

The Quandary of Ministry and the Church Today - Part 2
Romans 6-8

Sunday, August 23, 2015

Frank Mascaro

The Quandary of a Lack of Theological Preaching / Teaching (Acts 2:42; 6:1-4; 20:27; 1 Cor 1:18,22-25; 9:16; Gal 1:6-10; 1 Tim 1:9-11; 2 Tim 1:13-14; 4:1-5; Titus 1:9; 2:1)

Theology: The study of G o d - *theos* (God) + *ology* (words about/study)

Doctrine: The teaching of S c r i p t u r e on t h e o l o g i c a l themes

Example: Romans 8:28-39

Context:

Meaning:

Application:

The Issue: S a l v a t i o n is not about m e - it is about G o d!

The Quandry: The church is facing a l e a d e r s h i p c r i s i s.

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Some Quotes to Consider

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“The visible church in our generation has become astonishingly tolerant of aberrant teaching and outlandish ideas – and frighteningly intolerant of sound teaching.” John MacArthur

“Bad theology dishonors God and hurts people. Churches that sever the root of truth may flourish for a season, but they will wither eventually or turn into something besides a Christian church.” John Piper

“Secularism cannot be blamed on the secularists, many of whom were raised in the church. We are the problem. If most churchgoers cannot tell us anything specific about the God they consider meaningful or explain basic doctrines of creation in God’s image, original sin, the atonement, justification, sanctification, the means of grace, or the hope of glory, then the blame can hardly be placed at the feet of secular humanists.”

Michael Horton

“If we go astray in our doctrine, eventually our life will go astray as well. You cannot separate what a man believes from what he is. For this reason doctrine is vitally important. Certain people say ignorantly, ‘I do not believe in doctrine; I believe in the Lord Jesus Christ; I am saved, I am a Christian, and nothing else matters.’ To speak in that way is to court disaster, and for this reason, the New Testament itself warns us against this very danger.

We are to guard ourselves against being ‘tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine’, for if your doctrine goes astray your life will soon suffer as well. So it behoves us to study the doctrines in order that we may safeguard ourselves against certain erroneous and heretical teachings that are as rife and as common in the world today as they were in the days of the early Church.” Martyn Lloyd-Jones

“I am convinced that there is an urgent need in the church today for much greater understanding of Christian doctrine, or systematic theology. Not only pastors and teachers need to understand theology in greater depth – the WHOLE CHURCH does as well.

One day by God’s grace we may have churches full of Christians who can discuss, apply and LIVE the doctrinal teachings of the Bible as readily as they can discuss the details of their own jobs or hobbies – or the fortunes of their favorite sports team or television program.” Wayne Grudem