

The Covenanter

Silverhill Covenant Church

“To work for God, God’s people, and to win souls for His Kingdom”

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Accommodating

I was watching a TV interview about a man who had just visited America for the first time. The commentator asked him, “So, what is your impression of America?” The man began searching for words in English and finally said, “Accommodating.”

That word reminded me of an article written by Chuck Swindoll many years back about accommodating theology. Here it is:

I don’t know anyone who would build a summer home at the base of Mt. Vesuvius, and it would be tough trying to get campers to pitch their tents where Big Foot has been spotted. No family I know is interested in vacationing in a houseboat up the Suez Canal, or swimming in the Amazon near a school of piranhas. Or building a new home on property that straddles the San Andreas fault.

I mean, some things make no sense at all. Like lighting a match to see if your gas tank is empty. Or stroking a rhino to see if he’s tame. They got a name for nuts who try such stunts. Victims. Or, if they live to tell the story, just plain stupid.

And yet there are Christians running loose today who flirt with risks far greater than any of the above. And they do so with such calm faces you’d swear they had ice water in their veins. You’d never guess they are balancing on the tight wire of disaster. Without a net.

Who are they? They are the ones who rewrite the Bible to accommodate their lifestyle. We’ve all met them. Outwardly they appear to be your basic believer, but down inside, operation rationalization transpires daily. They are experts at rephrasing or explaining away the painful truth of the text.

Whenever they run across Scripture verses or principles that attack their position, they alter them to accommodate their practice. That way, two things occur: 1) all desires (no matter how wrong) are fulfilled. 2) All guilt (no matter how justified) is erased.

That way everybody can do his own thing and nobody has any reason to question another’s actions. If he does, call him a legalist and plow right on.

Here is a sampling of accommodating theology:

God wants me to be happy. I can’t be married to her. So I’m leaving...and I know He will understand.

There was a time when this might have been

considered immoral. But not today. The Lord gave me this desire and wants me to enjoy it.

Look, nobody’s perfect. So I got in deeper than I planned. Sure, it’s a little shady, but what’s grace all about, anyway?

Hey, life’s too short to sweat the small stuff. We’re not under law, you know.

*If that’s true...if that’s right, then what in the world does it mean to be **holy**?*

“As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance, but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; because it is written, ‘You shall be holy, for I am holy.’” (I Peter 1: 14-16)

*Or **pure**?*

“For this is the will of God, your sanctification; that is, that you abstain from sexual immorality...abstain from every form of evil” (I Thess. 4: 3; 5:22)

*Or under **grace**?*

“What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? May it never be!” (Romans 6:15)

This simple fact is this: We reap precisely what we sow. If we sow a lifestyle that is in direct disobedience to God’s revealed Word, we ultimately reap disaster.

“Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap.” (Galatians 6:7)

The consequences of sin may not come immediately...but they will come eventually. And when they do, there will be no excuses, no rationalization, no accommodation. God doesn’t compromise with consequences.

Quoted from *The Finishing Touch*, co. 1994, Word Publishing, pg. 158-159



Recent Hymn Revisions

We sing "Sweet Hour of Prayer" and content ourselves with a few minutes of prayer a day. We sing "Blest Be the Tie" and let the slightest offense sever it. We sing "Serve the Lord with Gladness" and gripe about all we have to do. We sing "I Love to Tell the Story" and never mention it. We sing "Cast Thy Burden on the Lord" and worry ourselves into nervous breakdowns.



Broiled Tilapia Parmesan

½ c. Parmesan Cheese
¼ c. butter, softened
3 T. Mayonnaise
2 T. Lemon juice
¼ t. dried basil
¼ t. black pepper
1/8 t. onion powder
1/8 t. celery salt
2 lb. tilapia fillets

Preheat your oven's broiler. Grease a broiling pan or line pan with aluminum foil. In a small bowl, mix together the cheese, butter, mayonnaise and lemon juice. Season with dried basil, pepper, onion powder and celery salt. Mix well and set aside. Arrange the fillets in a single layer on the prepared pan. Broil a few inches from the heat for 2 to 3 minutes. Flip and fillets over and broil for a couple more minutes. Remove the fillets from the oven and cover them with the cheese mixture on the top side. Broil for 2 more minutes or until the topping is browned and fish flakes easily with a fork being careful not to overcook.

Spinach & Strawberry Salad

2 bunches spinach, rinsed and torn into bite-size pieces
4 c. sliced strawberries
½ c. vegetable oil
¼ c. white wine vinegar
½ c. white sugar
¼ t. paprika
2 T. sesame seeds
1 T. poppy seeds

In a large bowl, toss together the spinach and strawberries. In a medium bowl, whisk together the oil, vinegar, sugar, paprika, sesame seeds and poppy seeds. Pour over the spinach and strawberries, and toss to coat.

Small Hands

They are little only once, Lord. Grant me the wisdom and patience to teach them to follow in your footsteps and prepare them for what is to come.

They are little only once, Lord. Make me take the time to play pretend, to read or tell a story, to cuddle. Don't let me for one minute think anything is more important than the school play, the recital, the big game, fishing or the quiet walk hand-in-hand. All too soon, Lord, they will grow away and there is no turning back. Let me have my memories with no regrets.

Please help me to be a good parent, Lord. When I must discipline - let me do it in love; let me be firm, but fair; let me correct and explain with patience.

They are growing away, Lord. While I have the chance, let me do my best for them. For the rest of our lives, please Lord; let me appreciate them without possessing them.

Memorial Day

Memorial Day emerged from the shadows of the Civil War. It was first observed in the South. Before the close of the war, a group of women decorated the graves of those who had died in that war. A few years later, in 1868, May 30 was set aside as a day for placing flowers on the graves of soldiers throughout the United States.

Soon Memorial Day was observed each year across the country. In the years since World War II it has become a day when many remember those who have gone before us in the faith.



May 2 – Girls Ensemble Program
May 3 – National Day of Prayer
May 8 – SWAP Team Meeting
May 10 – Council Meeting
May 26 – Silverhill Antique Car Show