

New apostolic reformation

Welcome and good morning, July 4, come hear about Alaska, kidzone remodel, men today at 3

I've had a lot of questions about heresy, the people I have mentioned....one of the great questions I had was concerning what determines heresy

Heresy presents in many forms....but when we distort the nature of God, his image, or his work = heresy

This morning we are going to answer that a little better by looking to the bible as our source of wisdom

Heresy is a belief that is contrary to orthodox views.....i will take things a small step beyond that and say that we are dealing with heresies that can lead a person away from God

Often led away from God due to being taught the wrong thing about God

We've been led to believe that all you have to do is have more faith, do more, make deals with God

Sometimes preachers say the wrong thing, but with good intentions....others they say the wrong things not realizing their words are harmful

I have decided throughout this series to deal with heresies that literally shift people away from the gospel

Meaning, these heresies and the people that hold to them can lead people away from salvation, away from their walk with the Lord...

These are the most harmful of heresies....

When looking at heresy, we have to examine everything under the light of the bible

And we need to begin here....what is the bible....why do you Baptists call yourselves people of the book

Well...simply put, we as Baptists believe in the authoritative, inerrant, infallible word of God....it is our sole source of truth, it tells us everything we need to know about God, His son, and salvation...

2 timothy 3:16-17 speaks to the authority of scripture

Some ask, will we ever discover more of the bible....answer is no...we know with certainty what creates the canon of scripture

In order for scripture to have made it in the bible there is a 3 part test.....1. does it tell the truth about God without contradiction of other scriptures. 2. Was it written by an apostle, prophet, or someone who claimed to have received the word of God. 3. Was it accepted and known by the 1<sup>st</sup> century church as authoritative

If it passes these 3 tests....it would be considered canon....therefore, we believe the canon of scripture is cl

Now, I know what some of you are thinking...what in the world does this have to do with heresy...

b/c the heresy we are going to uncover this morning is the heresy of the new apostolic reformation

and what makes the nar so dangerous, is what they believe about scripture, and what they believe about themselves

the nar is attempting to become a 5<sup>th</sup> branch of Christianity.....we have Catholicism, Protestantism, eastern orthodox, and oriental orthodoxy

the reason they are seeking a 5<sup>th</sup> branch is due to their belief in the power of individual prophets/apostles

and this is where we begin to get in a little trouble....b/c w/in the nar it is the position of prophet and apostle that great power is given

in many ways they are seen in the same manner that Catholics view the pope....the apostles and prophets of the nar are seen as extensions of God himself and his word

so that....if you attend an nar church....you will view the prophet and apostle as equal to scripture, and the individual prophet as authoritative as God

so in effect, when the apostle/prophet speaks that individual can claim what we know and understand as special revelation.....or....additional scripture

prophets and apostles of nar churches claim supernatural abilities and powers.....

prophets and apostles of nar churches can attain these abilities and powers from sources other than God..

one example is known as grave soaking....where apostles of nar churches will lay across the grave of a dead prophet soak in any left over power of the hs

its funny to think that it would be easy to spot such heresy....that surely no wise Christian would fall prey to this particular heresy

but there are some names that I strongly encourage you to do your research on....and one of them isn't just a name but they are also a group

many of you have heard worship songs written by this group, and if you listen to Christian radio for any amount of time at all....you have undoubtedly heard their music...

Bethel church, and the Bethel music have become increasingly popular in the past 10 years

As their popularity has grown, so has their influence....they are led by a man named Bill Johnson

Among the warnings I give you about bethel, is to know that grave soaking, communion with the dead, supernatural and mystical powers, and the claim to equivalency with God are all parts of the Bethel Mov

When it comes to God's word, they have produced the passion translation, which is an equivalency translation.....it is apr. 50% longer than other translations of scripture

It veers greatly from the original languages, and is claimed to be more authoritative....further Bill Johnson has claimed direct, supernatural, and special revelation

Why is this so dangerous....because if I can claim to you that I have some sort of supernatural and special connection to God, and that he speaks to me independently of scripture

Then I can control and manipulate every aspect of your life if you choose to believe me....

All I have to do is claim that God told me so....and if I am a prophet/apostle in the nar....then my words are equivalent to God....

Can we just be clear, they are not....hebrews 1, formerly he spoke through prophets, now his son...we have scripture that told us messiah would come, verified he did come, and will come again

We believe in the sufficiency of scripture....what does that mean....that we have everything we need to know about God, his son, his salvation, in the pages of the bible

It is not required that we have extra, or special revelation....we believe that God speaks to us through the reading of his word...

How many of you have ever wished, I wish God would speak to me.....can I tell you, he does when we read his word

Do you realize that as a believer you can bend the ear of God, you can speak directly to him through prayer...

**Ephesians 2:18** – He has given us direct access to the Father...you don't need an apostle or prophet, you have direct access....his death lets you approach the God of the universe

Set up lord's supper