Beth-El Baptist Church 01/12/2014 Greg Tomlinson

Why aren't Orthodox Evangelical Christian Churches recognized for proclaiming God's Word?

There are many churches claiming to be Orthodox and Evangelical and yet they either refuse to preach against some sins or they actually preach in support of some sinful activities.

1. What do many pastors desire?

Matthew **6:1-5**; **23:4-8**

2 Timothy **4:10**

Galatians 1:10

1 Thessalonians 2:3-5

Ezekiel 34:2-4

Many who enter into the work of the ministry do so for personal gain. They seek to become popular among the rest of the people. Some seek to lift themselves up by condemning others through the proclamation of a type of "Christian Law". The one seeks to proclaim freedom of men at the cost of sacrificing the justice of God, the other seeks to proclaim the righteousness of God at the cost of sacrificing the mercy of God.

2. Is the Gospel a popular message to receive?

1 Corinthians **1:18-24**; **2:14** 2 Corinthians **4:3-4** 1 Thessalonians **1:5-6** Romans **3:10-11**

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is not a popular message for the world to receive. Because it deals with the issues of the depraved nature of all of man and the perfect righteousness of God, men do not want to hear that they are not good people but wicked. They also do not want to hear that God will hold them accountable for the error of their ways. By and large, the Gospel is deemed to be foolishness by the population at large.

3. What should the properly preached message accomplish?

2 Timothy **4:1-4**

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Hebrews **4:12**

When properly preached, the message seeks to expose people to the reality of their own sinfulness and to help them to understand their great need for Jesus Christ. Without the conviction of sin, there can not be any understanding of the purpose behind the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. As ministers of the Gospel, we cannot be concerned about what men think about the message but be concerned about what God and Christ thinks about the message. We have been called to be faithful stewards of God doing nothing other than that God has called us to do.