"Prayer is the highest activity of the human soul, and therefore it is at the same time the ultimate test of a man's true spiritual condition (there is nothing so much as prayer life that tells the truth about us as Christian people). Everything we do in the Christian life is easier than prayer."

Dr. Martin Lloyd Jones

## Prayer Study #328

I find most of the following theses are very valid and applicable to the Body of Christ and the times we live in, and I am very convicted by the Holy Spirit concerning some of these theses. Greg Gordon has backed all of his theses with scripture. You may not agree with all of them, but they certainly will make you think, if you take them seriously, and make you examine your own faith and the role and power of the Church in this generation. I highly recommend that you read each one. I have given you most of the scriptural proof he gives. I thought this would be an excellent inclusion on a study of the baptism of the Holy Spirit, since the baptism makes us all more sensitive to what is going on in the world and helps us be sensitive to the signs of the times.

## 95 Theses to the Modern Evangelical Church Greg Gordon (founder of Sermonindex.net)

- 1. The "church" at large has forgotten that the chief end of man is to glorify God. (Romans 16:27-...to God alone wise, be glory through Jesus Christ forever. Amen; 1st Corinthians 6:20-For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are Gods; Matthew 6:9-In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name; 1st Corinthians 10:31-Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.)
- 2. Christians ignore most of the methods, practices, and principles found in the book of Acts. (Acts 2:42, 44-And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and in prayers. Now all who believed were together and had all things in common; Acts 2:46-So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart; Acts 2:38-Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.)

- 3. Many treat "church" like any other social club or sports event that they might attend. (Acts 2:46-So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart; Acts 1:14-These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus and with His brothers.)
- 4. We've made Christianity about the individual rather than the community of believers. (Romans 12:5-...so we, being many, are one body in Christ and individually members of one another; 1st Corinthians 12:12-For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ; 2nd Timothy 4:16-At my[Paul's] first defense no one stood with me, but all forsook me. May it not be charged against them.)
- 5. In most "churches" the priesthood of all believers isn't acknowledged and the role of pastor is abused. (1st Peter 2:9-But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you our of darkness into His marvelous light; 1st Corinthians 12:12-For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ; Ephesians 4:11-13-And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ...
- 6. The "church" as a whole has lost the concept of their being grafted into the promises given to Israel. (Romans 11:15, 17-18, 20, 25-For if their being cast away is the reconciling of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?; And if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive tree, were grafted in among them, and with them became a partaker of the root and fatness of the olive tree, do not boast against the branches. But if you do boast, remember that you do not support the root, but the root supports you; Well said, Because of unbelief they were broken off, and you stand by faith. Do not be haughty, but fear; For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in.

- 7. There needs to be a recovery of teaching the whole counsel of God, especially in expository form. (Acts 20:27-For I[Paul] have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God; 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 4:6-If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed; 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 2:15-Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.)
- 8. We take it lightly that we have the blessing and honor of having God's Scriptures in our possession. (Psalm 119:16-Iwill delight myself in Your statutes; I will not forget Your word; Acts 13:44-On the next Sabbath almost the whole city came together to hear the word of God; Nehemiah 8:9-And Nehemiah, who was the governor, Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn nor weep." For all the people wept, when they heard the words of the Law.)
- 9. There has never been more access to the Word of God, yet so little reading of it. (1st Timothy 4:13-Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine; Nehemiah 8:1-3-Now all the people gathered together as one man in the open square that was in front of the Water Gate; and they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded Israel. So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly of men and women and all who could hear with understanding on the first day of the seventh month. Then he read from it in the open square in front of the Water Gate from morning until midday, before the men and women and those who could understand; and the ears of the people were attentive to the Book of the Law.)
- 10. Some read the Scriptures to attain knowledge, but do not practice what they read. (James 1:22-But be doers of the word and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves; Matthew 7:21-"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven"; 3rd John 4-I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.)
- 11. Worship has become an idol in many "churches." The music often resembles that of the world. (Amos 5:23-Take away from Me the noise of your songs, for I will not hear the melody of your stringed instruments; Philippians 4:8-Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever

