

Messenger of Truth

"Holding forth the Word of Life" (Phil. 2:16)

August 2, 2016

Issue No. 258 Mark Aites, Editor

Neutrality

"People who demand neutrality in any situation are usually not neutral but in favor of the status quo." – Max Eastman

"Neutral men are the devil's allies." – Edwin Hubbel Chapin

"Neutrality is at times a graver sin than belligerence." – Louis D. Brandeis

"Even to observe neutrality you must have a strong government." – Alexander Hamilton

"Neutrality, as a lasting principle, is an evidence of weakness." – Lajos Kossuth

It is a popular concept that one desires to remain neutral in their stand before God. They don't want to be seen as being for the devil, nor do they want to be perceived as being "a holy roller." For some, this concept is known as riding the fence.

Jesus made it clear that neutrality in the spiritual context is not acceptable, nor is it possible. "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon" (Matt. 6:24). "He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters" (Luke 11:23).

What many do not understand, is that if they are not with or for Jesus, they are already in the devil's camp. The lack of choice is actually a choice whether they are conscious of it or not.

The Bible never offers the option of neutrality, but always speaks of an either or situation. "...I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live" (Deut. 30:19). "...choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve" (Josh. 24:15). "...How long will you falter between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him" (1 Kings 18:21).

There are those who gamble with their souls, hoping that by remaining neutral, they can avoid being seen as being supportive of Satan. They reason, "How can God condemn me, for I have not taken a stand against Him."

This level of ignorance is very troubling. And to make matters worse, instead of listening to God and choosing the Lord's side, they instead seek to remake God in the image they desire. He is so loving that no one can do anything that would get them condemned.

Long ago Moses challenged Israel, "Whoever is on the LORD's side – come to me!" (Exod. 32:26) Whose side are you on? Remember, neutrality is NOT an option!