

236 The Noisy Ones

In the light of current events around us, last week we identified various powerful forces in society noisily insisting, “Don’t bother us with Jesus!”. Our response to such a demand is to ignore it! – and to speak of the Lord Jesus Christ with boldness, just as the apostles did in the early days of the Gospel.

For we remember that the God-rejecting assumptions held by those we can term “The Noisy Ones”, in politics, academia and the media, are threadbare in comparison with the truths of the Christian Faith and the credentials on which those truths are based.

Unfortunately many Christians these days remain ignorant of these credentials, termed the “Christian Evidences”, and can thus be left floundering in the face of the atheistic jeers and onslaughts, as we recently have seen with some Christian politicians in British public life. While our speaking of these “Evidences” does not in itself bring about a person’s salvation, an event which of course is wrought by the Holy Spirit Himself, the Evidences do serve to demonstrate that the numerous God-denying assumptions around us today are built on sand.

We return to The Noisy Ones, who will make much of a recent “social attitudes” survey in Britain telling us that the number of Christians now supportive of abortion and homosexuality is “growing”. Well, what a surprise! Assuming for a moment that the survey result is accurate, (debatable), it demonstrates just how straightforward is the task of steering public opinion in a liberal direction – keep shouting your message and rubbishing any opposition, and the tide will flow your way. What is more, this survey result suggests that robust biblical teaching on social matters such as abortion and homosexuality in the churches of our land, (teaching that includes the pastoral needs of those involved), is much rarer than it should be.

We have now got to the stage where anyone daring to hold to God’s Word on these matters “gets the treatment” in no uncertain terms; Christians are being made to feel that “traditional views on social matters” have now been exposed as being deeply offensive all along, so if we know what is good for us we had all better change and quick! What utter claptrap and downright lies. Has Almighty God really changed His mind, going against His Word by now approving homosexual behaviour and the mass-murder of millions of the unborn?

But rest assured, He has done nothing of the sort: “the grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever” (Isaiah 40.8 / I Peter 1.24-25). So that other verse comes to mind as well - “Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!” (Isaiah 5.20).

So adding to our boldness of last week we come on now to one of boldness’ chief companions – confidence. This confidence comes from three main sources: our

knowing God's Word as thoroughly as we can – the more we know it, the more we marvel at its authenticity; next, our gaining a basic knowledge of the “Christian Evidences” – a set of objective facts which only the “Don't bother me with facts” brigade can deny! - (see for instance, “Many Infallible Proofs” by Henry Morris or “Evidence That Demands a Verdict” by Josh McDowell); and thirdly, our accumulated experience of living the Christian life by faith under the Holy Spirit – we find that life really is as the Bible says it is.

Consider the Lord Jesus Himself, or Stephen or Paul or the others – are these merely a bunch of mamby-pambies cowed into silence by The Noisy Ones of their day? - or wonderful examples of holy boldness and holy confidence fearlessly “telling it the way it is”?

Just so with us today. When faced with remarks scoffing at Christian belief, be these in public or in private, we can simply respond with a repeated, “Why? On what grounds do you believe that?” in reply to each point that comes our way – and then with quiet prayer let the Holy Spirit take things along. This persistent question “Why?” obliges the critics of the Holy Bible to come up with convincing reasons for their beliefs, which they tend to find rather difficult – because it is! (When you get on to evolution and the “Early Genesis is myth” myth – one of Satan's masterpieces of deception – the “Six Days, Darwin or Both” book on our website will inform your response).

So despite dark clouds and the well-entrenched opposition of The Noisy Ones, we have every reason still to “rejoice in the Lord alway, and again rejoice!” (Philippians 4.4), for the Christian Faith remains built on a stack of evidence that cannot be gainsaid (I Corinthians 15.12-20 being a keynote passage).

By our adding a good dose of confidence to that good dose of boldness, may the Lord be blessed indeed!

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