

“How Many Jesus’ are there?”

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“You happily put up with whatever anyone tells you, even if they preach a different Jesus than the one we preach” (2 Corinthians 11:4)

Deception is one of the hallmarks of the last days spoken of by Jesus in warning His disciples about what to expect before His return. Paul wrote to the Corinthians as noted above that from the beginning many people began to go around and preach about “Jesus” when in fact, the “Jesus” they were preaching about was not the real one that Paul and the other apostles preached. I have noticed some things recently in the news that are disturbing, but certainly not unexpected. Have you noticed how our culture is becoming obsessed with being politically correct and worrying about potentially offending all kinds of various beliefs? There are laws banning nativity scenes, postings of the Ten Commandments, and corporate bans of saying “Merry Christmas”. Even worse than this is the obvious double standard that many pundits in the media are guilty of when it comes to the person of Jesus Christ.

I am sure most people have heard about the painful decisions Tiger Woods has made in his unfaithfulness to his wife and family. It has cost him a great deal and the turmoil that is going on in the life of his family surely warrants prayers for them. Related to this was the Fox News commentator Brit Hume saying on air that Tiger Wood should turn to Christianity where he would find the only real forgiveness and restoration that is through Jesus Christ. I think it was a great opportunity for Brit Hume, as a Christian believer, to share with Tiger Woods some genuine hope and forgiveness for the sins he committed against his family and God Himself. Not surprisingly, there was a tremendous outcry for Brit Hume to keep his words to himself and that he should be reprimanded for his comments. Why is it not ok to talk about Jesus Christ in this format?

This outcry against Jesus Christ in this context demonstrates clearly the double stand and hypocrisy of these same people. Let me give you another example. The city of Houston, Texas just voted in the first lesbian mayor ever for that city and at the inaugural ceremony there was no outcry when Joel Osteen gave a prayer for the mayor asking for God to bless her and then ended it in the name of Jesus Christ. It is not hard to see the reason why. The Jesus preached by Brit Hume was the Jesus who is holy, righteous, and stands against sin. This same biblical Jesus also is loving, gracious, and willing to provide forgiveness and restoration to any who will repent of their sins and call upon Him. This is what the Bible calls the real and offensive Jesus (Matthew 10:34; John 6:61). However, there is another “Jesus” being portrayed down in Houston that is not offensive, and whom the world and sinners have no problem embracing. This is the “Jesus” that is only loving, is not righteous or holy, and doesn’t judge anyone. Yet Jesus in the Bible said clearly that God the Father judges no one, but that all judgment will be by the Son (John 5:22). They can embrace and tolerate this false “Jesus” for a time, but unfortunately they are going to find out that the real Jesus is the one who casts unrepentant sinners into eternal hell (Matthew 25:41, 46) and whom the Bible says is covered in the blood of His enemies at the time of His return (Revelation 19:13; Isaiah 63:1-6). Does this sound gruesome? I don’t believe Jesus wants be thought of as gruesome, but He does want this earth to know that He does not let sin go unpunished and that He has provided the one way of salvation through His death on the cross (John 14:6). I love Jesus because He has forgiven me for all of my sins and provides me hope everyday that I can move beyond my past. Is that you? Would you like to have your guilt and sin removed and live in freedom? Jesus Christ offers you that if you are willing to repent of your sins and call upon Him. If this includes you I can be reached through our website at www.ccc-nl.org. Have a blessed week!

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