

The
“GRACE
TICKET”

*The perversion of God's grace
in the church today, and the counterfeit ticket
Satan's deception is selling.*

B R I A N S A Y L O R

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INTRODUCTION

Christians, are you prepared for the wrath of God? Now, in case you share the belief that Christians will not face God's wrath, let me rephrase my question to make my point a little clearer. To all those placing their hope in the words of man, even when they completely contradict the Word of God, I ask: Are you prepared for His wrath?

You can hope that bearing the Christian name guarantees that you have been forgiven of your sins and live with His Spirit, but the reality is that claiming yourself to be a Christian has absolutely no direct correlation as to whether or not you have been reconciled to God. Unfortunately, many believe that this beautiful union is somehow magically obtained with the Christian label. I've heard it said many times, by many different pastors. "Now if you're a Christian, then you are a child of God, and you live with His Spirit." But wait, can you please show me what book, chapter, and verse you find that deception in?

Of course, I understand that the word "Christian" typically refers to anyone claiming to believe in God and His Son, Jesus Christ. And yes, I know what John 3:16 says. But consider what Jesus says in response to Satan tempting Him with one verse taken out of context, "Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God" (Deut. 8:3 and Matt. 4:4). And if you understand His full message of Truth, you know that there is much more to receiving His Spirit and becoming an heir to His kingdom than simply believing that He exists! And, *no*, it doesn't come through your works (goofball man-made traditions and rituals)! I'll

talk plenty about what His Word says you must believe from your heart throughout my message, but for now...back to the Christian.

Throughout the Bible, you will only find the word Christian three times, and in none of those three references does scripture prescribe salvation to anyone and everyone who professes to identify by that name. What is more, nowhere in scripture, do you find anything about God identifying His children by any particular name or category of people; you will only find His children being identified by those possessing a saving faith as measured in their heart by God. Understand, "it is not the one who commends himself who is approved, but the one whom the Lord commends" (2 Cor 10:18).

Yet Christians have indeed identified themselves to be just that—a people claiming to be commended by God based on name recognition, favoritism, genealogy, or through any number of works created by man! Christians, do you not understand that the message you hear is of no value to you if you do not "share in the faith of those who obeyed?" (Hebrews 4:2). So my question to the many Christians in this country is, What serves as the cornerstone in the hope of your salvation? The position of your church/pastor, or the Word of God?

Christianity Vs. God's Word, and the Mess Christianity Has Become

Initially, those following Christ's teaching (following God's Word) were called Christians. When you add man to the application of God's Word, you get religion. Religion is essentially the business end of faith. In this case, I am referring to the Christian faith and the birth of the Christian religion. Man, seeing the undeniable charisma that Christ displayed, seized the opportunity to capitalize on the unprecedented appeal of the Son of Man. He had, of course, achieved superstar status to the likes never seen before in a relatively short amount of time. After all, even after His crucifixion, He and His Word remain very much alive!

Problem is, from a business standpoint, regardless of the impression Jesus has on the world, His Word is a very tough teach-

ing! On the surface, God's conditions and requirements are not easy to accept, nor do they appear easy to live out. Living a self-denied life for Christ, turning from sin, and serving the will of God just doesn't feel "easy" for someone currently living to gratify the sinful desires of their flesh. According to His own Word, His full message of Truth will not be received by the masses...it will only be accepted by the few! (John 3:19–21, John 6:66, and Matthew 7:13–14) Therefore, regarding the church, His Truth is not good for business!

Of course, this dilemma plays right into the enemy's hand. Satan, who knows the true sacrifice required far too well, has come up with a "solution" for this problem that the church faces. Keep in mind, Satan attempts to deceive man to keep you from the cross. That is, to keep you from bearing your own! What better use of his tactics than through a deceptive message being delivered right from the mouth of your pastor! I know that the church doesn't like to address the elephant in the room, the devil, but how is it possible to preach the Word without addressing the invisible enemy trying to prevent you from coming to know the Lord?

A little truth about Satan and sin that you likely won't hear in church service

Willful, deliberate sin is the physical and emotional demonstration of your spiritual obedience to Satan. If you worship the Lord with your mouth, yet you live your life as a slave to sin, consider what your heart will reveal to the Lord. He already tells you through His Word how your behavior reveals who your heart claims allegiance to (John 14:23–24, 1 John 3:7–8). God's Word reveals that sin is the measure as to whether someone truly believes in Him (John 16:9). "Belief" that is recognized by God is belief that accompanies obedience to His Word, and that does not include walking in deliberate sin! Yes, it comes down to good vs. evil, and your heart is where God reads the truth as to where you stand. There is no prayer, tradition, denomination, church, ritual, or any work whatsoever that can do it for you! You must decide whether you will follow Christ or follow sin

(Satan), and your heart can't lie to its Creator regarding whom you obey. Understand that the enemy lies to you through any, and every means necessary, regarding what God requires, demands, and commands His children to do to prevent you from a genuine repentance and diligently seeking His will for your life, which is the only way your sins are forgiven! That, according to scripture!

