

RIGHT VERSES NICE

Of course, we all want to be liked. Of course, we all want to be considered "good Christians." But from whom are we seeking approval and whom are we trying to make comfortable in our churches?

Naturally, I would enjoy being liked by the little girls below who won the big bears at our VBS country



store. I would love to have the hearts of these girls who stopped by my office one day. I would want to be close to these men. (We are on a fishing & camping trip in the mountains.)

But the one thing I want most is to please our Lord.

We often have parking lot church services when we can all be together in one preaching service. It has been many years since our buildings have allowed us all to meet together.



If I do right and please God while displeasing you, I am sorry, but you hold second place to Him. If I please you and displease God in the process, I can not go along with the plan.

We live in a day when preachers would rather keep their attendance up than say what they believe. Some pastors have standards, but won't say anything about the standards for fear of losing members; some would rather keep the backbiting lady than risk losing her tithe; some preachers will not preach on movies, or dancing, or rock music for fear of offending some members while forgetting they are displeasing the Owner of the church; some preachers would rather please men than God, and that is not only a terrible choice, but it also ruins the next generation.

Being kind is wonderful; it is one part of the fruit of the Spirit, but being kind can not overrule doing right. Someone has to be sure the ancient landmarks are not removed; someone has to be sure to stand for the church, the home, and most of all, for righteousness. If we stand for nothing, gravity takes over and the decline begins. Sodom and its vile crowd did not start out that bad; its decline was little by little.

Unpopular, yet very clear, God says we need to have a passionate love for right and a hatred for wrong.

Psalms 97:10 "Ye that love the LORD, hate evil:"

Hebrews 1:9 "Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows."

Psalms 101:3 "I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me."

Proverbs 8:13 "The fear of the LORD is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate."

"The reward that outdoes all others is the peace of knowing that you did right."

- Dr. Jack Hyles