

July 21, 2023

PC - Does the Bible address such "Modern" Concepts?

Warm hellos once again friends, brethren, fellow laborers, spiritual family, and scattered children of God from here on the Gulf Coast. My wife and I pray and hope this finds you doing well, and that again your week has been blessed.

Every morning, I swipe my screen on my phone to the left and see what "the news" lists as major events of the world and the U.S. I live in. Somedays I miss doing this, and frankly it's refreshing to not be brought up to speed with all the bad news around us.

In reflecting upon the upcoming Fall Holy Days, and preparing for them, nothing really changes daily in the world towards observing these commanded assemblies, except things continued heading further from what God would desire in worship and obedience to Him.

We're already in the midst of a political frenzy right now. Along with that, here in the U.S. we continue to have a very common verbiage now days, "We should be politically correct, as to not offend anyone". Political correctness is wide spread and now affects all areas of the globe. Why we certainly never want to offend anyone by doing or saying what is right, right? I'm absolutely amazed how much folks have changed just in my lifetime! I could even say in just the last few years.

Recently I was asked again to define what "PC" means. Here is the definition from the dictionary.

"Conforming to a belief that language and practices which could offend political sensibilities (as in matters of sex or race) should be eliminated".

It (PC) has become so pervasive that it impacts all levels of our society and impedes our communication with others. Unfortunately it has also become part of our church culture, albeit unawares by some.

So, what's my point? Why has this concept and practice become so prevalent? Does the Bible address such "modern" concepts?

Actually, God's Word gives very specific instruction on the motives that drive this idea and focus.

The movement toward political correctness and hyper sensitivity to offending anyone is an attempt to reshape society through intimidation and coercion, to promote feminist ideas, and to silence opposing views. Being politically correct supposedly inhibits "good communication" because it muddles the meaning of words and phrases.

Not only are folks not able to spell, or use proper sentence structure, but more and more have little clue of what the correct meanings of words are. You'd think we've rewritten language with some of the conclusions many come to.

Historically, Solomon wrote on this very subject: "Listen, for I will speak of excellent things, and from the opening of my lips will come right things; for my mouth will speak truth; wickedness is an abomination to my lips. All the words of my mouth are with righteousness; nothing crooked or perverse is in them. They are all plain to him who understands, and right to those who find knowledge" (Proverbs 8:6-9).

This instruction also does not leave any room for "spin" or for obfuscating the truth. Now a days, flat out lies and deception have become the norm. It's not in politics only, but throughout society. Religion is not exempt.

If we go back to the time of Moses, the instruction was to speak plainly: "You shall write very plainly on the stones all the words of this law" (Deuteronomy 27:8). One of those laws is: "You shall not bear false witness" (Exodus 20:16).

Down through the ages, God's instruction has not changed.

Notice the words of the disciples as Jesus spoke to them: "His disciples said to Him, 'See, now You are speaking plainly, and using no figure of speech!" (John 16:29). Jesus also taught that we should speak plainly. "But let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,'

and your 'No,' be 'No.' For whatever is more than these is from the evil one" (Matthew 5:37).

If you and I are really concerned about the way we communicate, the words of David in Psalm 19:14 should be our prayer and our approach to life. "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer."

So friends, how important is being politically correct to you? I'd ask you to search His Word and bless others by following David's example as mentioned above...and don't fall into the trappings of this world. Desiring to be "politically correct" is something we should not be aspiring to.

We'll soon spend 8 days focusing on God's plan and His words and thoughts during the Feast of Tabernacles and Last Great Day. Philippians 2:5 admonishes you and me to have Christ's mind in us. That focus is very different than what we are seeing today, and have seen for thousands of years when man is not in tune with God. There is a new world coming. And it won't be politically correct according to today's world and its definition. God speed that day!

Arms up friends! Our sincere prayers and thoughts are with you daily. Thanks in advance for your heartfelt prayers for us.

Scott Hoefker

Pastor, CGM

Church of God Ministries (CGM)

(Ministerios de la Iglesia de Dios)

tshoefker@cogministries.org / www.cogministries.org

P.O. Box 983, Daphne, AL, 36526-0983 / 251-930-1797 Office