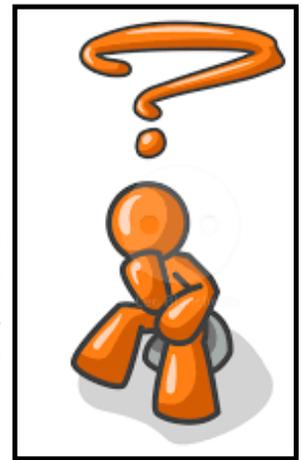


What About... Glenn Beck

By Steve Sebastian

“The Preacher”

Earlier this week, I turned on news radio and made a startling discovery. The speaker seemed to be giving a lecture on the Bible, rather than talking politics. He pounded the pulpit on issues such as good and evil, the mark of the beast, and an angelic war in heaven. He even recounted a story “from the Bible” where two people (Jesus and Lucifer) came to God with their plans to save the disobedient children on earth. Lucifer said that he would go and direct the affairs of men in order to keep them from disobeying, so they can return to God. Jesus, however, proposed a plan that involved atonement.



This “preacher” was Glenn Beck, whose notable work in exposing the culture of deception and godless immorality in both government and society has earned him respect and distinction among some of the top Christian thinkers and leaders. Many of them have been guests on his radio and television show.*

He is well-known in conservative circles as a staunch defender of biblical virtues, but what is the “gospel” according to Glenn Beck? Is he a passionate, biblically-based conservative commentator, or a political savvy Mormon apologist? Just to be clear—Glenn Beck is a practicing Mormon (Google Beck LDS Convert).

Shifting Focus

For some time now, American evangelicalism has been shifting its focus from arguing for the sanctity of biblical truth to aligning culture and government with biblical virtues. Glenn Beck is a persuasive and creative advocate of those arguing for an alignment between conservative political goals and biblical virtues.

But when Beck speaks of the Bible, God, or the gospel, it comes from a strictly Mormon context. Regardless, many Evangelicals seem to be reasoning that if Beck is an effective partner in “winning back” the culture and government to biblical virtues, who cares that he is a professing Mormon? God cares. Those who teach a false gospel are the enemies of God.

In Galatians 1:8-9, the Apostle Paul warns, *But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to*

you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed! Like it or not, Glenn Beck fits the description of those about whom Paul warned us. How many Christians notice or question the odd inaccuracies in the “Bible stories” he tells?

The Mormon website has this to say about the Mormon gospel:

When Christ ministered on earth he taught his gospel. Mormons believe that some of the fundamental truths of Christ’s gospel were lost or distorted after the death the Apostles, and continued to be changed by man for centuries. Mormons believe the fullness of the Gospel of Jesus Christ was restored (not reformed), beginning with the calling of a modern prophet in 1820.

Some of these restored truths include:

- New scripture to accompany the Bible, including the Book of Mormon
- Clarity about the nature of God
- Understanding about God’s plan of salvation for his children... (basismormonbeliefs.com)

The Gospel and Politics

In the struggle to protect Christian liberties within society, evangelicals are taking part in politically motivated organizations which generally align with anyone who shows an interest in fighting for the common cause of religious liberties and moral virtue, regardless of their views about the nature of God or the gospel. As a result, many evangelical Christians now find themselves

joining with heretics in fighting for all sorts of problematic causes, such as defending the free speech rights of Mormons and Jehovah's Witnesses to spread a false gospel—tax free.

While this may be the right thing to fight for as an American, it is certainly the wrong thing to fight for as disciples of Christ. Christians are called to maintain the sanctity of the gospel as delivered by the Apostles (Galatians 1:8-9), but how can that be done in a secular political context? It can't.

We are clearly in the process of blending the saving gospel with false gospels in order to preserve our Christian liberties in society and government. By allowing for a loosely-defined gospel, we are rendering our Christian faith as just another idolatrous belief system, with no power to save souls from eternal damnation—and it shows.

Crept in Unaware

Christians are no longer known as those interested in saving lost souls but as those who seek to leverage religious liberties in order to reform the culture through tolerance and inclusion. We are doing harm to the gospel and ourselves by joining ourselves to those who preach a false gospel in order to win this fight to preserve these liberties. Has it not occurred to us that fighting to save these Christian liberties, for any reason, is meaningless if we forfeit the gospel? Have we not been sufficiently warned of the constant threat of false gospels creeping into the church?

...I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all handed down to the saints. For certain persons have crept in unnoticed, those who were long beforehand marked out for this condemnation, ungodly persons who turn the grace of our God into licentiousness and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ (Jude 1:3-4).

Notice, in Galatians 1:8, Paul does not say that only the false gospel is to be rejected, but that the one who brings it is to be accursed! This is such an important point that Paul actually repeats it verbatim in verse 9, *...he is to be accursed!*

Does this verse really direct us to not only reject the lifeless Mormon gospel of Glenn Beck and others (the social and prosperity gospels, for example), but to also consider the messengers themselves accursed? Plainly—yes. Accursed means quite clearly and strongly to give no platform or credence whatsoever. Believers should have no dealings with those who preach a false gospel:

Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? (2 Corinthians 6:14 KJV)

God gave the church the Great Commission, and that task has not changed. Only the gospel, and not Christian virtues or liberties can save those who are perishing.

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek (Romans 1:16).

Application

It is not by the rule of law, but by the gospel of Christ, that our rights and liberties are made sure. Our focus should be to preach the gospel of Christ and make disciples. This is what can truly set man free!

I marvel that ye are so soon removed from Him who called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ (Galatians 1:6-7).

*See [Ravi Zacharias 11/10/14 Beck Interview](#)
[Jonathan Cahn 6/16/2016 Beck Interview](#)
[John MacArthur 8/12/2020 Beck Interview](#)
[Franklin Graham 9/22/2020 Beck Interview](#)
[Phil Robertson 4/26/2019 Beck Interview](#), and others.