- things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy-meditate on these things; 1<sup>st</sup> John 5:21-Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.)
- 12. The world is shaping the views of the "church" more than the "church" shaping the world. (Romans 12:2-And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God; Matthew 5:13-You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men; 1st Corinthians 1:22-23-For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block, and to the Greeks foolishness.)
- 13. The "church" spends more money on dog food than on missions. (2nd Corinthians 9:6-But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully; Luke 21:2-4-And He saw also a certain poor widow putting in two mites. So He said, "Truly I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all; for all these out of their abundance have put in offerings for God, but she out of her poverty put in all the livelihood that she had;" Acts 4:34-35-Nor was there anyone among them who lacked; for all who were possessors of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of the things that were sold and laid them at the apostle's feet, and they distributed to each as anyone had need.)
- 14. We take lightly the cost of discipleship laid out by Jesus Christ and do not deny our lives. (Luke 14:33-"So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple;" Luke 14:26-27-"If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father, mother, wife and children, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple;" Matthew 8:19-20: Then a certain scribe came and said to Him, "Teacher I will follow You wherever You go." And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.)
- 15. There is a lack of true discipleship and making others to be obedient disciples. (Matthew 28:20: ...teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the ends of the age; 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 2:2-And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit them to

- faithful men who will be able to teach others also; **2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 2:14**-Remind them of these things, charging them before the Lord not to strive about words to no profit, the ruin of the hearers.)
- 16. Many subscribe to the error that parts of life are to be spiritual while others are to be secular. (1<sup>st</sup> Peter 4:1-2- Therefore, since Christ suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same mind, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, that he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh for the lusts of men, but for the will of God; Colossians 3:2-3-Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God; 1<sup>st</sup> John 2:6-He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.)
- 17. Modern Christians often find Jesus' command to sacrifice and serve abhorrent. (Philippians 2:21-For all seek their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus; James 3:16-For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there; Romans 12:1-2-I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.)
- 18. Self disciplines in the Christian life such as fasting and praying are considered legalistic. (2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 2:20-21- But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor. Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work; 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 1:8-Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God; Matthew 6:16-17-"Moreover, when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face.")
- 19.Little thought and contemplation is put towards the lostness of men, the seriousness of the Gospel. (Philippians 3:8-Yet indeed I also count all things lost for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ; Galatians 2:20-I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives

- in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me; **Hebrews 10:32-34-**But recall the former days in which, after you were illuminated, you endured a great struggle with sufferings; partly while you were made a spectacle both by reproaches and tribulations, and partly while you became companions of those who were so treated; for you had compassion on me in my chains, and joyfully accepted the plundering of your goods, knowing that you have a better and an enduring possession for yourselves in heaven.)
- 20. We are living with an epidemic of cheap grace with flippant confession and shallow consecration. (Luke 14:28-30-"For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it-lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish;'" Luke 14:26- "If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple;" James 4:8-Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.)
- 21. Since the inception of the Church, the Gospel had the requirements of repentance and discipleship. (Acts 2:38-Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit; John 8:31-Then Jesus said to those Jews who believe Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed;" Matthew 28:19: "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.")
- 22. Now forgiveness is offered without repentance, discipleship without obedience, salvation without sanctity. (Hebrews 10:29-Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace?; Hebrews 4:11-Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience; Luke 13:23-24-Then one said to Him, "Lord, are there few who are saved?" And He said to them, "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able.")

- 23.Introspection, counting the cost, godly sorrow over sin, are all foreign to many in the "church." (Acts 2:36-37-"Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ." Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?"; Psalm 119:9-How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word; Hebrews 6:1-2-Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.)
- 24. The modern Church loves itself more than it loves its neighbor. (1st Corinthians 3:1-3-And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual people but as to carnal, as to babes in Christ. I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it, and even now you are still not able; for you are still carnal. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men?; Galatians 5:13-For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another; Philippians 2:3-Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.)
- 25. The Church must repent of its idolization of personality and of business privileges. (2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 2:17-For we are not, as so many, peddling the word of God...; 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 3:5-7-Who then is Paul and who is Apollos, but ministers through whom you believed, as the Lord gave to each one? I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase; 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 12:20-23- But now indeed there are many members, yet one body. And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you;" nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." No much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary. And those members of the body which we think to be less honorable, on these we bestow greater honor; and our unpresentable parts have greater modesty.)
- 26. Many elders and pastors of the "church" are fleecing the flock to supply their own wants. (John 10:12-13-"But a hireling, he who is

