



## Ministry is not a worldly Business

My experience and research confirms over and again that historical Christianity, in its traditions of men approach to things, has done exactly what Jesus said would happen...

Matthew 15:6 "...Thus you **nullify the word of God for the sake of your tradition.**"

I'm not saying this attitude prevails in just traditional Church settings, but all too often it does. In truth I see it throughout the Church, traditional and house church. It is endemic to the fallen nature of man.

Over the years I've observed a phenomena, that while not unique to the 21<sup>st</sup> century, is clearly consistent with it, and is a violation of New Testament example, and it is this, that Ministry has been made into a Business...

Rarely, does this appear to be the starting motivation, but as time goes by what began as a service of the Kingdom becomes a business, by which men and women develop a name, a salary, and an empire legacy. This empire becomes their kingdom..., the kingdoms of men. Now we are starting to see this in some of the house church leadership, such that no matter where it surfaces it is unhealthy.

Daniel 4:17 "The decision is announced by messengers, the holy ones declare the verdict, so that the living may know that the Most High is sovereign over the **kingdoms of men ...**"

Why does this so often happen? It would seem it is due to a failure to comprehend and guard against the sense of *insecurity* and *insignificance* that sin has left us all with feeling. Without realizing it we take what begins as a genuine desire to minister to or serve a particular need in the Kingdom, and over time turn it into a business, in which we derive a stronger sense of *security* (through income, products sold, marketing strategies, ministry opportunities, etc.) and *significance* (through titles, positions, power, prestige and authority). We build empires around our giftings and tell ourselves it is "all" for Jesus, when in reality it is too much about ourselves and our personal needs. It becomes "man centered."

1 Peter 1: 24 because, "All flesh is as grass, And all **the glory of man** as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away, 25 but the word of the Lord endures forever."

Those who move in this direction generally begin humble, filled with a servant's heart, are easily entreated, and gentle with those they labor near. Over time, as they gain notoriety, income, a business structure, opportunities, advancements, open doors, accolades, and prestige, their humility gets traded for power and self confidence, and their servant's nature becomes submerged beneath their sense of entitlements due to their anointing, honor, and notoriety.

Acts 12:22 And the people kept shouting, **“The voice of a god and not of a man!”** 23 Then immediately an angel of the Lord struck him, **because he did not give glory to God.** And he was eaten by worms and died. 24 But the word of God grew and multiplied.

Those who work with these folks can hardly believe what they experience, as these leaders progress through the various stages of this development. In the beginning, the co-laborers are promised equal treatment, honor, respect, and genuine appreciation, as well as firm commitments from the leader to not let power go to their heads or become controlling, yet, as time goes by, and public status increases, it becomes evident that these leaders transition into people they weren't in the beginning.

Those who labor with them find themselves dishonored, their feelings are ignored, they are dehumanized into being slaves of the leader, and learn that the only thing that matters is the leader's reputation growing stronger and stronger. Where their opinion once mattered, now it is treated as an annoyance. Where they were formerly treated like an equal, now they are expected to be submissive, not rock the boat, and required to discard their own ideas, visions, and insights from God. They are little more than slaves to the system they have built.

This whole process is nothing other than “a system,” characterized by similar traits, no matter who the leader is, or whether it is in the religious or secular realms.

While I know it is controversial to quote the following passage in support of this abominable tendency, I'm convinced it is at least a part of what the Lord had in mind when communicating to John:

Revelation 18:1 After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory. 2 And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, “Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird! 3 “For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich through the abundance of her luxury.” 4 And I heard another voice from heaven saying, **“Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins,** and lest you receive of her plagues. 5 “For her sins have reached to heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities. 6 “Render to her just as she rendered to you, and repay her double according to her works; in the cup which she has mixed, mix double for her. 7 “In the measure that **she glorified herself and lived luxuriously,** in the same measure give her torment and sorrow; for she says in her heart, ‘I sit as queen, and am no widow, and will not see sorrow.’ 8 “Therefore her plagues will come in one day—death and mourning and famine. And she will be utterly burned with fire, for strong is the Lord God who judges her.

