

# Give Me That Old Time Religion

## Jeremiah 6:16 (NKJV)

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And ask for the old paths, where the good way is,  
And walk in it; Then you will find rest for your  
souls. But they said, 'We will not walk *in it*.'



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show

THANK GOD MY YESTERDAY'S GONE

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# DEUTERONOMY 12:29-32 (NKJV)

<sup>29</sup> “When the Lord your God cuts off from before you the nations which you go to dispossess, and you displace them and dwell in their land, <sup>30</sup> take heed to yourself that you are not ensnared to follow them, after they are destroyed from before you, and that you do not inquire after their gods, saying, ‘How did these nations serve their gods? I also will do likewise.’ <sup>31</sup> You shall not worship the Lord your God in that way; for every abomination to the Lord which He hates they have done to their gods; for they burn even their sons and daughters in the fire to their gods. <sup>32</sup> “Whatever I command you, be careful to observe it; you shall not add to it nor take away from it.



## 2 TIMOTHY 4:1–5 (NKJV)

<sup>1</sup> I charge *you* therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: <sup>2</sup> Preach the word! Be ready in season *and* out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.



## 2 TIMOTHY 4:1–5 (NKJV)

<sup>3</sup> For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, *because they have itching ears*, they will heap up for themselves teachers; <sup>4</sup> and they will turn *their* ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. <sup>5</sup> But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.



# What Is Missing In Our Contemporary Worship?

BY DAVID SANTISTEVAN

Since my days of being a young child, I've been raised in "contemporary" worship.

New songs, upbeat music, and exuberant participation from the congregation in the forms of singing, hand-raising, dancing, and shouting is all I've known. ... The more I grow in Christ, the longer I'm in ministry, the more I see that contemporary doesn't always mean better. Truth is, the greatest realities in life are old. The gospel is old news – but has more relevance today than anything.

New isn't always novel. Most of the time it's better to look back and learn. — What Are We Missing? — Sometimes I wonder if our emphasis on contemporary worship is clouding our perspective and causing us to miss elements of Christian worship that are essential to our formation and development as the people of God.

