

ICHABOD

By: Phillip Hayes

*"And she named the child Ichabod, saying, The glory is departed from Israel: because the ark of God was taken, and because of her father in law and her husband"
[1Samuel 4:21].*

*"Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf. For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?"
[1Peter 4:16-18].*

The definition of the name Ichabod is: *"there is no glory, that is, inglorious, Ikabod"*. His mother gave her child this name because the ark of the covenant had been taken from Israel. Ichabod, *"The glory is departed from Israel"*.

As each day passes we come closer to the second coming of Christ. As we approach that great day coupled with all that is presently going on in the world; it amazes me to see professing Christians going about their daily lives seemingly oblivious to the evil that surrounds them.

I am afraid of what modern Christianity has evolved into! Yes, Christians have surely changed not for the good I am afraid, but for the worse.

For instance, if someone wanted to start a church

forty years ago, they would begin with prayer and fasting. Today, it would begin with a marketing program. A census would be taken to see what kind of population mix they would encounter. The teaching would conform to current events and lifestyles. Also, they would come up with a cool name for their church. We have several in our town and they are all popular. One is called, "Revolution" with some of the letters turned backward. We have another called, "B53 Church". You will have to figure that one out yourself! These little "new charismatic style" store front and mall churches are springing up everywhere. It seems everyone wants to get into starting a new church if you want to call it that. You have probably seen some of them, "Fresh Fire", "Fresh Start", "Refuge", "Elevate Life", "Blaze", "Breakaway", and on and on it goes.

Also, these new ministers would have to redefine their persona to fit the new church's strategy. Of course the best place to learn how to fit in with what is happening now in the Christian scene is by viewing the various religious networks on television and the internet. There, they would learn how to decorate the interior of their new church. Immediately, they see that their new church has got to be dark inside, with all kinds of mood lighting effects. Also it's a good idea to have an upscale coffee shop also! They would also learn how the modern man of God presents himself. You gotta be cool and look the part in this new "what's happening now" ministry!

You find you will have to rid yourself of the old King James Version Bible and get you one of those new modern language versions. But you won't really need a Bible anyway; you can get all your messages off the internet! Those old Song books and hymnals have also got to go. You won't need them in your new Charismatic church! Your new ministry will focus entirely on Christian rap, Christian rock and contemporary Christian music.

Today, churches are built with various programs designed to please the masses of people that want a church they would be comfortable attending. They want preachers and worship leaders that will condone their sins and give them good entertainment. They want motivational speakers, not preachers of sound Bible doctrine. The modern church seekers are very concerned about the natural perks the church offers. They ask, "Do you have a day care center? Do you have a choir? Do you have a Sunday school program and young peoples church for their children? Do you have a nursery? Do you have outings? Do you have parties and special events for the single parent? Are your services very long? Do you have dinners and get-togethers for the people? Do you have puppet shows and Christian rock and rap for the kids? Does the Pastor try his best not to upset anyone with a lot of Bible do's and don'ts?" The list of what defines a great church to them goes on and on . . . They all want a comfortable church for the natural man!

But when a real man of God's church is known for preaching about fasting and prayer; reaching out for lost souls; living holy separated from sin; obeying the teaching of the Apostles and giving up the pagan practices of Catholicism, Judaism and all other religions; giving and sacrificing; pressing for the high calling of God; or fighting and struggling against the powers of Satan . . . They call him a fanatic, old school, a holy roller, or a devil. This modern carnal church seeking generation would avoid this man's church like the plague!

I want you to know the god of this world has deceived the whole world! Few are hungering and thirsting after righteousness! Few are contending for the faith once delivered to the saints!

Most preachers today want followers that have money and they will compromise any Bible teaching to get it. Most are nothing more than hirelings (hired men). They work for

a salary. They want recognition, a position, a title. You know what's hard to find? A preacher that will preach God's Word without compromise, not caring if they are supported or not.

I thank my God 50 years ago He baptized me with the Holy Ghost and with fire! His call and baptism has made me a flame of fire. It's in me like fire shut up in my bones! I am His messenger and I may be hindered from time to time, but the message will still go forth. This end time message cannot be stopped. Yes, I am shut out of a lot of churches because of the un-compromised Truth I preach, but I cannot be stopped. They think that I will just go away because I am not supported! Remember dear ones, God still has ravens and widow women to feed his chosen ones. You may shut me out of your church but you can't stop me from renting a hotel meeting room or putting up a tent! You can't stop me from posting "The Message" on my web site or on YouTube and other internet mediums. I'm not going away until God calls me home!

