

Eisenhower Church of Christ

Calling Names

A reader has written asking that we discuss the practice of calling names of various denominations from the pulpit. In ascertaining the answer to questions of this nature, we should remember the statement of Paul in 1 Corinthians 10:23, "All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient; all things are lawful for me, but all things edify not." Clearly this shows that a thing might be lawful, but not expedient. Those of us who preach, as well as other Christians, should exercise caution, lest our efforts, however lawful, should be inexpedient, and do more harm than good.

There may be circumstances under which it would be inexpedient to call names.

Is it lawful (in harmony with the Scriptures) to call names of denominations when exposing their error from the pulpit? It is. While there were no denominations as we know them in Jesus' day, the example Jesus set in His preaching shows that it is not sinful to call names. Jesus rebuked the scribes and Pharisees by name (Matthew 23:2; 13-15, 23,25,27). In Luke 11:46, Jesus said, "Woe unto you also, ye lawyers." The example of our Lord shows it is not sinful to call the names of those whose error is being exposed.

We have also apostolic example for names those who are in error. Paul specifically referred to those who called themselves after the name of Paul, Apollos, and Cephas respectively (1 Corinthians 1:12). In 2 Timothy 4:14 the same apostle named Alexander, identified him as "the coppersmith," and affirmed that he had done much evil. In the same chapter (4:10) Demas is named as one who had forsaken Paul because of his love for this present world. In 1 Timothy 1:19 Paul referred to certain ones who had made shipwreck of the faith. In the very next verse, he named two who had done so; Hymenaeus and Alexander. Even John, the "apostle of love," called the name of Diostrophes as one who loved to have the preeminence (3 John 9).

One should not be censured merely because he called names in his preaching or teaching. Our Lord and His apostles did so, therefore we know it is a lawful practice.

Is it expedient to call names of those denominations whose error we are exposing in the pulpit? There may be circumstances under which it would be inexpedient to call names. There may be other circumstances under which the calling of names is demanded. Therefore, it would be most unwise for a church to demand that its preacher never call the name of any denomination. This would place a restriction upon him which the Lord did not place on him and would even hinder his following the Lord's own example! On the other hand, it is most difficult to expose religious error without offending those in error, as is seen in Jesus' offending the Pharisees (Matthew 15:12). In cases where the Truth can be effectively taught without calling names, in which the calling of names might cause some to close their minds to the Truth, then the calling of names should be avoided.

It seems to me, however, that some subjects cannot be given an effective presentation without calling some names. Suppose one wanted to preach a sermon on church history, or the Restoration Movement, or some similar subject. How could he teach effectively without calling the names of denominations?

I do not believe the calling of denomination names is necessarily offensive to members of denomination bodies. If we are not arrogant or boastful, if they know we receive no joy from the fact they

are in error, if they understand that we love them, and are trying to help them, and not embarrass them, then we will not necessarily be offensive to them.

We must preach the Truth, but in Ephesians 4:15 Paul emphasized the need to speak “the truth in love.”

—Bobby Duncan

Prayer Request

Jackie Rex is in Medical Center Hospital with the Covid virus. She is struggling with her breathing. Please keep Jackie in your prayers that she can beat this virus.

Phil and Tracie Halbert are dealing with the Covid virus. Both are doing well. Phil has it worse since this is his first time.

Charles Wood is dealing with bronchitis. We need to keep him in our prayers.

Betty Branson is also fighting a cold and a touch of bronchitis. Continue to keep her in your prayers.

Concerns Update

Glenna Callendar is still waiting for Lubbock to call her to set up an appointment to have the heart ablation done. She cannot exert herself at all until the procedure is done. It’s imperative that she has this done as soon as possible. Glenna is in need of prayers.

Terresia Weaver had the first of her stronger chemo treatments on Monday, January 10th. She reported that everything went well. Keep her in your prayers.

LaDonna Chism is still struggling with the infection in her leg. Needs prayers.

Lisa Wells (Josh Wells’ mom) is undergoing physical therapy. She is talking a little better, but still has trouble forming some words.

Prayer List

David Alaniz; Rudy Alaniz; Wayne Anderson; Betty Branson; Bill and Mary Brown; Glenna Callendar; LaDonna Chism; Dana Erwin; Hattie Gilmore; Hugo Grijalva; Doug Guynn; Rosanna Herrera; Tiffany Horton; Elaine Huntington; Alex Martinez; Ora McAfee; Glenna (Callendar) McCarty; Melissa Moore; Juan & Estella Morolez; Julie Munoz; Cain Pilgrim; Bruce & Trina Plyler; Chasidy Rayos; Carlos Reyes; Jackie Rex; Daniel Reyes; Lisa Salas; Marilyn Upshaw; Terresia Weaver; Lisa Wells; Janet Wesson; John Wood.

Eisenhower’s Shut-ins

Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Glenna McCarty; Jackie Rex; Janelle Shirley and Marilyn Upshaw

Youth

Bible Quiz Question ... (Fill in the blanks)

Jesus told His disciples, “I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is _____; the _____ is coming when no one can work” (John 9:4)

Last Week’s Quiz Answer...

Amos (a minor prophet) was both a shepherd and a fig tree gardener. (Amos 7:14)

Events

Watch “*In Search of the Lord’s Way*” Sunday mornings at 7:30 am on KWES TV 9.

Thoughts to Remember

You never get something without giving up something.

Do We Need a New Gospel For the New Age?

There have been more changes in our lifetime than in any other period in the history of the world—changes in travel, communications, medical science, education, etc.

Our present world is planning for a modern age. The world will continue to change with a more rapid pace. But does this mean we need a new Gospel for the new age? Many modernists think so. They think the Bible, as it is, is not adapted to man as he is.

Can we take Jude, seriously when he says, “Contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints? Yes! Man has not changed. We live in a changing world, but man remains basically the same. His needs and desires are the same. He is still flesh and spirit. His body still needs water, food, air and sunshine. We are still dying spiritually because of sin (Romans 6:23) and the only power to save our soul is the Gospel (Romans 1:16; James 1:21).

Mankind still struggles with “the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye and the pride of life” (1 John 2:15-17). No man in modern times is tempted any more or less than men were in the first century. Man’s adversary, the devil, has not changed; he still “as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour” (1 Peter 5:8). Satan works today as he always has, through agents appearing as servants of God. The Bible says, “and no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore, it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works” (2 Corinthians 11:14-15).

The message that “we need a new Gospel for the new age” is from Satan, not God. The Gospel of Christ met every need in the first century and it will meet man’s every need as long as the world stands.

“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works” (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

— Roy Dunavin

January 16, 2022	A.M.	P.M.
Announcements	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Song Leader	Craig Wesson	Oliver Hernandez
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Scripture	Jackie Perkins	Richard Siler
Second Prayer	Jon Roemisch	Charles Wood
Closing Prayer	Bill Brown	John Wood
Lords Supper		Bill Ryan
<u>Scripture Reading:</u>	<u>Scot Straw</u>	Communion
	Cody Wesson	(In Library)
	Jacob Carson	
	Tom Sorenson	

Other Responsibilities: *Elder:* Jeff Wesson 556-5547 —*Deacon:* John Wood 413-7444 -*Pulpit:* Bill Ryan 352-4871 —*Table:* David Ryan 512-924-0983 —*Song Leaders:* Larry May 638-3990—
Recording Sermons: Tommy Garcia 312-5332 — *Collections:* T. Garcia & D. Ryan

Sunday AM

“Maturing in the Faith”
(Hebrews 5:12—6:3)

Sunday PM

“Wisdom in Relationships” (Part 3)
(Proverbs 8:1-11)