The root of this system and all systems of religion, is to exalt man to a place that only Jesus deserves, and in doing so create a business empire to support such human exaltation.

What is the root of this system? None other than pride. The desire to be lifted up and valued overshadows all else, as time goes by, and those who were once treated graciously are left with the impression that they only exist to further the leader's vision and goals. This is always met with shock, pain, and ultimately disillusionment and anger. As relationships are shattered, the leader tells himself/herself, that their followers problems are due to their failure to value the unique anointing God has put on the leader's life, and thus, they are ultimately dishonoring the Lord, and as such must be allowed to drift off into their own negative world and lose connection with the great work God is doing through the leader.

As cold and heartless as this sounds I've watched it happen many times, and know it to be a genuine tendency of the fallen nature.

These attitudes are so consistent among those who develop powerful ministries with large followings. Power and prestige is obviously extremely hard to handle. In most cases it overwhelms the leader's integrity and wounds the body of Christ.

What are some of the safeguards? (Note that I said "safeguards." I.e recommendations, not laws.)

1. Live a moderate lifestyle.

Large offerings or gifts are not an excuse or justification for living in excess. I am not saying it would be inconsistent with apostolic principle, to receive a large sum of money for the development of ministry, but to take the monies given for ministry and use them for a lavish lifestyle is entirely inconsistent with NT principles of ministry. American televangelists have created an incredible blemish on the Church of Jesus Christ!

I know a "moderate lifestyle" is open to subjective evaluation and standards, but I suspect such things as a reasonable mortgage, a reasonably priced automobile, a reasonable approach to eating, and modestly priced clothing, etc. Reasonable being defined as that which does not appear as excessive to the reasonable observer within the culture of the origin of that ministry.

I recommend you establish a team of brethren, to set up a ministry account, put all monies into that account, and with the team establish a reasonable and modest income/salary to be paid out of the monies accumulated from ministry. Such an approach can spill over to minister to those who connect to your ministry, and the development of new ministries, so that no one becomes wealthy, and no one is lacking in care or provision.

Listen to how Paul described his approach:

Acts 20: 33 **"I have coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel.** 34 "Yes, you yourselves know that these hands have provided for my necessities, **and for those who were with me.** 35 "I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' "

2. Refuse titles of respect or honor, or any kind of special treatment. Those who buy into the notion that such titles as "Doctor, or Reverend, or Pastor" will help promote and open doors for God's ministry, have sold their birthright for the silly notion that the exaltation of man leads to the exaltation of Christ. If you are invited to a meal, then those who travel with you should be invited along too or you refuse to go, unless the purpose of the meal is to discuss a private or personal matter of the one making the invitation. If anyone speaks too honoringly of you gently rebuke them, and never allow it to go unaddressed. To allow any special honor to be accorded to the minister is to begin to head down the track of becoming arrogant and will lead to many excesses and wounds to those who minister along with you. All glory is to be given to the Lord and anyone who would attempt to give it to you must be adjusted.

Acts 14:11 Now when the people saw what Paul had done, they raised their voices, saying in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have come down to us in the likeness of men!" 12 And Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul, Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. 13 Then the priest of Zeus, whose temple was in front of their city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates, intending to sacrifice with the multitudes. 14 But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard this, they tore their clothes and ran in among the multitude, crying out 15 and saying, "Men, why are you doing these things? **We also are men with the same nature as you,** and preach to you that you

should turn from these useless things to the living God, who made the heaven, the earth, the sea, and all things that are in them,

John 2:24 But **Jesus did not commit Himself to them, because He knew all men,** 25 and had no need that anyone should testify of man, for He knew what was in man.

John 5: 41 **“I do not receive honor from men.”**

John 5: 44“How can you believe, **who receive honor from one another, and do not seek the honor that comes from the only God?**

These are not small indictments. This tendency in mankind is so pervasive that few realize it, and fewer still diligently guard against it.