- not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep;" 1st Peter 5:2-3- Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.)
- 27. The qualities most in demand in today's pastorate are frequently foreign to the Scriptures. (1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 3:2-3-A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach; not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous; 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 3:5-For if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?; 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 1:5-7-Now the purpose of the commandment is love from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith, from which some, having strayed, have turned aside to idle talk, desiring to be teachers of the law, understanding neither what they say nor the things which they affirm.)
- 28. The professionalization of the pastorate is a sin and needs to be repented of. (2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 11:13-15-For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works; Galatians 3:1-O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified?; Galatians 2:6-But from those who seemed to be something-whatever they were, it makes no difference to me; God shows personal favoritism to no man-for those who seemed to be something added nothing to me.)
- 29. There must be repentance for the ambitious desire and idolization of the celebrity pastorate. (3<sup>rd</sup> John 9-I wrote the church, but Diotrephes, who loves to have the preeminence among them, does not receive us; Jeremiah 17:5-Thus says the LORD: "Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart departs from the LORD; 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 12:22-No, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary.)

- 30. Pastors must trust the Spirit, not statistics. (2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel 24:1-Again the anger of the LORD was aroused against Israel, and He moved David against them to say, "Go, number Israel and Judah." [Since the numbering was obviously in terms of military strength, this census could have been sinful because it was motivated by sinful pride and a spirit of self-sufficiency on the king's part.]; 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 1:25-Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men; Romans 8:14-For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.)
- 31. Modern day prophets are being stoned by criticism and neglect. (2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:3-4-For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up to themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth and be turned aside to fables; Galatians 1:10-For do I now persuade men or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ; Jeremiah 1:7-8-But the LORD said to me: "Do not say, 'I am a youth.' For you shall go to all to whom I send you, and whatever I command you, you shall speak. Do not be afraid of their faces, for I am with you to deliver you," says the LORD.)
- 32.God's prophets are ill-treated and shunned by most "Christians" and considered too harsh or extreme. (Jeremiah 6:10-To whom shall I speak and give warning, that they may hear? Indeed their ear is uncircumcised, and they cannot give heed. Behold, the word of the Lord is a reproach to them; they have no delight in it; Galatians 4:16-Have I therefore become your enemy because I tell you the truth?)
- 33. The prophets prophesy falsely, priest rule by their own power, and my people love to have it so. (Matthew 24:4-And Jesus answered them and said to them, "Take heed that no one deceives you;" Matthew 24:11-12-"Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold;" Jude 8-Likewise also these dreamers defile the flesh, reject authority, and speak evil of dignitaries.)
- 34. There are many false gospels being preached from pulpits in our day. (2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 11:3-4-But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or if you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel

- which you have not accepted-you may well put up with it!; Galatians 1:8-9-But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed; Jude 16-These are grumblers, complainers, walking according to their own lusts; and they mouth great swelling words, flattering people to gain advantage.)
- 35. There is an epidemic of a "mock" salvation message. It is correct in doctrine, but false in reality. (2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 3:4-6-And we have such trust through Christ toward God. Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God, who also made us sufficient as minsters of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit, for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life; 1<sup>st</sup> John 5:11-12-And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son as life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life; Romans 8:9-But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.)
- 36.A salvation that does not make men holy is trusted in by a deceived multitude. (Jude 4-For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ; Romans 8:1-There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit; Romans 6:17-18-But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered, and having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.)
- 37. There is needed perseverance in the truths of the Gospel without unbelief. (Ephesians 1:1-Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, to the saints who are in Ephesus, and faithful in Christ Jesus; Hebrews 6:11-12-And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end, that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises; Hebrews 10:26-27-For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains

- a sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful expectation of judgment and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries.)
- 38.A great need is to see "Christians" become saints in actual experience. (1st John 2:29-If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone who practices righteousness is born of Him; Colossians 3:5-11-Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them, but now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all; **Titus 3:8-9-**This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable to men. But avoid foolish disputes, genealogies, contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and useless.)
- 39. Many professors of religion are forbidding people to be a part of the holy body of Christ. (Matthew 23:13-"But wore to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for you neither go in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in;" Psalm 119:1-2-Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the LORD! Blessed are those who keep His testimonies, who seek Him with the whole heart!; 2nd Peter 1:2-4-Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.)
- 40. Preaching has become all about the happiness of man and not the glory of God. (John 6:26-Jesus answered them and said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw the signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled;" Romans 4:20-

- **22-**He [Abraham] did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform. And therefore it was accounted to him for righteousness; **1**<sup>st</sup> **Peter 4:11-**If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.)
- 41. Preachers give smooth words to entice men, yet very few give any words of correction or rebuke. (Jeremiah 6:14-They have healed the hurt of My people slightly, saying, "Peace, peace!" when there is no peace; Proverbs 1:23-Turn at my rebuke: Surely I will pour out My spirit on you: I will make my words known to you; 1st Timothy 5:20-Those who are sinning rebuke in the presence of all, that the rest also may fear.)
- 42. Run from gospels that focus on our success and prosperity in the name of Jesus Christ. (John 2:16-And He said to those who sold doves, "Take these things away! Do not make My Father's house a house of merchandise!"; Acts 20:33-I [Paul] have coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel; Jeremiah 6:13-Because from the least of them even to the greatest of them, everyone is given to covetousness; and from the prophet even to the priest, everyone deals falsely.)
- 43. Run from gospels that focus on self-improvement. (1st Timothy 6:5-...men of corrupt minds and destitute of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain. From such withdraw yourself; James 4:13-16-Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit"; whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away. Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that." But now you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil.)
- 44. Run from churches where men, and not Christ, are glorified. (Colossians 1:18-And He [Jesus] is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence; Jude 25-To God our Savior, who alone is wise, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Amen; John 16:14-"He [the Holy Spirit] will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.")

- 45. Run from churches where there is no Bible, no cross, no mention of the blood of Christ. (1st Peter 1:18-19-...knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ as a lamb without blemish and without spot; Revelation 1:5-...and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood.)
- 46.Run from churches where the worship leaves you cold, where there's no sense of God's presence. (1st Corinthians 5:4-In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when you are gathered together, along with my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ; Psalm 80:14-15-Return, we beseech You, O God of hosts; look down from heaven and see and visit this vine and the vineyard which Your right hand has planted, and the branch that You made strong for Yourself; Jeremiah 12:11-They have made it desolate; desolate, it mourns for Me; the whole land is made desolate because no one takes it to heart.)
- 47.Run from churches where you're comfortable in your sin. (1st Corinthians 14:24-25- But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or an uninformed person comes in, he is convinced by all, he is convicted by all. And thus the secrets of his heart are revealed; and so, falling down on his face, he will worship God and report that God is truly among you; Hebrews 10:31-It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God; Hebrews 4:13-And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.)
- 48. Run from churches that use the pulpit of God for a personal agenda. (Jude 10:11-Woe to them! For they have gone in the way of Cain, have run greedily in the error of Balaam for profit, and perished in the rebellion of Korah; Jude 19-These are sensual persons, who cause divisions, not having the Spirit; 3<sup>rd</sup> John 9-I wrote to the church, but Diotrephes, who loves to have the preeminence among them, does not receive us.)
- 49. Run from those who preach division between races and cultures. (James 2:4-Have you not shown partiality among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?; Galatians 3:28-There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus; Revelation 5:9-And they sang a new song, saying, "You are worthy to take the scroll and

