

I Will Not Trample on the Blood of Reformation Saints!

October 24, 2013

The following is an email exchange between two pastors. Pastor 1 pastors a Church of God in Washington State. The second Pastor is Kevin Lea, who also Pastors a church in Washington State. The following dialog pertains to a request for Pastor Kevin to join an ecumenical panel discussion.

From: Pastor 1's Secretary

Subject: Theology 'town hall' idea, we hope you can attend!

Dear Pastor Kevin,

Hello! My name is [T.R.], I am the secretary for [Pastor 1]. Pastor 1 is a pastor with Church of God and the owner of [a] Cinema in [omitted].

We would like to have a sort of low key town hall style meeting at the theater. The idea is a theology symposium for non-theologians. Admission of course would be free. We are hoping to have 4-5 Christian pastors who would like to come together to answer questions, discuss the faith. Attendees would be encouraged to stand up or fill out note cards with questions regarding faith, the Bible, forgiveness, etc. We are hoping this would bring people who do not normally attend church. Or perhaps people who do attend church but are new to the faith, or unclear on Bible teachings and will learn the answers from our panel.

We have a few pastors from United Methodist, Mt. Zion Baptist and First Lutheran [omitted] who have expressed interest in participating.

The idea is to invite pastors from Lutheran, Baptist, Presbyterian, Methodist, Evangelical and the Catholic faith to this event.

The purpose is to get an ecumenical discussion going with the foundation that we are all brothers and sisters in Christ. Even though each branch of our Christian faith has slightly different teachings our base line is the same.

We aren't asking you to commit at this time. You probably have several questions. Once we can confirm who is interested and Pastor 1 would like to host a casual dinner with everyone and discuss the idea. If you know of any other church leaders who might be interested in this idea we would love to invite them as well.

Thank you for your time!

Kind Regards,

[T.R.]

From: Pastor Kevin Lea

To: T.R.

Dear [T],

Thanks for contacting me with this offer to participate.

In response, I don't believe this is something that we will be involved in since we don't want to trample on the blood of the martyred Saints of the reformation.

In service to Jesus till He returns,
Pastor Kevin Lea

From: Pastor 1

To: Pastor Kevin Lea

Cc: T.R.

Subject: Re: Fwd: RE: Theology 'town hall' idea, we hope you can attend!

Greetings Pastor Kevin,

Thank you for your reply. I must confess I am a bit confused, though. Near the top of the home page of your church's web site, there is a reference to a letter of yours in which you wrote, "As a biblical Christian and pastor, I enjoy discussing spiritual matters with people of all viewpoints and faiths."

Would you please help me understand why what we are proposing is not this?

Thank you.

Pastor [1]

From: Pastor Kevin Lea

To: Pastor 1

Dear Pastor [1],

Thank you for taking the time to respond.

When I first read your invitation, my inclination was to go, because I do enjoy discussing spiritual matters with people of all viewpoints and faiths.

Jesus said that He was the way the truth and the life. He met with sinners and tax collectors in order to preach the truth about the kingdom of heaven to them so that they could be converted and saved, not to join with them in their sin.

The Pharisees hated Jesus because He told them the truth – that is, that they would die in their sins because they did not believe in Him. Yes the Pharisees were religious, but not born again.

What made me decide to not attend was your following statement:

The idea is to invite pastors from Lutheran, Baptist, Presbyterian, Methodist, Evangelical and the Catholic faith to this event.

The purpose is to get an ecumenical discussion going with the foundation that we are all brothers and sisters in Christ. Even though each branch of our Christian faith has slightly different teachings our base line is the same.

I take issue with the last sentence as it applies to “the Catholic faith”

According to the word of God, we are not all brothers and sisters in Christ when comparing biblical Christianity with Catholicism. We are not talking “slightly different teachings.” The Pope might be Catholic, but he is not a biblical Christian.

You might accuse me of judging (judge not lest you be judged). But I am not. The Pope says that Atheists who live by their conscience will go to heaven (<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/pope-francis-assures-atheists-you-dont-have-to-believe-in-god-to-go-to-heaven-8810062.html>). Jesus said that He is the way the truth and the life and that no one gets to the Father (in heaven) except through Him. So who is telling the truth, the Pope or Jesus? I am not judging the Pope, just saying that my Jesus calls him a liar and Jesus said that deceiving liars are not going to heaven (not saved) – Rev 21:8. I know this Pope is causing a stir even among the Catholic faithful, but all the Popes before him have also espoused a different gospel, which Paul calls accursed (Gal 1).

As I said in my first response to you, I don’t want to go to an event that will trample on the blood of the reformation martyrs. There is a reason why hundreds of thousands of true Christians were willing to be tortured and killed by the Popes and their armies rather than bow the knee to kiss his ring and worship his idols. If they could, they would be screaming at us from the grave when they hear us calling the Pope’s followers brothers and sisters in Christ.

So in summary, I decided not to go since I knew that my input would be very contrary to yours, and would therefore cause more damage in the minds of those who were seeking for truth. Many reject Jesus because they see the inability for people reading the same bible to get along. What they don’t understand is that the devil has deceived many who read the bible to not believe what it says, and therefore the division is necessary.

I love the idea though; it would be great to invite seekers to a Q and A forum where everyone on the platform told them the same thing about what it takes to be saved. Should you ever plan an event with this goal, I will be the first to volunteer.

In service to Jesus till He comes again,

Kevin Lea

PS – if would like to discuss further, please accept my invitation to take you to lunch some time