3. Have absolutely nothing to do with allowing any part of the ministry to become in any way associated with a worldly business approach, with its goals or attitudes. Ministry is not to have the same goals and motives of the world’s businesses. It must not be allowed to become a business for profit or fame, and is only to be thought of and handled as a service of love and grace.

Think only that the ministry is a service, and the service is always given away freely. There is no profit to be made for anything connected with ministry. It must always be free of profit margin. This includes sermons, tapes, CDs, DVDs, books, or literature. If it costs you \$1 to produce the book, and ship it, etc., then you sell the book for what it costs to produce it and an additional amount to cover your reasonable expenses, as described in point #1, and not one cent more. I.e. no getting wealthy from the ministry. Apply this consistently, and let people know this is how you operate and that you won’t allow any other approach to the ministry you bring. Just because you have a powerful anointing, work miracles, are an excellent speaker, or are extremely charismatic, is not justification for allowing yourself to be treated in special ways. All such behavior dishonors the Lord.

Matthew 10: 7 “And as you go, preach, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ 8 “Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. **Freely you have received, freely give.**

1 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.

2 Corinthians 11:7 Did I commit sin in humbling myself that you might be exalted, because **I preached the gospel of God to you free of charge.**

2 Thessalonians 3:8 nor did we eat anyone’s bread free of charge, but **worked with labor and toil night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you,** 9 not because we do not have authority, but to make ourselves an example of how you should follow us. 10 For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat.

2 Corinthians 6:10 as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; **as poor**, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

Philippians 4: 11 Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: 12 I know how to be **abased**, and I know how to **abound**. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be **full** and to be **hungry**, both to **abound** and to **suffer need**. 13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

4. No matter how great the anointing or how many doors that anointing seems to open, remain humble in your treatment of those who work alongside you, and always treat them as equals. They are never to be treated as though you are the man or woman of the hour, with faith and power. You are nothing more than a pure and simple servant

of the Lord.

1 Thessalonians 2:6 **Nor did we seek glory from men**, either from you or from others, **when we might have made demands as apostles of Christ.** 7 **But we were gentle among you**, just as a nursing mother cherishes her own children. 8 So, affectionately longing for you, we were well pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God, but also our own lives, because you had become dear to us. 9 For you remember, brethren, our labor and toil; for laboring night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, we preached to you the gospel of God.

5. Do absolutely nothing that in any way has the appearance of marketing, in a self exalting way, the ministry, no matter how many people are blessed by that ministry. As much as possible let the ministry unfold of its own, and refuse to allow anyone to market it for you, in a way that promotes a worldly business attitude or pride. No matter how good your intentions, or the thinking that to market your ministry is to give the Lord greater access to bless people, all such thinking will ultimately lead to pride and hurtful practices. Reject even the hint of such things and Christ will be honored. Most in our day can't imagine how the gifts in their life would become known to the body without some form of a self exalting marketing strategy, but if the only marketing strategy you ever employ is the faithful communication of what God has spoken to you, modest tools of marketing, mixed with a truly godly life of love and wisdom, then the word will get out, just like it always has, by word of mouth. The moment you employ, or allow anyone else on your behalf to employ, worldly marketing strategies, in that moment you are heading down the wrong path.

Psalms 99:9 **Exalt the Lord our God**, And worship at His holy hill; For the Lord our God is holy.

Proverbs 25:6 **Do not exalt yourself** in the presence of the king, And do not stand in the place of the great;

1 Peter 5:6 Therefore **humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time**,

1 Corinthians 4:7 For who makes you differ from another? And what do you have that you did not receive? Now if you did indeed receive it, why do you boast as if you had not received it?

6. Monies received beyond basic operational and reasonable needs (once again, these can include a modest home mortgage, a modest vehicle and its expenses, utilities, groceries, materials for ministry, etc.) can be set aside for future ministry development and travel, but a portion should be given to the poor and needy, as well as other developing ministries, so as to avoid anything that could look like aggrandizing from that ministry. If you have money from secular business success then let it be clear that the extras you enjoy are due to your private business enterprises and not the ministry. Even here modesty and caution must prevail, otherwise people will get the wrong impression and lives will be led astray by your excess. Keep a careful accounting of all monies received, where they went, and an up to date balance sheet, made available to all who request it.

