

## Why Are We Not Called Liberal?

**Text:** Romans 6:1-2; Jude 1-4

### **Introduction:**

1. One of the greatest aspects of the God whom we serve is His amazing grace! But one of the greatest travesties is the overworking of that grace – in the 1<sup>st</sup> Century ... and now.
2. Paul warns that people will seek teachers who give them what they want to hear (2 Timothy 4:1-4), and a loosening of God's Will seems to be the order of the day for many congregations.
3. This morning we noticed that we are not identified as an "anti" congregation (binding things God has not). Tonight we will notice the other end of the extremism that often threatens us, liberalism. We are not known as a liberal congregation. Why not?

### **Discussion:**

#### **I. We Are Not Called Liberal Because We Believe There Is Only One Body of the Saved**

1. Ephesians 4:4; 1:22-23
2. Colossians 3:17; John 4:23-24; Philippians 1:1

#### **II. We Are Not Called Liberal Because We Believe In The Sufficiency of the Lord's Church to Fulfill the Work Given Her**

1. Ephesians 3:21 (NOT in manmade institutions such as COC Disaster Relief nor in conjunction with denominations)
2. 1 Corinthians 16:1-2 (NOT in fund raising schemes)

#### **III. We Are Not Called Liberal Because We Believe the Purpose of Baptism Is Necessary**

1. Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:26-27
2. Acts 19:1-5

#### **IV. We Are Not Called Liberal Because We Believe That Using MIM, Praise Groups, Solos, Hand Clapping, Dancing and the Like in Worship Is Sinful**

1. John 4:23-24; Colossians 3:16-17; Ephesians 5:19
2. Leviticus 10:1; Genesis 6:8, 14-16, 22

#### **V. We Are Not Called Liberal Because We Will Not Allow Women to Have a Leadership Role over Men**

1. 1 Timothy 2:12

#### **VI. We Are Not Called Liberal Because We Believe God's Word Must Be Treated Properly in Translation**

1. Revelation 22:18-19; Galatians 1:6-9
2. The "darling" of many liberal congregations is one which will not be found in use in this congregation - the NIV

### **Conclusion:**

1. God has clearly given His will, which we can know (John 8:32) and obey (1 John 5:3). To reduce His Word to those things which we can ignore or change is a step into destruction (Revelation 22:18-19; Galatians 1:6-9)
2. I am glad I am a member of a congregation which loves God (John 14:15) and thus is neither "anti" nor "liberal."