

Jesus Has **Everything** to Do With It!

by Joseph Hovsepien

Reading Luke 4:14-30

Recently I was listening to a round-table debate about religion and politics. Politicians, church leaders and theologians were all vigorously debating the place of religion in politics and culture.

While everyone was trying to make his or her point about the importance of the Christian religion and preserving the Christian tradition and culture, someone asked a question about Jesus. One of the leaders responded: "What does Jesus have to do with this now? Leave Jesus out of this!"

It seems that many religious people and leaders are more interested in and more devoted to the Christian religion than to Christ. They will spend more time and energy defending and preserving religious and cultural traditions than spreading the Good News that God loved the world and sent His only Son Jesus to save everyone who believes in Him.

The world rejected Jesus then and many continue to reject Him today.

"Then the whole town went out to meet Jesus, and when they saw Him, they pleaded with Him to leave their region." (Matthew 8:34)

Jesus was bad for business. But look at what happened to Him in the synagogue when He stood up and said,


"The spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; He hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised..." (Luke 4:18)

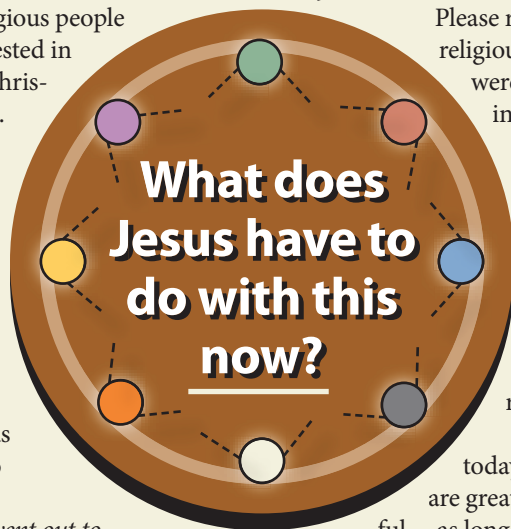
"And all they in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, and rose up, and thrust Him out of the city, and led Him unto the brow of the hill, whereon their city was built that they might cast Him down headlong. But He, passing through the midst of them, went His way." (Luke 4:28-30)

Please remember that these were religious people and leaders. They were all practising and going through the motions of religion. But when Jesus spoke, they wanted to get rid of Him. It was okay for Jesus to be there as long as He kept quiet, at long as He did not bother them with His messages, and as long as He did not rock the boat.

Many feel the same way today. Church is fine, activities are great and fellowship is wonderful... as long as you leave Jesus out of them, as long as you don't rock the boat with messages that upset and bother us.

When Jesus was rejected, He *"passing through the midst of them, went His way."* Jesus will not stay where He is not wanted... especially when churches and their members don't want to hear His voice.

Are we letting Jesus speak or are we doing all the talking? Are you ready to say, like Samuel, *"Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening?"* 



JUDGMENT IS COMING

therefore repent and receive Christ as your Saviour or spend eternity in the Lake of Fire!



"It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment." Hebrews 9:27.



"God... Now commandeth all men everywhere to repent." Acts 17:30.



"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. Him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out." John 3:16 and 6:37.



"And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever... And whosoever was not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire. If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this Book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the Book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the Book of Life." Revelation 20:10, 15; 22:18b-19a. K.J.V.



The lighthouse pictured in our Newsletter was once a famous landmark in guiding ships safely to shore. The founder of Evangelical Tract Distributors, Mr. Orban Stout, wanted to use this illustration because it symbolized the printed Gospel message that can point a lost soul to salvation through Jesus Christ and provide a safe harbor in Glory.

Please pass this Newsletter on to a friend.