

Nov. 3, 2015

Mr. Funston,

It seems that Episcopalians are proud to be Episcopalian, but ashamed to be Christian. That explains why they find it so easy to stray from Scripture, and hold tightly to 'tradition'. Additionally, it seems that the Episcopalian teachings are heavily influenced by popular culture and secular institutions, such as the Supreme Court. This is very tragic. Jesus said, "If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. <sup>19</sup>If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you. (John 15:18) and the very timely reminder that Man's sense of right and wrong does not necessarily match up with God's true authority in these matters, <sup>12</sup>There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death. (Proverbs 14:12), and, <sup>20</sup>Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter. (Isaiah 5:20)

It is incumbent upon every Christian 'leader' to set the good example of following after Christ and not the world. In fact remaining undefiled from the world is part of the definition of pure religion. Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world. (James 1:27)

Per the recent newsletter as noted:

Note A: This is unbelievable! <sup>4</sup>"Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female,' <sup>5</sup>and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'? <sup>6</sup>So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate." (Matthew 19:4-6)

Note B: It may very well be that God is not only not applauding, but is sickened by 'the liturgy':

<sup>21</sup>"I hate, I despise your religious feasts; I cannot stand your assemblies. <sup>22</sup>Even though you bring me burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them. Though you bring choice fellowship offerings, I will have no regard for them. <sup>23</sup>Away with the noise of your songs! I will not listen to the music of your harps. <sup>24</sup>But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream! (Amos 5:21-24)

<sup>11</sup>"The multitude of your sacrifices-- what are they to me?" says the LORD. "I have more than enough of burnt offerings, of rams and the fat of fattened animals; I have no pleasure in the blood of bulls and lambs and goats. <sup>12</sup>When you come to appear before me, who has asked this of you, this trampling of my courts? <sup>13</sup>Stop bringing meaningless offerings! Your incense is detestable to me. New Moons, Sabbaths and convocations-- I cannot bear your evil assemblies. <sup>14</sup>Your New Moon festivals and your appointed feasts my soul hates. They have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them. <sup>15</sup>When you spread out your hands in prayer, I will hide my eyes from you; even if you offer many prayers, I will not listen. Your hands are full of blood; <sup>16</sup>wash and make yourselves clean. Take your evil deeds out of my sight! Stop doing wrong, <sup>17</sup>learn to do right! Seek justice, encourage the oppressed. Defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow. (Isaiah 1:11-17)

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On another note, I have noticed a saying to this effect on your signboard, "God Loves You... No Exceptions". This is not true. <sup>4</sup>You are not a God who takes pleasure in evil; with you the wicked cannot dwell. <sup>5</sup>The arrogant cannot stand in your presence; you hate all who do wrong. <sup>6</sup>You destroy those who tell lies; bloodthirsty and deceitful men the LORD abhors. (Psalm 5:4-6)

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I can't imagine how Episcopalians could rationalize away the clear teachings of Scripture, except to start with the old line of Satan to Eve... He said to the woman, "Did God really say, (Genesis 3:1), and then lie about it.

Your NEIGHBOR,