including Eph. 4:19; Titus 1:10-16; and Hebrews 13:5. The bluntest warning is from 2 Peter 2:1-3:

But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.

Separation is not a passive activity. To avoid heresy requires active resistance on the part of the believer. Sometimes a believer must physically flee from temptation. At other times the Lord would have believers speak out in defense of the Truth of the Gospel. *And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them* (Eph. 5:11) Here Paul says that believers should "reprove them," because *all things that are reprov'd are made manifest by the light* (Eph. 5:13). Jude 3 tells believers to *earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.* The new "tolerance" ethic blunts this directive.

This neo-evangelical "repudiation of separation," and its resultant seduction into heresy, is indicative of the condition of the Church in the last days.