CHANGING OUR LANGUAGE

Sometime, somehow, our language has changed. Some of it seems strange to me. When I began preaching we always heard, “we speak where the Bible speaks” and we no longer hear that. We were careful to explain that Jesus built HIS church and there was only one. Seldom do we hear that anymore.

Sometime about 45-50 years ago, some brethren were saying that we needed a different language to “understand” and we were trying to find different ways to say the same things. We found that denominational language was saying things better than us, apparently, and we started adopting their language and thoughts. In fact one Bible school material publisher bought their material, put our language on the title and passed it off as written and published by members of the church.

Some were convinced that people did not understand us because we were using scriptural and biblical language, while they were talking in modern language. So we had to change the language in order to reach them. So what happened was those not in the church got the impression there was nothing distinctive about us so it did not take much for them to “join.”

But when you read the Bible, it says those who do not understand are those do not WANT to understand. “ For this people’s heart is waxed gross, And their ears are dull of hearing, And their eyes they have closed; Lest haply they should perceive with their eyes, And hear with their ears, And understand with their heart, And should turn again, And I should heal them.” (Matt. 13:15)

So people can understand, if they want. It actually is up to them. If we change our language to please others, we are changing our belief and conviction that the Bible is the word of God and it can be understood by competent people.

What we are about is God’s Word. That is what saves souls. (Rom. 1:16) it is not changing our language, it is not parties and game times, in which some churches are now engaging, it is not “fellowship” dinners.

We are not talking about something unimportant, we are talking about souls!

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