ONE SIDED RELIGION

I see a problem in the church that has been gaining ground for years. It appears that a lot of people do not want to hear negative preaching, by that I mean telling folks they will be eternally lost without Christ. That is what I call “one sided religion.”

I like to be positive as much as anyone. I don’t like to tell people what is going to happen if they don’t obey Christ. I know it causes pain and fear to some. There was a time when a lot of folks would say, “I don’t feel I have been to church unless the preacher steps on my toes.” Heard not so much anymore!

Those folks that want everything positive have neglected some of the scripture. Speaking of those who have left the faith Peter says, ‘Forsaking the right way, they have gone astray. They have followed the way of Balaam, the son of Beor, who loved gain from wrongdoing, but was rebuked for his own transgression; a speechless donkey spoke with human voice and restrained the prophet’s madness. These are waterless springs and mists driven by a storm. For them the gloom of utter darkness has been reserved. For, speaking loud boasts of folly, they entice by sensual passions of the flesh those who are barely escaping from those who live in error. They promise them freedom, but they themselves are slaves of corruption. For whatever overcomes a person, to that he is enslaved. For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world through the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first. For it would have been better for them never to have known the way of righteousness than after knowing it to turn back from the holy commandment delivered to them. What the true proverb says has happened to them: The dog returns to its own vomit, and the sow after washing herself, returns to wallow in the mire.” (2 Peter 2:15-22)