



The Gospel of the Left and the Right

Are you *conservative* or *liberal*?

INTERACTIVE OUTLINE

Sunday morning: 10:30 am

Scripture Reading: Matt 7:14

May 18, 2014

Speaker: Brent Hunter

Introduction

- A. God does not want us to *react to error*, but respond to **t**_____.
- B. We don't want to overly focus and define ourselves by what we are not.

I. GOD WANTS HEALTHY SOUND DOCTRINE THAT IS BALANCED.

- A. The history of theology is one of *overreacting to a perceived e*_____.
- 1. Martin Luther reacted against "meritorious works" (on the right) and went all the way over to a "faith only" position (on the left). Both are wrong.
- 2. The legalism of the Pharisees (a right-wing view), is often reacted to with an extreme view of grace (left-wing), which Paul addressed in Rom 6:1-2.
- 3. The Jews were unrighteous in the OT. The righteous remnant after the captivity, responded by becoming legalists, resulting in self-righteousness.
- B. Are you a liberal or conservative? These are **r**_____ terms.

II. WHAT DO THESE RELATIVE TERMS MEAN?

- A. Webster's dictionary defines the terms as follows:
 - 1. **Conservative**: "Respecting old methods and customs; adhering to what is old; not given to **c**_____ just for the sake of change."
 - 2. **Liberal**: "Free: not literal or strict. One who advocates greater freedom of thought or action".
- B. All of us are conservative or liberal depending upon what subject or place we are talking about. It is not a fair universal label, in most cases.
- C. The question ought to be: Is this **B**_____? Is it *expedient*?

III. CONTROVERSIES AMONG CHURCHES OF CHRIST.

- A. They revolve around changes that have occurred in six major areas. These areas are **a**_____, activities, organization, agencies, morals, & discipline.
- B. What should our attitude be about these things today?
 - 1. Avoid *pejorative* terms (2 Tim 2:24-25).
 - 2. Avoid the **p**_____ spirit (Gal 5:20).
 - 3. Be careful about fellowship and judging *eternal destinies*.

Conclusion: May we all, with brotherly love, focus on what is Biblical and expedient!

Notes

SCRAMBLED ANSWERS:

change
relative
extreme
party
authority
Biblical
truth