- to open its seals; for You were slain and have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation.)
- 50.Run from ungodly, spasmodic movements and endless empty prophesying. (Jeremiah 5:12-13-They have lied about the LORD and said, "It is not He. Neither will evil come upon us, nor shall we see sword or famine. And the prophets became wind, for the word is not in them. Thus shall it be done to them;" 1st Corinthians 14:33-For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints; 1st John 2:16-For all that is in the world-the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life-is not of the Father but is of the world.)
- 51.Run from preachers who tell mostly stories and jokes. (Ephesians 5:3-4-But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints; neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks; Titus 1:11-12- For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age.)
- 52. Run from those who are only after money, who use one gimmick after another to get your money. (2nd Peter 2:1-3-But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them and bring on themselves swift destruction. And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed. covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words; for a long time their judgment has not been idle, and their destruction does not slumber; 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 12:14: Now for the third time I am ready to come to you. And I will not be burdensome to you; for I do not seek yours, but you. For the children ought not to lay up for the parents, but the parents for the children; 1st Corinthians 9:18-What is my reward then? That when I preach the gospel, I may present the gospel of Christ without charge, that I may not abuse my authority in the gospel.)
- 53. The phrase "Accept Jesus as your personal Savior" is not found in the Scriptures. (Romans 10:9-10-...that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made

- unto salvation; Colossians 1:13-He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us in to the kingdom of the Son of His love; Acts 26:19-20-Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but declared first to those in Damascus and in Jerusalem, and throughout all the region of Judea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent, turn to God, and do works befitting repentance.)
- 54. Evidence of true conversion does not seem important to modern day Christians. (1<sup>st</sup> John 2:6-He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked; 1<sup>st</sup> John 4:17-Love has been perfected among us in this, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment, because as He is, so are we in this world; Matthew 7:20-Threfore by their fruits you will know them.)
- 55. Thousands of sinners think of God as having only one attribute: Love! But they continue in sin. (Romans 1:18-For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness; Psalm 2:12-Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, and you perish in the way, when His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all those who put Now we
- 56. "God loves you and has a wonderful plan for your life!" has hindered true evangelism. (Romans 3:19-Now we know that whatever the law says, it say to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God; Philippians 3:18-21-For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are enemies of the cross of Christ, whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame-who set their mind on earthly things. For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.)
- 57.A Gospel of love and grace only, without the law of God being preached. This is a doctrine of Satan. (2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:1-4-Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron, forbidding to marry and commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who

- believe and know the truth. For every creature of God is good, and nothing is to be refused if it is received with thanksgiving, for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer; Romans 2:4-5-Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads to repentance? But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God; Romans 3:19-Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become quilty before God.)
- 58. There has clearly arisen a careless mixture of 20<sup>th</sup> century reasoning with God's revelation. (Colossians 2:8-Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world and not according to Christ; Romans 1:24-25- Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, who exchanged the truth of God for the lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen; Galatians 1:6- I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel.)
- 59. Decisionism and the "sinner's prayer" has been a major cause of false conversions in the "church." (2nd Peter 2:1-2-But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed; Ephesians 2:4-5-But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved); 2nd Corinthians 5:17-18-Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ and has given us the ministry of reconciliation.)
- 60. Many will be surprised to hear Jesus say, "I never knew you, depart from Me." (Matthew 7:22-23-"Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out

- demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness;" 1st Corinthians 6:9-10-Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, not thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God; Galatians 6:12-15-As many as desire to make a good showing in the flesh, these would compel you to be circumcised, only that they may not suffer persecution for the cross of Christ. For not even those who are circumcised keep the law, but they may boast in your flesh. But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of the Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation.)
- 61. Men have taken the place of the Holy Spirit in confirming men in their supposed salvation. (1<sup>st</sup> John 2:3-5-Now by this we know we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him; 2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians 1:8-For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place. Your faith toward God has gone out, so that we do not need to say anything.)
- 62. The doctrine of hell and eternal suffering is something little grasped by most professing "Christians." (Matthew 13:41-42-"The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth;" James 5:1-Come now, you rich, weep and howl for your miseries that are coming upon you!; Psalm 9:17-The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God.)
- 63. The judgment seat of Christ is perhaps one of the most neglected topics in the modern pulpit. (2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:10-For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad; Romans 14:10-But why do you judge your brother? Or why do you show contempt for your brother? For we

- shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ; 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 3:12-13-Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is.)
- 64. The second coming of Christ needs to be re-instated as the Church's general thrust and burden. (1st John 3:2-3-Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him. for we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure; Colossians 3:4-6-When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience; 1st Thessalonians 4:14-17-For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.)
- 65. The church has lost the fear of God and has overemphasized the love of God. (Hebrews 12:28-29-Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverance and godly fear. For our God is a consuming fire; Luke 12:5-"But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell; yes, I say to you, 'Fear Him!'"; Hebrews 10:31-It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.)
- 66. The Church has left evangelism to a few trained professionals. (Acts 8:1-4-Now Paul was consenting to his death. At that time a great persecution arose against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. And devout men carried Stephen to his burial and made great lamentation over him. As for Saul, he made havoc of the church, entering every house and dragging off men and

- women, committing them to prison. Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word; Acts 4:29-"Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word; Romans 10:14-How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?)
- 67. Redemption is considered a one-time act of modern evangelism rather than a way of life. (Revelation 3:19-"As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent; Hebrews 12:17-For you know that afterward, when he [Esau] wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought it diligently with tears; 2nd Peter 3:9-The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.)
- 68. The Lordship of Jesus Christ is something that is not taught in many pulpits. (Acts 2:36-"Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ;" 1st Corinthians 12:3-Therefore, I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit.)
- 69. Many in "churches" are not open to correction, church discipline or rebuke. (1st Corinthians 5:5-...deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus; 1st Corinthians 11:31-32-For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged. But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world; Hebrews 12:7-9-If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons. Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live?)
- 70. Some preach salvation as a theory instead of preaching for men to come to Christ. (John 5:39-40-"You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life:" Colossians 1:28-Him we preach, warning every man and

- teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus; **2**<sup>nd</sup> **Corinthians 4:5**-For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake.)
- 71. There has been a loss of the fullness and majesty of the gospel. (1st Timothy 1:11-...according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God which was committed to my trust; Jude 25-To God our Savior who alone is wise; To God our Savior, who alone is wise, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Amen; Romans 15:29-But I know that when I come to you, I shall come in the fullness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ.)
- 72. There is little mention of sin or the depravity of man from "church" pulpits. (John 3:20-"For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds shall be exposed; Ephesians 5:5-For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.)
- 73. Covetousness, consumerism, and coddling of the world's goods does not appear wrong [to today's society]. (Jeremiah 22:15-17"Shall you reign because you enclose yourself in cedar? Did not your father eat and drink and do justice and righteousness? Then it was well with him. He judged the cause of the poor and needy; then it was well. Was not this knowing Me? Says the LORD. Yet your eyes and your heart are for nothing but your covetousness, for shedding innocent blood, and practicing oppression and violence." 1st John 2:15-16-Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world-the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life-is not of the Father but is of the world.)
- 74. Little is made of the resurrection of Jesus Christ in churches or in evangelism. (1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15:14-15-And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty and your faith is also empty. Yes, and we are found false witnesses of God, because we have testified of God that He raised up Christ, whom He did not raise up-if in fact the dead do not rise. Acts 4:10-Let it be known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you whole.
- 75. The "church" has relied more on technology than on God. (Zechariah 4:6-So he answered and said to me: "This is the word of

- the LORD to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' says the LORD of hosts." 1st Corinthians 1:21-For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. 1st Corinthians 2:4-And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power.)
- 76. The prayer meeting is considered one of the least important meetings in the "church." (1st Timothy 2:1-Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men. Acts 4:31-And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness. Philippians 4:6-Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your request be made know to God.)
- 77. Pastors have never prayed less than they do in the "church" today. (Jeremiah 10:21-For the shepherds have become dull-hearted, and have not sought the LORD; Therefore they shall not prosper, and all their flocks shall be scattered. Philippians 2:21-For all seek their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus. Ephesians 6:18-19-...praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel...)
- 78. Very few are waiting on God for His direction and purpose for His Church. (Ephesians 1:11-In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will... Psalm 37:7-Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for Him; Do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, because of the man who brings wicked schemes to pass. Isaiah 40:31-But those who wait on the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.)
- 79. The "church" has many organizers, but few agonizers. (Philippians 3:18-19-For many walk, of whom I have told you often and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame-who set their minds on earthly things.