Someone will say, "Well, if we take this approach, how will we ever be able to retire in our latter years, in anything but poverty?" I believe the one answer to this, given the great dangers of accumulating money from the ministry, is to settle in your heart, that if God has called you to something that looks like full time ministry, where you are unable to work in secular labors, and set aside monies for retirement, then you are going to so serve God's people, and develop a servant's heart towards them, that by the time you are old enough to have to retire, they will have such a strong relationship with you that they will, along with your family, continue to care for you until it is your time to go home to be with the Lord. It is said that John Wesley, the great evangelist, died with no more than \$30 to his name. Another approach, that I have seen work well,

would be to discuss with your administrative team, who manages your finances, to develop a modest approach to investing in a retirement fund over the years. Either approach has been used successfully, without running the risk of using the ministry to become wealthy. In all you do, with all you receive, never appear to be one who hoards it to yourself, but rather be one who shares with the needs of others around you.

Galatians 2:9 and when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that had been given to me, they gave me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised. 10 **They desired only that we should remember the poor, the very thing which I also was eager to do.**

1 Corinthians 9:11 If we have sown spiritual things for you, is it a great thing if we reap your material things? 12 If others are partakers of this right over you, are we not even more? Nevertheless **we have not used this right**, but endure all things lest we hinder the gospel of Christ. 13 Do you not know that those who minister the holy things eat of the things of the temple, and those who serve at the altar partake of the offerings of the altar? 14 Even so the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should live from the gospel. 15 But **I have used none of these things**, nor have I written these things that it should be done so to me; for it would be better for me to die than that anyone should make my boasting void. 16 For **if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of**, for necessity is laid upon me; yes, woe is me if I do not preach the gospel! 17 For if I do this willingly, I have a reward; but if against my will, I have been entrusted with a stewardship. 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.

7. Wear modest and reasonably priced clothing, and refuse to either spend money for or be given expensive clothing. Only drive modest and reasonably priced automobiles, and refuse to be given an expensive or flashy car. When asked out to dinner and asked your preference in restaurants, tell them you prefer to eat with the common people, rather than some place extravagant. Only stay in reasonably priced motels, when necessary, otherwise try to stay in the homes of those you are ministering to. Remember, you are not a big shot. You do not require special treatment. You are there to develop relationships, not be treated like a king.

Luke 7:34 "The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, 'Look, a glutton and a winebibber, **a friend of tax collectors and sinners!**'"

Galatians 2:11 Now when Peter had come to Antioch, I withstood him to his face, because he was to be blamed; 12 for before certain men came from James, **he would eat with the Gentiles; but when** they came, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing those who were of the circumcision. 13 And the rest of the Jews also played the hypocrite with him, so that even Barnabas was carried away with their hypocrisy.

8. Do nothing that evidences a "worldly business mentality." No "emphasis" on mission statements, goal setting, vision casting, name building. You are a servant of the Lord and He will guide your steps. Your only goal is to listen to and obey Him. If the Lord puts plans and goals into your heart, expressing these and moving towards these is not what is being addressed here. It is the plans of man to exalt his flesh, and justify his self exaltation, through worldly means, that is being addressed here.

Romans 1:13 Now I do not want you to be unaware, brethren, that I often planned to come to you (**but was hindered until now**), that I might have some fruit among you also, just as among the other Gentiles. (Man's plans are hindered...God's plans cannot be touched)

Act 16:6 And they went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having **been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia.** 7 And when they had come up to Mysia, **they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them.** 8 So, passing by Mysia, they went down to Troas. 9 And **a vision** appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing there, urging him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." 10 And when Paul had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia, **concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.**

1 Corinthians 4:9 For I think that God has displayed us, the apostles, last, as men condemned to death; for we have been made a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men. 10 **We are fools** for Christ's sake

2 Corinthians 12:11 I have become a fool in boasting; you have compelled me. For I ought to have been commended by you; for in nothing was I behind the most eminent apostles, **though I am nothing.**

If these principles be maintained, then as the years go by people will not be sacrificed on the altar of your success, Jesus will always be the focal point of all you say and do, and your life will be protected from the sinful falls that often attend those who allow themselves to make their "ministry" their "lives" instead of Jesus being their life.