Jesus said the wheat and tares should be left alone until the end-time; and then He would send His angels to separate the tares from the wheat.

This is the end of the world, the end time! God is sending His angles, (His Messengers) with the Apostles' true doctrine, and their Word is separating the tares from the wheat!

I want you to know that the Word of God is still sharper than a two edged sword! His Word will separate the light from the darkness as surely as it did in the beginning. The true light is now shining; the faith that was once delivered is now being revealed, ministered and manifested. Separation time is now at hand! Light from darkness, wheat from tares, sheep from goats, good from bad! Just as Jesus said! Right here in the end time!

The Lord has commanded His end-time church in the

book of Revelations to, *"Come out of her, my people."* God's people will be separated in the last days.

Paul told the Corinthian church that a little leaven would leaven the whole lump. He said this concerning sin in their congregation! What he was telling them was that just a little sin among them would ruin the whole church!

You see, they were faced with the problem of sin in their church and they were like a lot of churches today with the same problem . . . they didn't want to judge the person committing the sin! They didn't want to confront him. But Paul said, *"Purge out the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump."* In other words, "get rid of the sin"! Paul told them to turn the man over to the devil for the destruction of the flesh! Read it for yourself in First Corinthians chapter five, verses one through thirteen.

He said, *"Put away from yourselves that wicked person."* The man was a fornicator! He had to stop his adultery or leave the church! Does your pastor and church deal with sin the way Apostle Paul said to deal with it?!

Today, nothing is said! Sin is not dealt with. Sensual, devilish, humanism dominates the thoughts of many: "Oh, he is doing the best he or she can, you know, we're all sinners saved by grace, once saved always saved, better not judge, it's none of our business!" No one wants to judge! Why? Because many church members and ministers are guilty of the same sins! When this happens "Ichabod" is spiritually written on the church! The Glory of the Lord will depart!

You cannot judge sin unless you are free from sin! If you steal, you cannot judge someone else that steals. You can't be an adulterer and preach against adultery! Paul told the Corinthian Church in verse three, *"For I verily, as absent in body, but present in spirit, have judged already, as though I were present, concerning him that hath so done this deed"*. You see, Apostle Paul was not playing church!

He was not in a popularity contest with anyone! He was God's man with God's Word!

He told them that these kind of people would not inherit the Kingdom of God. Paul knew God, and he knew God's Word! He could judge this sin, because he was free from sin himself. He knew the Word condemned sin! He told them that they used to do these things, but now they were washed, and sanctified, and justified, by the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

Paul knew if a man had been really set free by the power of God, he would strive to live separated from sin. So he rightly judged this man.

In First Timothy chapter five and verse seven the Apostle Paul instructed this young minister, "*Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear.*" Today, there are few if any that will judge and rebuke sin openly.

People that name the name of Christ should depart from iniquity! And those that do not should be rebuked openly before all, that they may be ashamed! This is what God's Word actually commands in the New Testament!

God's truly anointed ones are now judging this lukewarm, back-sliding church world by the light of God's Word, and by the Spirit of His might, and have found it wanton! The churches are full of leaven, full of sin, full of abominations, adulterers, fornicators, and evil men. They continually love the traditions of men more than God's truths.

Yes, Judgment must first begin at the house of God and I believe it's here now! Because of sin there can be no revival. Because of sin, "*Ichabod*" has replaced the name of many meeting places, "*For the Glory of the Lord has departed!*" There can be no real God Sent Revival without repentance! Therefore, a Revival of Repentance is desperately needed in most churches and it needs to begin with the ministers!

The time is coming! *"The voice of the bridegroom and of the bride shall be heard no more at all in thee."* God's people will obey God's commandment to, *"Come out of Her My People"*. Separation time for the Bride of Christ at hand!

The time is come that God's anointed ones must speak the same thing, and have the same judgment. Jesus said that in the end time, *"Wheresoever the body is, thither will the eagles be gathered together"*. The body is the Word. The Eagles are meat eaters and they are a type of the true saints. The Bride will feed only on the meat of God's Word! The bride will not digest false teachings and man's traditions, but only the flesh of Christ. *"Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you" [John 6:53].*

The perfecting of the saints is at the door. But first, the ministry must be perfected. There will be a church without a spot, or a blemish, or any such thing. A holy over coming people that have been tried in the fires of tribulation and have overcome the flesh, the Mark of the Beast and the antichrist!

This church will have no leaven within it! The pastors of this church will be God called, not hired men and people pleasers. They will not be afraid to judge sin. Sin will be judged and dealt with as swiftly and harshly as did the Apostle Paul.

