

IN THESE DAYS OF LOVE EVERYBODY

George E. Darling, Sr.

The preacher who, when put to the test, believes nothing, unless it be “live and let live,” usually stands for nothing, or at least for less than he professes to believe. He looks for worldly friendships and makes a special appeal for those in the “money bracket”; seeks the easy way; sails with the wind, floats downstream; is a hail fellow well met; runs in the middle of the road; carries water on both shoulders; smiles a sickly smile and sweetly talks of peace even with the Devil; is blown about by every wind of doctrine, especially if it looks as though it will be more popular and more money will come in from that source; forms an unholy alliance with the “would be scholars”; ceases to speak out on worldliness; becomes a denominational lover and steers clear of saying anything that might cause one of them to realize that they are lost; refuses to expose sectarianism’s damnable false beliefs; invites the “faith only” heretics and “Jehovah’s Witnesses” as well as the “Sweet Spirited” Campus Evangelism affiliates to occupy his pulpit; refuses to preach what God’s Word teaches on marriage, divorce and remarriage; and smiles on the Devil’s method of entertaining lost souls. That person cannot understand why a faithful gospel preacher stands out against such things nor can he understand why any preacher would separate himself from a preaching brother of long acquaintance, because of conviction. Conviction that is built on the Word of God does not change in order to advance the man who stands behind what he believes. The losing of friendships, held dear through the years was the lot of Paul, and it will be the lot of every man who steadfastly refuses to “let the bars down” and fellowship everybody and everything that claims to be “Sweet Spirited.”

Let us remember in these days of love everybody (even the Devil, if he smiles sweetly and publicizes his humility) that God’s Word is still our standard; and if it means that we lose every friend we ever had on God’s green earth for the sake of Christ and His church, then so be it. Some people can be quite “chummy” with a preacher who is unfaithful to his marriage contract. One who is so nice he cannot live in the same house with his own wife of his youth is dealt with very tenderly. They can show mercy and hobnob with preachers who deny the simple and plain teaching of the New Testament. (Of course, under their breath they do not agree with him, doctrinally, yet allow him to address the congregation week after week). They can be merciful and friendly with the biggest compromisers that exist on the face of the earth and do it with impunity, even going so far as to place such on programs in prominent places, thus jeopardizing every soul that hears them.

They can be kind and merciful with preachers who are as worldly as the devil. They can be “tolerant” with those who are rebellious, as factious as Hymenaeus and Alexander, deceitful as the Archangel of hell and as big a liar as Belial. These “love everybody advocates” who are so merciful with the deliberate and well-known wrong doers are so quick to draw the trigger on any person, preacher, elder, deacon, teacher or whatever, who says, “No, I am going to take my stand on the

Bible, taking its truth, refusing to become a partaker in their evil ways.” There is no mercy or love for that man. He is to be cast out from that time on. He is accused of being evil spirited, narrowminded, egotistical, overbearing, unkind, hard to get along with, having a “fat lip” and a “quick pen,” and anything else that will do him injury to the one with whom they speak.

Sin is referred to at least 689 times in the Bible, and the preacher who condemns sin in any sinner, is either going to cause that one to repent or rebel! No true Christian expects to be shown love and mercy from the sinner who is caught in his sins, and rebels and determines to continue in them. According to the Word of God, sinners go to hell because they will not repent of their sins, and that includes the lovely and lovable sins of the “heavy contributors” in the church who want to live as the devil but still want to shut the preacher’s mouth on the subject of their sins.

Feb. 1972.

Deceased