You are to have no goal of leaving behind any kind of legacy, other than that you loved God and His body. No names on buildings, no endowment funds in your name, no banners, billboards, or slick marketing tactics to enhance your image and name before the people. If you write books NEVER allow anyone to write about how great you are, how blessed they are by what you have written, etc., so as to enhance the sale-ability of your product. You are a servant of the Lord, not your own fame.

All you do is out of direct obedience to Him. You are to care nothing for the ideas people might have for your ministry, other than as they are clearly reflective of His Word to you personally, and inwardly confirmed by the Spirit. You are not somebody else's opportunity for advancement, in areas where they themselves have been unsuccessful. First and foremost, you belong to Jesus, not the body. All too often, people who love the Lord view serving the kings of men as synonymous with serving God. Accordingly, well intentioned people find themselves seeking the approval of men rather than the approval of God in Christ. Such is rooted in the "fear of man," and self importance.

All too often support leaders, who lack what it takes to be senior leaders, view winners as meal tickets. We call them sycophants, because they can't make it on their own, so they promote the flesh of others and then parasitically tag along and derive the benefits of their success. All such behavior is unbecoming to the Gospel and should always be rejected. I'm not saying it is wrong to serve those with unique gifts, for the furtherance of the Gospel, but I am saying that the motivations for that service must be regularly reviewed.

As a gifted leader, frequently ask those close to you if you are always honoring of their labors, their feelings, their spirituality. Never disdain the concerns they express, especially as those concerns are reflective of your becoming some big shot and starting to exalt yourself over them. Pay close attention to such things. Ministry success is one of the most dangerous things of this life, and has been the cause of more men and women going astray than just about any other issue in leadership.

Mark this...any time you see or hear of some ministry staying in posh hotels, spending ministry dollars to purchase lavish homes, and strutting about in expensive clothing...something is wrong somewhere. Even the heathen know enough to expose this, and have done so on such programs as 60 minutes, 20/20, Dateline, etc. When the heathen expose the excess of spiritual ministries you know something is waaaay off.

Your ministry is not about you, it is only about Jesus. Make certain that ALL you are doing is exalting Him, exalting His truth, focusing the people's eyes exclusively on Him. Did you note that last sentence? Really?? It is ALL about Jesus! Absolutely nothing of the flesh must be allowed to occupy the space that Jesus belongs in. I don't care how principled you are...if you violate the principles expressed in this article I believe you are wandering off into territory that few have avoided the pitfalls of.

I know many who will read this will argue vehemently with these principles, using every imaginable justification for self exaltation. Perhaps one of the most intense pressures will come from those who will tell you, "You have too great a gift to not market it. If you allow your gift to be Madison Avenue type marketed many more people will be exposed to it and blessed by it. If you just write books with glowing testimonials, etc., and let your ministry get into the hands of more people more good will come from it." Don't head that direction. Jesus is far less concerned with your gift being exposed to millions than He is with your life being lived exclusively for His glory. God will never lack in gifts to pass out among humanity. He will always lack in having those who live this exclusively for Him.

