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January 7, 2008
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EVANGELICALS

A recent study revealed some startling beliefs held by Evangelicals. The survey was conducted with Evangelicals who claimed to be Born Again Christians.

In that survey, 55% of Evangelical Born Again Christians emphatically indicated that they do not believe in the existence of the Holy Spirit. In short, for them, there was no such thing as a Triune God but only Jesus Christ and God. For many Evangelicals, committed to the view of Holy Scriptures as inerrant and the teachings they contain, such a belief is heretical. If you are an Evangelical, do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

The survey found further that 52% of Evangelicals surveyed do not believe in the existence of Satan. There was for them no such thing as The Devil, but only some amorphous and generalized belief in the existence of evil. Sounds like more heresy if you believe in the Scriptures and the teachings of the Bible, does it not? Do you believe in the real and literal existence of Satan?

And more. 35% of those Evangelicals surveyed said they do not believe that Jesus was physically resurrected. One in three Evangelicals seem to believe that the resurrection was a spiritual event, non-physical and that any so call post-death appearance of Jesus the Christ was figurative, symbolic and spiritual only. Such a belief would interpret a way or utterly negate Scriptural accounts about such tangible, physical appearances, would they not? Sounds to me like some more heresy, at least if you believe in the inerrancy of Holy Scripture. Do you believe that Jesus Christ literally rose from the dead, that he was in fact physically resurrected?

And still more. 34% of those Evangelicals surveyed say they believe that good works will get a person into Heaven. In short there is no necessity for salvation, for redemption, for forgiveness. A ticket to eternity can be purchased on the backs of good works. Doesn't sound very scriptural to me, does it to you? I really wonder how those interviewed, with such opinions, can call themselves true Evangelicals. Do you believe that a person can enter Heaven on the basis of good works? More, do you believe a person can have eternal life without the saving, cleansing, forgiving redemption offered by Jesus Christ?

And finally, 28% of surveyed Evangelicals believe that Jesus committed sins while here on earth. One in three so called Evangelicals believe that Jesus Christ was not sinless. Sounds like yet another bit of heresy, does it not? Do you believe that Jesus Christ lived a sinless life here on earth?

The survey was conducted by the Barna Group. They rightly concluded that many Evangelical, so call Born Again Christians do not accept historic Christian beliefs as contained in Holy Scripture. That seems so obvious. I wonder how they can call themselves Evangelicals. When they deny or ignore historic Evangelical Christian beliefs. What do you think? More importantly, what do you believe?

We live in a powerful secular age. There is the constant watering down, denial, mythologizing and ridicule of anything spiritual or sacred. That secularism even pervades the Christian church, and finds lodging in the hearts and minds of many Evangelicals as this survey discovered. Evangelical beliefs come from Holy Scripture. Anyone can of course choose not to believe certain things or anything which Scripture teaches. But, to do so is to deny the authority and inherency of that Scripture and to posit and follow one's personal beliefs as more important no matter the contradiction. One, again, has the right to do so but in the process that individual should not claim to be an Evangelical but something else.

The splintering goes on. A house divided against itself can not stand and there is so much in Christianity which is not standing, losing its strengths, influence and impact as individuals go there own way. Secularism is united against Christianity and as Christianity divides, Secularists welcome that division and earnestly await the conquer.

If you are a true Evangelical, truly so, you do, in fact you must believe in the existence of the Holy Spirit, the existence of Satan, the physical and bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ, salvation by faith and not of works, and the sinless nature of the Messiah. All true Evangelicals do. If you don't, that is your right. But you simply can not call yourself an EVANGELICAL.

What do you think?