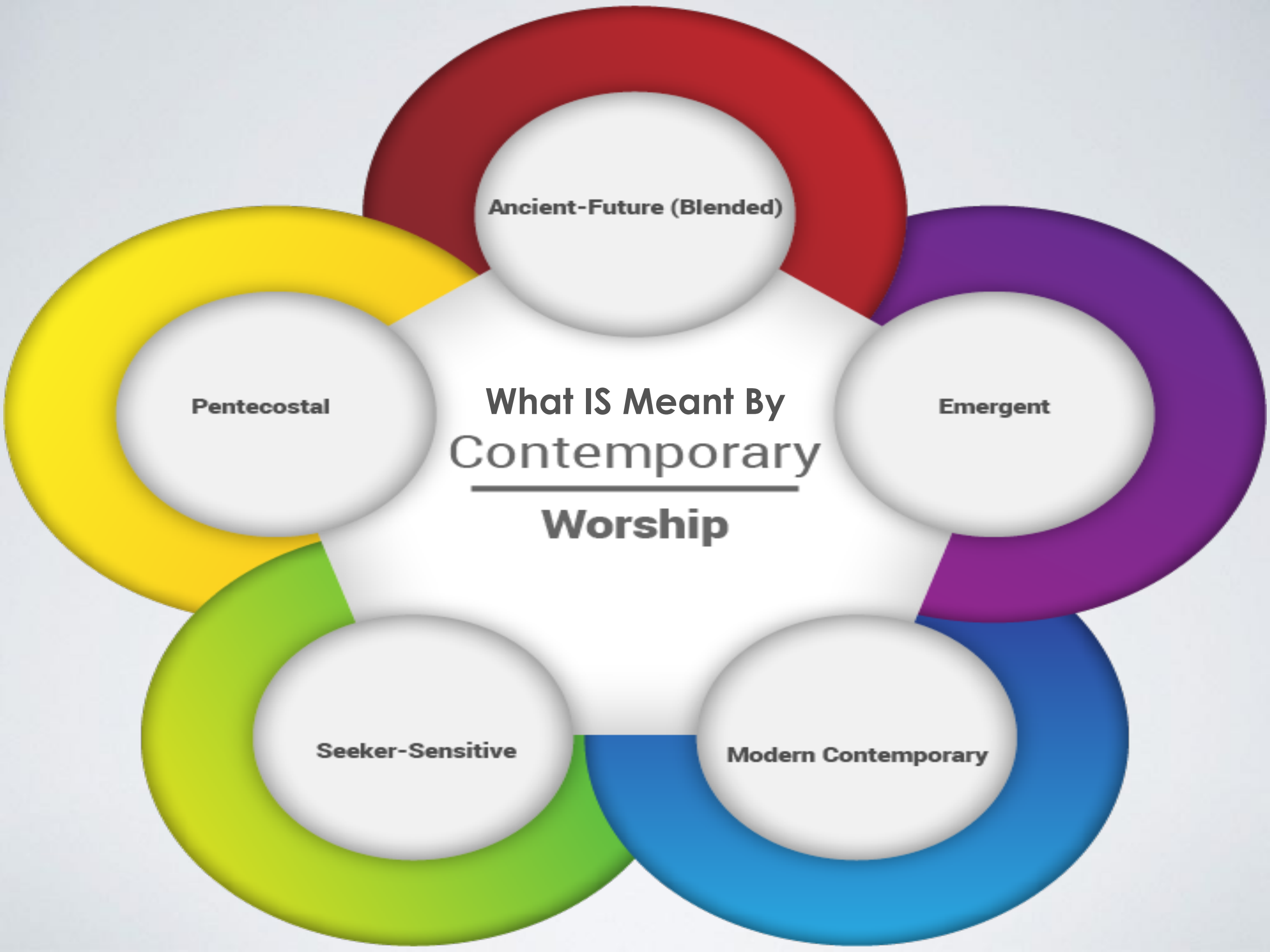
## **Louise says**

Many youth today are absolutely flocking to churches that have great music (purely from a musical point of view) But the doctrine being taught in those churches is so off the wall and unbiblical! In fact I honestly believe the devil is using music to draw young naive youth into such churches. ... I know some will fiercely disagree with me but see, we've put too much value in STYLE instead of content. We should go where we grow the most, where the Word of God and truth are saturated in all the church does



<http://www.davidsantistevan.com/contemporary-worship/>





**Ancient-Future (Blended)**

**Emergent**

**Modern Contemporary**

**Seeker-Sensitive**

**Pentecostal**

**What IS Meant By**  
**Contemporary**  
**Worship**





# What IS Meant By CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP?

**Contemporary** merely means  
“occurring in the modern” or “of  
the day.”

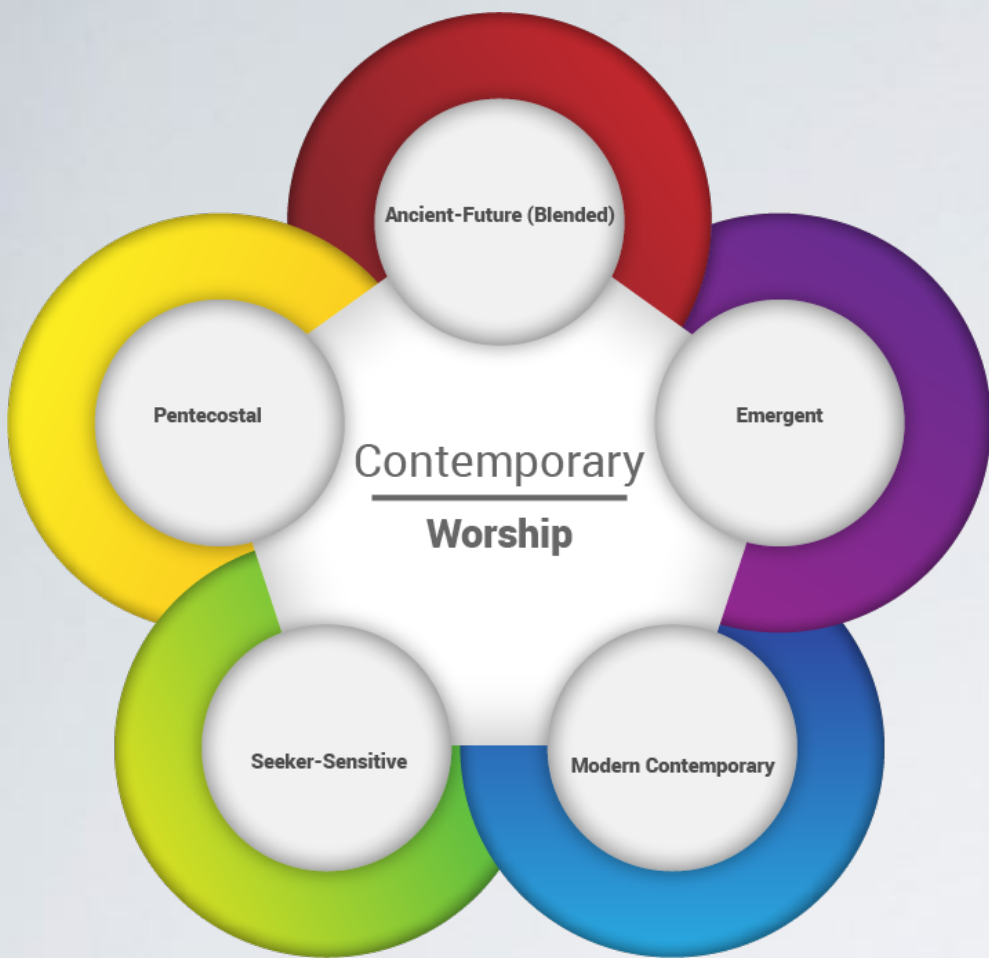
**WORSHIP** — 1:: reverence offered  
a divine being or supernatural  
power; also : an act of expressing  
such reverence

