

Why do some churches completely contradict scripture openly?

There are many doctrinal differences between Christian denominations and even between different churches of the same denomination. There are some obvious differences related to the role of women in ministry, the acceptability of abortion and homosexual behavior which are seen by many to openly contradict and even mock scripture.

1. What are people looking for in their contradiction of scripture?

Proverbs 14:20; **19:4**

James **3:1-2**

Philippians **1:15-18**

Proverbs **17:28**

Galatians **5:11**

1 Corinthians **3:17-20**

More often than not people are looking to be considered wise by the people of the world and desire to be accepted by them. Some people contradict scripture, in the name of Christ, in order to bring further condemnation on those who preach the truth of the Gospel. Furthermore, people do not want to be offensive to those around them, they need to understand that to be a faithful proclaimer of the cross is to be offensive for the cross of Christ is an offense. What needs to be remembered is that the wisdom of God, described in the scriptures, is far superior to that of the world.

2. What do people feel is the highest calling of the Christian?

1 John **4:7-8**

Ephesians **4:14-15**

Matthew **7:1-5**

2 Timothy **3:5-7**

The highest calling for the Christian is to love. To many people, to love another is to accept them as they are. To accept them as they are is ultimately found in communicating approval of all of their actions. Unfortunately for these people the real calling of the Christian is love, not a love that approves but a love that redirects and points people to repentance, faith, and obedience to Christ. We need to be careful that in professing Christ, that we not reject the true power of the gospel in order to keep from offending others.

3. What is the authority structure of churches who contradict scripture?

Psalms **73:3-9**

Galatians **1:10-11**

3 John **1:9**

1 Corinthians **1:18-23**

Because many desire to be accepted by men and approved by man, their authority structure is guided by those desiring to be approved and they pursue avenues to be acceptable to men. If the acceptance of women as teachers, abortion, or homosexual behavior is desired by the people around them, then their authority structure, led by men, will promote those behaviors as acceptable that will bring more people in thus laying claim to correctness by popularity. The problem is that as Christians, we are not called seek out the acceptance of man, but the approval of God.

4. What should we remember about scripture?

John **17:17**

Galatians **3:21-26**

2 Timothy **3:16-17**

Romans **14:17**

We need to remember that the law of God, or scripture, is the essence of truth. It was delivered by God to men in order that man might learn to agree with God that man is a sinner and that God is righteous. As we proclaim the word of God faithfully, people will have to deal with the reality of their own sinfulness and personal hopelessness and helplessness in actually being God as God describes and defines being God. This will bring us to our knees before God so that we might find Christ.

5. What can we do to limit our contradiction of scripture?

Proverbs **3:5-6**

Psalm 119:105

James **4:7-10**

2 Timothy **4:2-5**

In order to limit contradicting scripture, we must submit ourselves to God and to His word. We are to always seek counsel from God's word and understand that God's word does not change. We are called to place ourselves under the preaching of the word of God and to share God's word with those around us.