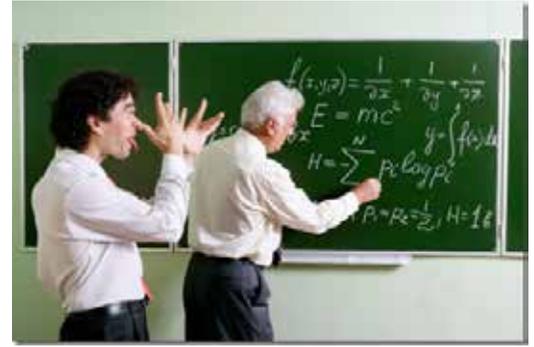


*"Knowing this first, that there shall come in the Last Days scoffers, walking after their own lusts." 2 Peter 3:3 KJV*



How many true God-Lovers do you know? Who really believes and obeys God's Word without trying to dissect or rationalize it to justify how they live? Where is God's Word rightly and freely proclaimed and heeded? Which TV programs portray values of Godly living? The news is filled with violence, sin, and shame! Evidenced by the fact that only bad news sells, Truth is undesired! You can't even pray or read God's Word out loud in our learning institutions without some kind of reprimand or repercussion. Godliness is unacceptable in today's society! The pursuit of wealth and pleasure has possessed men to the point some will actually make public fools (reality TV) of themselves to acquire them. Where there is evil, there is LOVE of money. *"The LOVE of money is the ROOT of ALL EVIL."* Everyone seeks their own good, could care less about pleasing God, much less acknowledge His existence, and it has always been so! It was so before the Great Flood and it was written in Scripture more than once! In Genesis we read, *"GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that EVERY IMAGINATION of the thoughts of his heart was ONLY EVIL CONTINUALLY."* In the Psalms we read, *"The fool hath said in his heart, 'There is no God.' They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good. They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy: there is NONE that doeth good, NO, NOT ONE."* In Roman Epistle we read, *"There is NONE righteous, NO, NOT ONE: There is none that understandeth, THERE IS NONE that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; THERE IS NONE that doeth good, NO, NOT ONE."* And we are, now, in the Last Days of men and Time! To utter the name of Jesus, immediately makes people, even Christians, turn away. Why is church the only socially acceptable environment where Jesus' name is appropriate? *"He is before ALL things, and by Him ALL things consist."* Have we allowed scoffers and fools to dictate propriety? God Forbid! It's time to stand and proclaim Truth as never before, for we have little time left! You must ask yourself, "Does the mention of the name of Jesus Christ in a public place make me feel uncomfortable or embarrassed? Do I place more importance on my job, friends, and life style than my identification with the Truth of God's Word?" Your answer directly indicates the level of apathy into which you have sunk! If you are not actively with God, you are against Him! God's Word says, *"He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad."* To say and do nothing for God is against God! We are not commanded to sit, but to go! Not to whisper, but to preach. *"GO ye into all the world AND PREACH the Gospel (God's Word) TO EVERY CREATURE. Be ready...to give an answer to EVERY MAN...of the Hope that is in you. Be ye Holy, for I am Holy. Let your Light (obedience to God's Word) so shine before men."* Apathy is an evil chain of bondage forged in the depths of lust and sin. *"Choose you THIS DAY whom ye will serve."* Your life reveals your master. *"Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his SERVANTS YE ARE TO WHOM YE OBEY; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? Ye cannot serve God and mammon,"* but you will serve! The eternity of man is at stake. Do you even care or is your status in society more important? Have you deceived yourself into believing that God's Word is ineffective and unable to convince the lost of their peril? *"The Gospel of Christ...is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth."* Obedience is the evidence of Faith – Faith is the evidence of God! Will your words and obedience convince others?

The scoffers of the final days,  
Will place the world into a daze,  
When righteousness shall be a crime,  
And you will know, 'tis end of time. -CGP

When I hear someone belittling or berating God, His Word, or His people, my blood boils! If you get in my face with godless rhetoric, you can be sure I'll be in yours! I don't need the "higher" learning of reprobate men. All I need is the much higher education of faith and the Holy Spirit's tutelage. If I do not walk with God in obedience to Truth, I walk in darkness. Will you allow the blind scoffer to rant or will you rebuke his rant and guide him into Truth? You have as much right to speak as the wicked! Will you?

*"Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise (confident) in his own conceit." Proverbs 26:5 KJV*

C. G. Palmer