## Defining “Contemporary Worship”

By Steve Newman -  
September 25, 2017

“If your church has a band, you would be considered contemporary. If your instrumentation consists of the piano and organ, you would probably fall into the traditional model.”





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There is only one style of worship that honors God and pleases Him, that which is in accordance with His stated will and proceeds from a humble, submissive and sincere heart. (John 4:24)



# What Is Your **Problem** With “**Contemporary Worship?**”

## ***"Sacred Cow"***

*A person or thing immune to criticism or questioning, as in The rules governing the press conference have become a sacred cow in this administration. This term alludes to the honored status of cows in Hinduism, where they are a symbol of God's generosity to humankind. It has been used figuratively since about 1900.*

If You WANT TO STIR THE POT, talk about:

FAITH ALONE?

ONCE SAVED ALWAYS SAVED?

ANY CHURCH WILL DO?

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC? i.e., —

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP EXPERIENCE?

# What Is Your **Problem** With “**Contemporary Worship?**”

## *Post Wednesday on A Facebook Group of coC Preachers*



### Don McClain

I am planning to present a lesson on "contemporary worship" this Sunday. I have preached on this before and was curious if some here would mind sharing their thoughts.

### **Some responses ...**

- Questioned why preach such a sermon - a wasted sermon.
- Might as well preach on snake handling - not a problem to warn about ...
- “I have never heard a sermon about this, don’t know what ya’ll are talking about ...”
- Rock / pop music is not the same as entertainment ...
- What would “contemporary worship look like in a coC?



# PHILIPPI CHURCH OF CHRIST - CRESWELL, NC



## ONE | TWO CHURCH | SERVICES

Contemporary Service at 8:30am, Sunday School at 10am, & Traditional Service at 10:45am

**8:30AM**

**10:45AM**

**Are You Looking For.....**



# PHILIPPI CHURCH OF CHRIST - CRESWELL, NC



We traditionally use the piano, organ, flute, and percussion every Sunday morning



# PHILIPPI CHURCH OF CHRIST - CRESWELL, NC



<http://www.philippicoc.org/contemporary-worship-service.html>



# PHILIPPI CHURCH OF CHRIST - CRESWELL, NC



**A Live Band? Our live band, Committed, leads us in worship on stage each Sunday morning.**



# PHILIPPI CHURCH OF CHRIST - CRESWELL, NC



Committed plays the most up to date Contemporary Christian Music.  
Many of the songs can be found on [Klove.com](http://Klove.com).



