

Date: January 5 & 6, 2008
Text: Hebrews 13:8-16
Topic: Heresy. Truth.
Study: Hebrews
Week: 71
Series: 5 of 6
CD #: 08-01

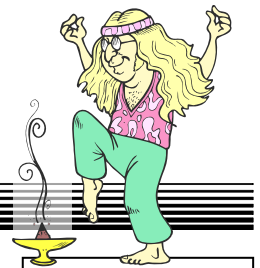
Focal Point Radio Ministries

Dr. Mike Fabarez

Part 5

Countercultural Christians

Realities Instead of Rituals



1. Beware of _____

(vv.8-9a) 

(vv.9b-12) 

(vv.13-14) 

(vv.15-16) 

2. Work Hard to _____

(vv.8-9a) 

(vv.9b-12) 

(vv.13-14) 

(vv.15-16) 

Hebrews 13:8-16

⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

⁹ Do not be carried away by all kinds of strange teachings.

It is good for our hearts to be strengthened by grace, not by ceremonial foods, which are of no value to those who eat them. ¹⁰ We have an altar from which those who minister at the tabernacle have no right to eat. ¹¹ The high priest carries the blood of animals into the Most Holy Place as a sin offering, but the bodies are burned outside the camp.

¹² And so Jesus also suffered outside the city gate to make the people holy through his own blood. ¹³ Let us, then, go to him outside the camp, bearing the disgrace he bore. ¹⁴ For here we do not have an enduring city, but we are looking for the city that is to come. ¹⁵ Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶ And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased. (NIV)

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.

1. Read **2 Timothy 4:3**. How is the reality of this verse seen in our day? How would you gauge the modern appetite for aberrant teaching?
2. Read **2 Corinthians 11:3**. What would you say to the person who says he doesn't feel susceptible to any kind of false doctrines?

What can and should you do to stay vigilant and discerning in your quest to retain sound biblical doctrine?

3. While we are not tempted in the same way as the first century recipients of the Book of Hebrews to return to the "ceremonies" of the Old Testament temple worship, there are several "forms" in the modern Christian life that we encounter on a regular basis. Take a moment to list some of them (e.g., the Lord's Supper, singing songs in church, etc.)

Think of instances when you "went through the motions" of some Christian activity without engaging your mind and heart. What can you do to ensure that you personally and consciously engage in every aspect of your Christian life?

4. Read **Colossians 2:2-4**. Describe the current state of your personal Bible study and your progress in understanding theology and Christian doctrine. What will you do to step this up in the new year?

Here is a list of other CDs available from past sermons which may assist you in your further study of today's message.

CD # 0108 – **The Best Way to Avoid Being Duped**
CD # 0109 – **Steering Clear of Religious Traditionalism**
CD # 0110 – **Avoiding the Trap of Religious Experientialism**
CD # 0421 – **Reaffirming God's Word as Our Ultimate Authority**
CD # 0658 – **God's Words: Our Most Underappreciated Commodity**

Read Through the Bible in a Year

Here's this
week's schedule:

January 6th

Gen. 12-13 & Mt. 6

January 7th

Gen. 14-15 & Mt. 7

January 8th

Gen. 16-17 & Mt. 8

January 9th

Gen. 18-19 & Mt. 9

January 10th

Gen. 20-21 & Mt. 10

January 11th

Gen. 22-23 & Mt. 11

January 12th

Gen. 24-25 & Mt. 12

January 13th

Gen. 26-27 & Mt. 13

Here are some resources that will assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in this week's sermon.
(To see other recommendations by Pastor Mike related to this and other topics go to www.CompassBooks.org.)

Beckwith, Francis and Greg Koukl. **Relativism: Feet Firmly Planted in Mid-air**. Baker Books, 1998.
Carson, D. A. **The Gagging of God: Christianity Confronts Pluralism**. Zondervan, 1996.
Enns, Paul. **The Moody Handbook of Theology**. Moody Press, 1989.
Erickson, Millard J. **Christian Theology (Second Edition)**. Baker Books, 2000.
Geisler, Norman and Ron Rhodes. **Correcting the Cults: Expert Response to Scripture Twisting**. Baker Books, 2005.
House, H. Wayne. **Charts of Cults, Sects & Religious Movements**. Zondervan, 2000.
MacArthur, John. **Faith Works: The Gospel According to the Apostles**. Zondervan, 1994.
McCarthy, James. **The Gospel According to Rome: Comparing Catholic Tradition & the Word of God**. Harvest, 1995.
McDowell, Josh and Don Stewart. **Handbook of Today's Religions**. Thomas Nelson, 1996.
White, James R. **The Roman Catholic Controversy: Do The Differences Still Matter?** Harvest House, 1996.
Zacharias, Ravi. **Jesus Among Other Gods: The Absolute Claims of the Christian Message**. Word Publishing, 2000.