- Romans 9:1-3-I tell the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit, that I have great sorrow and continual grief in my heart. For I wish that I myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my countrymen according to the flesh. Jeremiah 9:1-Oh, that my head were waters, and my eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people!)
- 80. We need to have the gifts of the Spirit restored again to the "church." (2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:2-Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 14:39-Therefore, brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak with tongues. 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 12:31-But earnestly desire the best gifts. And yet I show you a more excellent way.)
- 81.A serious, sober, self-controlled Christianity is very seldom found or preached. (2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 3:11-Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness. 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 4:7-But the end of all things is at hand: therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers. Jude 3-Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning your common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.)
- 82. The "church" at large has forgotten how to pray. (1<sup>st</sup> John 3:22-And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. Acts 6:4-But we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word. 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 5:17-Pray without ceasing.)
- 83.Many "churches" are more dependent on tradition than the leading of the Holy Spirit. (Mark 7:13-"...making the word of God of no effect through your tradition which you have handed down. And many such things you do." Acts 16:6-Now when they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were forb idden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia. Acts 13:2-As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.")
- 84. Multitudes of professors preach and teach that you cannot be freed from sin. (Romans 16:17-18-Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine

- which you learned, and avoid them. For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple. Romans 6:1-2-What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 2:1-But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction.)
- 85. The Apostles and Christ always preached the possibility to walk free from sin. (Titus 2:11-12-For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age. 1st Peter 1:14-16...as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to former lusts, as in your ignorance, but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written "Be holy, for I am holy." Romans 6:19-I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so not present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness.)
- 86. Sinners are not saved to sin, but rather, saved to holiness and good works. (Romans 6:13-And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. Ephesians 2:10-For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 3:14-Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless.)
- 87. Cheap grace means the justification of sin without the justification of the sinner. (2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 2:19-Nevertheless, the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: "The Lord knows those who are His," and "Let everyone who names the name of Christ Jesus depart from iniquity." 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 4:17-18-For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God? Now "If the righteous one is scarcely saved, where will the ungodly and the sinner appear?")

- 88. A baptism of holiness, a demonstration of godly living is the crying need of our day. (1st Timothy 6:3-5-If anyone teaches otherwise and does not consent to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which accords with godliness, he is proud, knowing nothing, but is obsessed with disputes and arguments over words, from which come strife, reviling, evil suspicions, useless wranglings of men of corrupt minds and destitute of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain. From such withdraw yourself. 2nd Thessalonians 3:6-But we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you withdraw from every brother who walks disorderly and not according to the tradition which he received from us. 2nd Timothy 2:13-If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.)
- 89. Many are confused about obedience and good works that are readily mentioned in the Scriptures. (Titus 3:8-This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable to men. John 10:32- Jesus answered them, "Many good works I have shown you from My Father. For which of those works do you stone Me?" Revelation 3:15-16-"I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth.")
- 90.Little emphasis in "churches" is put on the plan of God to make us like Jesus Christ. (1<sup>st</sup> John 2:6-He who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk just as He walked.)
- 91. Christ did not die on the cross to obtain a worldly "church" but for a "glorious Church." (Ephesians 5:27-...that he might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but she should be holy and without blemish. Titus 2:14-...who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.)
- 92. Christ does not come into an unregenerate and impure heart as many contemporary theologians say. (2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:17-Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. Matthew 5:8-"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.")

- 93.A holy Church is God's blessing to the world; an unholy "church" is God's judgment upon the world. (Matthew 5:14-"You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden." Ephesians 4:1- Therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you are called. 1st Thessalonians 2:12- ...that you would walk worthy of God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.)
- 94.If Christianity is to make any headway in the present time, it must be proved to be more than a theory. (1st Thessalonians 4:1, 11-12-Finally then, brethren, we urge and exhort in the Lord Jesus that you should abound more and more, just as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God....that you also aspire to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you, that you may walk properly toward those who are outside and that you may lack nothing.)
- 95. Unbelief has gagged and bound us as risen Lazarus! We need release in this final hour. (Hebrews 3:12-14-Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end. 1st Corinthians 3:21-23-Therefore let no one boast in men. For all things are yours: whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas, or the world or life or death, or things present or things to come-all are yours. And you are Christ's, and Christ is God's. Hebrews 11:6- But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.)