# PHILIPPI CHURCH OF CHRIST - CRESWELL, NC



**Breakfast** - 8am to 8:25am / **Communion** ... while organ music is played softly in the background.



What Is Your **Problem** With “**Contemporary Worship?**”

# Not A New Problem



**Charles Haddon Spurgeon**

“The fact is, that many would like to unite church and stage, cards and prayer, dancing and sacraments. If we are powerless to stem this torrent, we can at least warn men of its existence, and entreat them to keep out of it. When the old faith is gone, and enthusiasm for the gospel is extinct, it is no wonder that people seek something else in the way of delight. Lacking bread, they feed on ashes; rejecting the way of the Lord, they run greedily in the path of folly.”

[“Another Word Concerning The Downgrade”  
— The Sword and The Trowel (Aug. 1887), 398]

# *Give Me That* **SHOW Time Religion**

**There Is A MAJOR Problem With "Contemporary Worship"**

— Why So MANY CANNOT SEE IT —

**SLOW GROWTH:** The product of cultural change - began w/ my generation - Rebellion; Rock & Roll; Sex & Drugs; Liberty from authority ... (Heb 2:1)





# Musicians Wanted

Momentum's not your momma's church - it's "a church for people who don't like church." We rock it out every Sunday.


We want urban and rock musicians - sweet lead guitarists, funky bass players, smooth drummers, turntable DJs, rappers, vocalists, etc.

In addition to modern worship music, we cover Imagine Dragons, Linkin Park, John Legend, and other mainstream artists every week.

Open auditions year round & on Wednesday, August 20th, 2014 - visit [www.momentumchurch.com](http://www.momentumchurch.com) for more info.



# What Is Your **Problem** With “**Contemporary Worship?**”

A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a Bible. The person is wearing a blue and white plaid shirt. The Bible has a gold-colored cover and is open, showing the text. The hands are positioned to hold the Bible firmly, with fingers visible on the edges.

**SLOW GROWTH:** The product of cultural change - began w/ my generation  
- Rebellion; Rock & Roll; Sex & Drugs;  
Liberty from authority ... (Heb 2:1)

## HEBREWS 2:1 (NKJV)

<sup>1</sup> Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away.



# What Is Your **Problem** With “**Contemporary Worship?**”

**SLOW GROWTH:** The product of cultural change - began w/ my generation  
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Liberty from authority ... (Heb 2:1)


**JUDGES 21:25 (NKJV)**

25 In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.

cf. Judges 2:7



# What Is Your **Problem** With “**Contemporary Worship?**”




**SLOW GROWTH:** The product of cultural change - began w/ my generation  
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## **JEREMIAH 2:13 (NKJV)**

<sup>13</sup> "For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, *And* hewn themselves cisterns--broken cisterns that can hold no water.



# What Is Your **Problem** With “**Contemporary Worship?**”



**SLOW GROWTH:** The product of cultural change - began w/ my generation  
- Rebellion; Rock & Roll; Sex & Drugs;  
Liberty from authority ... (Heb 2:1)

- Apostasy begins with a change in attitude towards God & His word – Ps. 95:8; 101:4; Prov 4:23; Rom 1:21,22
- Convictions change resulting in a change in practice – Ps. 10:11,13; Heb 3:12; Rom 1:23
- Results in changing the way we apply scripture – 2 Pet 3:16; Rom 1:24,25



# What Is Your **Problem** With “**Contemporary Worship?**”

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Liberty from authority ... (Heb 2:1)

- Emphasis of style over substance – Rom. 16:17,18; Mat. 7:15; 2 Cor. 11:14,15; 1 Cor. 4:6
- De-emphasis of Biblical authority – (“coC traditionalists; legalists; etc) 2 John 1:9; Col. 3:17; Lev. 10:1,2
- Critical of those who “contend earnestly for the faith” & apostolic “tradition” – Jude 1:3; 2 Thes 2:15



# What Is Your **Problem** With “**Contemporary Worship?**”

**SLOW GROWTH:** The product of cultural change - began w/ my generation  
- Rebellion; Rock & Roll; Sex & Drugs;  
Liberty from authority ... (Heb 2:1)

Start to measure  
what we will do  
by what we have  
done –

We will move  
further and  
further away  
from God –

We set a  
course for  
complete  
apostasy –

# *Give Me That* **SHOW Time Religion**

**There Is A MAJOR Problem With "Contemporary Worship"**

— Why So MANY CANNOT SEE IT —

**UNLEARNED:** Have not been taught the need for Biblical authority ... Have not been taught what God instructs regarding worship. - (Col. 3:17; Heb 5:12-14; 12:25-29)