I want you to know, dear reader that God is raising up a ministry like unto the Prophets and Apostles of old. These men will not compromise the Word of God with you or anyone else. Judgment will be in their power, and many will be "turned over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh in hopes their souls might be saved!"

I know this Word is hard, and you might say, "this is offending me . . . we shouldn't judge anyone"

Listen, you cannot offend a child of God with the Word of God! If this Word offends, then you are offended because of your loose lifestyle, your careless approach to the Gospel, and your cares for this life! You don't want your sin exposed! You love the flesh, and the things of the world, so you will not judge others in the same condition. Then when a man of God comes and exposes sin, and commands people to repent, you get upset and offended!

Don't you know that a real end time revival cry is, "Repent, for the kingdom of God is at hand! Come out of her! Come out of the world!"

Listen again to what Paul says in 1Cor. 5:12-13: *"For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? Do not ye judge them that are within? But them that are without God judgeth. Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person."* Get the sin out! Get the unbeliever out! The time must come that the unrighteous cannot sit in the congregation of the righteous! I'll tell you what the problem is, "Sinful people sitting in churches everywhere that don't have a clue what the Word of God teaches!"

Children of God, we are commanded to not have fellowship with people that say they are brothers and sisters in Christ yet continue to do these things. We are not to bid them God speed, or allow anyone in our homes that does not obey the teachings of the Apostles. God is separating! Judgment starts with us, The Church! We must be holy, for He is holy! The world has already been judged by God! Now we must judge ourselves. Sin should not reign or rule in our mortal bodies. The church must judge itself and purge from itself that which offends!

The glory of the Lord has departed because of only one reason; sin would not be judged and dealt with! Old time Holy Ghost preachers would preached, "Get in or get out!" You might be in the meeting house, but not be in

God's house.

Yes, judgment is here, and it is beginning with God's people!

The Ministry of Restoration is at hand to prepare the church for the Second Coming of Christ. This ministry will begin in the church and be for the church. The world is lost and undone without Christ. They need the true God Sent Gospel of the Kingdom preached to them.

Are you in the faith? Have you made your calling and election sure? Are you searching the scriptures for eternal life? Are you examining yourself by the Light of God's Word? Are you dying daily? Are you taking up the cross every day? Are you putting on the whole armor of God that you might be able to stand in the evil day? Are you working out your own salvation with fear and trembling? Are you judging yourself that you might not be judged? Are you a holy man or woman of God? Or, are you going down this modern day charismatic loose living, no dedication, easy-believism road to destruction?

The Word of God has told us to *"Come out of her."* Many in the past have believed that this has only meant to not believe in the doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church. In reality, we are to come out of all false religions and teachings!

If I told you to get out of the house, I would expect you to physically come outside. God wants us out of denominations and organizations that are bound by part truths and false doctrines! He wants us free, that we might worship Him in Spirit and in Truth! He wants us separated! To remain in a denominational system that adheres to false teachings is to partake of their evil! He said, "Come Out" and that is exactly what He means.

You ask, why? Because God is going to destroy Mystery Babylon! If you remain in her, you will be destroyed with her! How will she be destroyed? God will

give her up to every foul spirit and to the habitation of devils.

Can you dwell among all this evil and not be spotted by sin? Remember what we said in the beginning, "just a little leaven, a little sin, would ruin the whole lump . . ." What will be the end for a church that has been turned over to Satan? Total destruction! You cannot fellowship devils and Christ!

Satan used the Jews religion (Judaism) to deceive the early Christians. Some of the Rabbis of Judaism accepted some of the Apostles teachings but they also wanted to continue embracing their religion which the Apostles taught had been done away with. They wanted it both ways, but a New Covenant had been established.

Three hundred years later, Christianity was once again penetrated by Satan. With the help of Constantine the Roman Catholic Church with all it's dogmas was born and has dominated the world even to our day.

Now in our day, we are seeing Satan once again bringing together a new world religion which is a mixture of all the religions he has influenced including Islam, Catholicism and Judaism.

The Apostles have warned us in the Word of God, and now once again in the end of the world, the Apostles and Prophets of this generation are crying out to all that have an ear to hear what the Spirit is saying . . . "Come out of her . . . Come out of the world . . . Have no fellowship with those of darkness . . . Receive them not in your house nor bid them God speed, For if you do you are partaking of their evil . . . Separate yourselves . . . Come Out!"

True repentance will remove "Ichabod" from your life, ministry and church! The Apostles gave us a pure Gospel with all the instructions we would need to be the over-coming people God ordained us to be. It's called The New Testament. Read it and follow the instructions!