Sin is the only thing that will keep you from heaven, and Satan is the reason why you desire it. If you don't hate sin as much as you claim to love the Lord, you don't truly know the Lord! So who would tell someone that there is a way for sins to be forgiven that is 100 percent completely contrary to God's Word? Satan! Of course, he doesn't speak to us in audible words; he deceives man through his evil spirit to accomplish his evil mission. Thus, he has man do his evil work for him. And the church often deceives you into believing that there is a way for your sins to be forgiven by the blood of Christ through a means that cannot be substantiated through scripture! There is only one way, and yes, there is something you must do!

The fact is, there are literally hundreds of scriptural warnings that speak to the relevance of "being on guard" and to constantly be "on watch" for the enemy and his deception. But when you don't know God's Word, you are ignorant of the only thing that enables you to identify a false teaching. That renders you as easy prey, vulnerable to buy the lie. Even though all these scripture warnings exist, regarding the fact that the enemy will promise another way to His kingdom, pastors successfully fill large mega-churches with lost souls buying the very deception that His Word warns against.

Sure, you may hear Satan being addressed at church, but you will not hear him being credited for the reason that there are so many different denominations, churches, and belief systems within Christianity, nor will he get credit for the birth of all the various traditions, rituals, and works that he conceived within the church that can now serve as your "wide gate to heaven," aka your highway to hell! Satan wants you to believe in another way, but God's Word repeatedly warns against such sin! Beware of a message that doesn't contain a heavy dose of all the many scriptural warnings about the enemy and the intention behind his

deception; it just might be one of his "servants masquerading as an angel of light" that is delivering it!

So, "man," preying on the desire of believers to be forgiven by God and receive the gift of eternal life, created a religion that offers all the beautiful promises found in God's Word but conveniently removes the cost, personal sacrifice, and conditions that are required by God to obtain them. Thus, man created a new god—a false gospel—that now serves as the "pillar of truth!" The church will now borrow God's Word only when it supports the deception of the new belief system that man created. A belief claiming that any number of the many man-made traditions, rituals, prayers/works can now serve to satisfy God's conditions rather than having to meet them from your heart! As a result, the church now has a much sexier message—one that will sell to the masses, one that's very good for business! A deceptive message that is very easy to accept! Thus, the church in America is essentially worshipping Satan's deception!

The state of the church in America: Christianity in this abundantly blessed, godless culture that we live in has become a religion that no longer identifies itself by the Truth found in God's Word but holds to the interpretations of man regarding what is required to be reconciled to God and receive eternal salvation.

"This is what the LORD says: "Cursed is the one who trusts in man, who draws strength from mere flesh and whose heart turns away from the LORD" (Jer. 17:5, NIV).

Man has clearly adjusted or, better yet, twisted scripture to better serve our good purpose. What the church message deletes/removes are the scriptures that speak to the personal sacrifice required to be welcomed into His family—a genuine repentance, a surrender of your will to serve His, and abiding in Christ (obedience to His Word)! What the church preaches is the deception that promises salvation by the grace of God without first meeting these conditional requirements found in His Word in order to obtain it. This perversion of God's grace has largely contributed to a doctrine of

"easy-believism" or even "easy-worksism," which indicates that there is another way to His kingdom other than that by which His Word clearly states. Pastors have replaced these biblical truths that speak to our responsibility with a lie that suggests that man has the authority to "amend" His Word wherever he sees fit, to create the illusion of an easier path. As a religion, Christianity has become less and less about believing the Truth found in God's Word, and more and more about believing the deception coming from the mouths of man regarding what you must believe (accept) versus what you can reject. "Sanctify them by the Truth; Your Word is Truth" (John 17:17).

As a result, this perversion of God's grace, through the "grace ticket" message heard across the church of America today, has essentially removed Christ from your Christianity. It has removed the Truth that Christ's body was representative of and exchanged it for a lie. This new vision of God's grace that man has created now serves as your golden calf. This deception now defines Christianity, and your religion now serves as your idol! The church has twisted His Truth in order for you to presume His grace to be used as a cover for your transgressions, a free pass for the deliberate sin you continue to live in, and they've got the "work" to prove it!

"For certain individuals whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are ungodly people, who pervert the grace of God into a license for immorality..." (Jude 1:4).

What we have in this mess of a country today is somewhere well over one hundred million prideful, arrogant professing Christians, many of whom are ignorant of God and wrongfully expect that they are going to be able to lean on the words of man come their day of judgment. That day when God opens their heart to them and reveals their love for self, the world, and the sin they continued to deliberately live in, rather than revealing a repentant/circumcised heart with a sincere love for God, which is scripturally characteristic of someone who diligently seeks Him and desires to serve His will!

I have a message from God in my heart that I must deliver. Yes, I am aware of how this message will be received, and I am terrified of the potential consequences that I imagine I will suffer as a result of delivering it. But it is by His grace that I deliver it; yes, the fear of the Lord that motivates me to follow His call and walk obediently to His commands. I ask that you read this material with an open heart and see what the Lord may have for you within this message. I have referenced plenty of scriptures to support my positions. Please read carefully and thoughtfully. It is my hope that this message would result in you seeking God with all your heart, and, as a result, someone out there might turn their life over to Christ and truly come to know the Lord.