

## **DON' GO QUIETLY**

Never before have there been so many Christ professing churches. Today you can hear “Christian” messages God on the Radio, on TV, on the Internet, and now, whole book stores filled with books on the Word of God. 100 years ago who would have dreamed you could listen to preaching on the Radio. 50 years ago who would have dreamed you could listen to preaching on the TV, 25 years ago, who would have dreamed you could listen to preaching on the Internet. Today, if you were hungry for the Word of God, you could go to the dollar store and get a King James Bible in paperback for a dollar plus tax. But with all this “hearing”, why is there no “doing”? How many that will go to church on Sunday will witness on Monday? What if every Christian preached one hour a year on the street? What if every Christian knocked on 1 door, or led 1 person to Christ each year? But it doesn't happen. We live in a society where Christian means to us: come on Sunday, and some can't even do that. We realize the dispensational placement of the book of James, but we would like to make an application from that book at this point. Are you a Doer?

***Jas 1:22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.***

***23 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass:***

***24 For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.***

***25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.***

***26 If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain.***

***27 Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.***

Friend, being a doer of the Word is far more than showing up at meal time at the Church. Until you have believed what this book says, put your faith in That alone, you can go to the church building and feed your face, hang around the church building, have your secretary screen your calls, and feel okay, but you are not. Do something! And make sure it is Biblical!

Do what? Be a bold Christian that won't shut up! God has enough of these pansy silent witnesses, God is looking for some to stand and be BOLD, and back it with their life. Paul and Silas preached Gospel in Philippi, They have converts. But Look at this

***Ac 16:16 And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying:***

***17 The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation.***

***18 And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.***

A lady full of the Devil, a devil possessed lady, followed Paul. A lady, full of the Devil professed Christ, and she did it ALL the time, for many days. But here life didn't match her heart friend. She is a Lost lady with a unclean spirit. There are those that profess Christ and do not do what he says because they are not his. But watch, the story goes on. Paul rebukes her, and preaches, and she gets saved. Then, Paul and Silas get tossed in Jail.

This world wants nothing more from you Christian than to destroy your preaching / witnessing ministry. Its like a black widow spider and her mate, she'll love you for a while, but she'll leave you for dead. For those that are snuggled up with Hollywood, the Music Industry, World, It may make you feel good for a while, but if you are who you say you are, it will kill you! This world HATES the TRUE Christian. But that is not the point we want to make here. How Paul deals with the situation is the discussion at hand.

***Ac 16:35 And when it was day, the magistrates sent the serjeants, saying, Let those men go.***

***36 And the keeper of the prison told this saying to Paul, The magistrates have sent to let you go: now therefore depart, and go in peace.***

***37 But Paul said unto them, They have beaten us openly uncondemned, being Romans, and have cast us into prison; and now do they thrust us out privily? nay verily; but let them come themselves and fetch us out.***

***38 And the serjeants told these words unto the magistrates: and they feared, when they heard that they were Romans.***

Do you know why most Christians are not witnessing? It is because they are worldly. This world wants you to “depart and go in peace. LEAVE, and be quiet as you go. What should be our response? We need to raise up and say, WE MAY HAVE to depart but we WON’T GO QUIETLY!

Paul said, “... ***They have beaten us openly uncondemned, being Romans, and have cast us into prison; and now do they thrust us out privily? nay verily; but let them come themselves and fetch us out***”.

Paul has some zeal, doesn't he? We Christians are to be at WAR with this world.

When did Jesus ever say get along with the world and be quiet? Nay, He said He came to bring division. He came in meekness, but before he left he said, “***Lu 22:36 Then said he unto them, But now, he that hath a purse, let him take it, and likewise his scrip: and he that hath no sword, let him sell his garment, and buy one.*** “Don't you know Peter was “chompin at the bit”?

Christians spend too much time in these little “you're so great groups” “We all love you, you're so special, here are some letters to tell you how great you are, “ and then they walk away feeling Good about themselves, and quietly slip off into the WORLD.

We are challenging you and the Bible is challenging you to, MAKE A WAKE man, stir the water. BE BOLD! This world wants us to depart and go in peace, but we should not do it. We need to get sick of people talking “Jesus Loves you” and living “I LOVE THE WORLD”. Some have questioned the authors of this book as to why they bother people at home, preach on the street, and talk about controversial topics in the Bible. Why? Because this world wants us to go quietly, and there is as much world in the church as outside the church, so we won't go!

Don't put the book down now, you are almost through. Are you thinking, “I don't believe that is the way we should be”. Let us go again to the Word of God.

***Ac 4:10 Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole.***

***11 This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner.***

***12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.***

***13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.***

Here is the way the World will respond to you if you are bold:

***Ac 4:14 And beholding the man which was healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it.***

***15 But when they had commanded them to go aside out of the council, they conferred among themselves,***

***16 Saying, What shall we do to these men? for that indeed a notable miracle hath been done by them is manifest to all them that dwell in Jerusalem; and we cannot deny it.***

***17 But that it spread no further among the people, let us straitly threaten them, that they speak henceforth to no man in this name.***

***18 And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus.***

And here is your proper response back to the world:

***19 But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye.***

***20 For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.***

What do we tell the world?: You may not like it, but I'm not going quietly!

Are you still not convinced? Okay, let us look at what happens when they are tossed in jail again.

***Ac 5:26 Then went the captain with the officers, and brought them without violence: for they feared the people, lest they should have been stoned.***

***27 And when they had brought them, they set them before the council: and the high priest asked them,***

***28 Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us.***

And once again, they respond:

***Ac 5:29 Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.***

***30 The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree.***

***31 Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.***

***32 And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.***

***33 When they heard that, they were cut to the heart, and took counsel to slay them.***

Then what happens:

***Ac 5:40 And to him they agreed: and when they had called the apostles, and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.***

So, now they are quiet right? Think again:

***Ac 5:41 And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.***

***42 And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.***

Folks, there is no way around it. We are living in the last, Laodician church age, just before the Lord returns, and he's coming soon. This church believes its doing just fine, it must be OK with God, it has need of nothing. Here is a perfect picture of the church today:

***Re 3:14 And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;***

***15 I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.***

**16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.**  
**17 Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:**  
**18 I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.**  
**19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.**  
**20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.**  
**21 To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.**  
**22 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.**

What a description of Christianity in this nation. We:

- Think we are holy - but we aren't
- Think we are sacrificing - but we aren't
- Think we are right with God - but we aren't
- Think our worldly approach to church is working - but it isn't

That letter in Revelation friend is a letter from Jesus to us, the Laodician church; this last age of the Church. We, the church, are like a girl who is telling herself she can be Ms. America, when in reality she couldn't be the Podunk County Future Farmers of America Black Angus Queen!

That's who we are, and we don't even see it. Until we can realize these verses are to us, and our "ministerial efforts", we can not do the rest. Admit they are to you, and then follow the rest of the instructions:

**Re 3:18 I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.**

If you want to get right, its going to cost you something.

**Re 3:19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.**

As many times as we Laodicians fail the God that died for us, he still loves us. We are proud and stuck on our selves, he still loves us. We are lazy, won't preach, and won't go door to door. Even though we think we have need of nothing and the truth is we are blind, naked, wretched, and miserable, he still loves us.

This past week, how often have you failed the Lord. This past month? God still loves you, but you need to do something: Repent! How? BE ZEALOUS, DON'T GO QUIETLY. God wants you to resolve that you ARE NOT GOING QUIETLY. Your friends, family, and church may not like it but your allegiance is to our GOD. Be a ZEALOT!!!!