Many are the justifications for pride, but few are those who reject every manifestation of it. If there are not those who rise up and decry the businessization of the ministry then generation after generation will evidence the error of these ways. The marketing of the Gospel has failed to bring forth the kind of people who live exclusively for Jesus, take up their cross and die to themselves, and live entirely by faith. Those who market their giftings in worldly ways do so at the expense of His glory, His cross, and His faith. The world is waiting for multitudes of those who see through all this hypocrisy and self glorying and who understand the darkness of the human heart in its desires to share the glory with Jesus. Just because Jesus tolerates this, and works through millions of men and women, who steal His glory, is not a testimony to its propriety but rather to His grace and mercy. Let me elaborate on that last sentence, because surely some will read this article and conclude that I lack grace for anyone who sees anything differently than I do. Nothing could be further from the truth, but it is often the condemnation of those who stand strongly for truth receive, so let me make a few comments about those I think are conducting ministry as a business. They are deeply and affectionately loved by God, seen in Christ before the foundation of the world, forgiven of all their sins, and will share a rich inheritance in Christ by His grace and mercy, if they don't actually fall from the faith due their arrogance and pomp. This will be true for all of us who have either intentionally or unwittingly fallen short of the grace of God or compromised the truth. If it were not so none of us could stand before Him. So, before you simply react to the things written here, as if the one writing it thought of himself as less sinful than other humanity and more worthy of God's love, forget that line of thinking. I don't think this way, but I am very passionate for the glory of Christ. I'm passionate but I'm not condemning or rejecting of those who see things differently.

We live in a day of such deep commitment to tolerance and non judgmentalism, that if anyone speaks boldly of truths they see in Christ they are labeled judgmental and intolerant, and summarily dismissed. Never mind that Jesus encouraged a "righteous judgment" to be at work within His people, and was Himself gracious towards sinners while being intolerant of their sin.

John 7:24 Judge not according to appearance, **but judge righteous judgment.**

This is a day where the need for strong words of correction are needed, but equally matched by an awareness of the gracious forgiveness of Christ for all of our sins. So this article is not written from some lofty perch of self righteousness, but it is written with a flaming passion that the glory of Christ not be compromised by the self glory that men and women so easily fall into. Away with the kingdoms of men, and let the Kingdom of God arise in our hearts and ministries! This is my cry...and not some sort of personal attack upon those who are walking in error.

One need not look any further than Paul the apostle to see an example of a man who understood and practiced the principles presented in this article. His life and ministry is a



testimony to the power of these principles, and only eternity will reveal how it glorified the Lord Jesus.

Everything great started with just one or two seeing its greatness and moving towards it. If just one or two folks see the wisdom of this approach, and the glory it would bring to Jesus, and makes a decision to either not pursue what they were going to pursue, or change their current direction, then truth will begin it's journey of correcting the errors the Church has fallen into over the centuries. Truth is not truth just because it is universally accepted and acted upon. Truth is truth because it is true in Jesus, whether anyone acknowledges it or does anything with it. Let God be true and every man a liar (Romans 3:3). We who are prophetic visionaries do not write or teach because we actually think great masses are going to instantly apply all we preach. We preach what we preach because we believe it is true in Jesus and we live to honor him, not man. I could care less whether this paper changes the world in my lifetime. I want to care about one thing only...honoring the Lord Jesus. I'd rather be branded a crazy radical, and stand alone with Christ, than to stand with multitudes of those who have led the Church astray and awaken to this when they are in heaven and it's too late to do anything about it.

Jesus routinely said things He knew would thin the crowds out. He knew the multitudes wouldn't get what He was saying, and He was less interested in drawing the masses to Himself than He was to have those near Him who embraced the truth He was teaching. You would never have found any sympathy in Jesus for compromising the truth just so as to get a greater following. By modern standards He was an utter failure. He only ended up with 11 faithful followers, but because He was after those who would honor Him, rather than the crowds, they were the kind of men who turned the world upside down in their lifetime. You will never go wrong glorifying Christ and denying the flesh. No matter how impractical it may look.

Will this article unravel or dismantle the current religious systems in place throughout the world? Of course not! But if just one person comes to the place of seeing through the fog that has obscured a clear vision of Jesus' singular exaltation, then it will have been worth it. Seers are never practical people. They are never people pleasers. They see things way off down the road and speak of them with a passion that appears to imply an immediate possibility of application.

I invite the body of Christ to arise out of the Babylonian systems of this world, wash their garments, and walk in white, and do nothing but exalt the Lord Jesus. He doesn't require or desire Madison Avenue marketing techniques to further His Kingdom. All such nonsense obscures His beauty, humility and power. What is required of you? I close with Micah's timeless exhortation:

**Micah 6:8 He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.**