# What Is Your **Problem** With “**Contemporary Worship?**”

**UNLEARNED:** Have not been taught the need for Biblical authority ... Have not been taught what God instructs regarding worship. - (Col. 3:17; Heb 5:12-14; 12:25-29)

**1 PETER 4:11 (NKJV)**

**11 If anyone speaks,  
let him speak as the  
oracles of God. ...**





# What Is Your **Problem** With “**Contemporary Worship?**”

## *Comprehensive Nature of The NT Scriptures*

**We cannot  
know the mind  
of God except  
through  
revelation**

1 Cor 2:10, 11,14

Eph 3:3-5

Isaiah 55:8,9

**Faith  
comes by  
hearing the  
word of  
CHRIST**

**ROMANS 10:17**

**God has  
revealed  
everything He  
wants us to  
know & do –**

2 Pet 1:3;

2 Tim 3:16,17

Jude 3

**WALKING BY FAITH MEANS WALKING BY WHAT GOD HAS SAID**  
**2 Cor. 5:7; 1 Cor. 4:6; Gal. 1:6-9**



What Is Your **Problem** With “**Contemporary Worship?**”

*from Heaven or Men?*

*Matthew 21:25-26*

**From Heaven**

**Mt. 21:23-27**

**1 John 4:4-6**

**Gal. 1:6-9**

**Col. 2:6-10; 3:17**

**2 Thess. 2:15**

**Only Two  
Possible  
Sources**

**From Men**

**Mt. 15:1-9**

**1 Cor. 4:6**

**Gal. 1:10-17**

**Col. 2:8**

**2 Thess. 2:2-4**



WALKING BY FAITH MEANS WALKING BY WHAT GOD HAS SAID  
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What Is Your **Problem** With “**Contemporary Worship?**”

*from Heaven or Men?*

Matthew 21:25-26

From Heaven

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From MEN



& making melody with a guitar,

WALKING BY FAITH MEANS WALKING BY WHAT GOD HAS SAID  
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# What Is Your **Problem** With “**Contemporary Worship?**”

**UNLEARNED:** MANY do not understand the the need for, the nature of, nor “how to establish”  
**divine authority!**

Was told these things do not aide in our worship, they are added for our pleasure ...  
This person does not understand the nature of authority!

Recently a discussion of Facebook I was informed that we do not have authority for:

- ◆ Song books,
- ◆ Buildings,
- ◆ Lights,
- ◆ HVAC,
- ◆ Pews,
- ◆ Windows,
- ◆ Doors, etc.

These are  
Aides &  
Expedients!  
**NOT  
Additions!**



# What Is Your **Problem** With “**Contemporary Worship?**”

**UNLEARNED:** MANY do not understand the the need for, the nature of, nor “how to establish” **divine authority!**

Commands	Aids	Expedients	Additions
<b>Baptize</b> (Mt. 28:18-20)	Pool, River, Baptistery, Etc.	Waders, “baptismal” clothing, water heated	Basin to Sprinkle – Cup for Pouring
<b>Assemble</b> (Heb. 10:24-25)	House, Hall, Church Building,	Time on Sunday, , own, rent, how often ...	Family Life Center, Gymnasium, Etc.
<b>Lord’s Supper</b> (1 Cor. 11:23-29)	Cups, Plates, Table, Etc.	AM or PM, Homemade? Bought?	Social Meal (1 Co. 11:17-22, 34)
<b>Give</b> (1 Cor. 16:1-2)	Collection Baskets	Order in service, cash, checks, ...	Raffles, Chili Suppers, Cake Walks, Etc.
<b>Preaching</b> (Acts 20:7)	Mics, projectors, chalk boards ...	Which Biblical subject, order in service ...	Politics / Bind Opinions Comedian / entertainer -
<b>Sing</b> (Eph. 5:19; etc.)	Song Book, PPT Leader, Pitch Pipe,	# of songs, which songs, On screen, book, memory / stand, sit ...	Man made instruments / Praise bands / Clapping



# What Is Your **Problem** With “**Contemporary Worship?**”

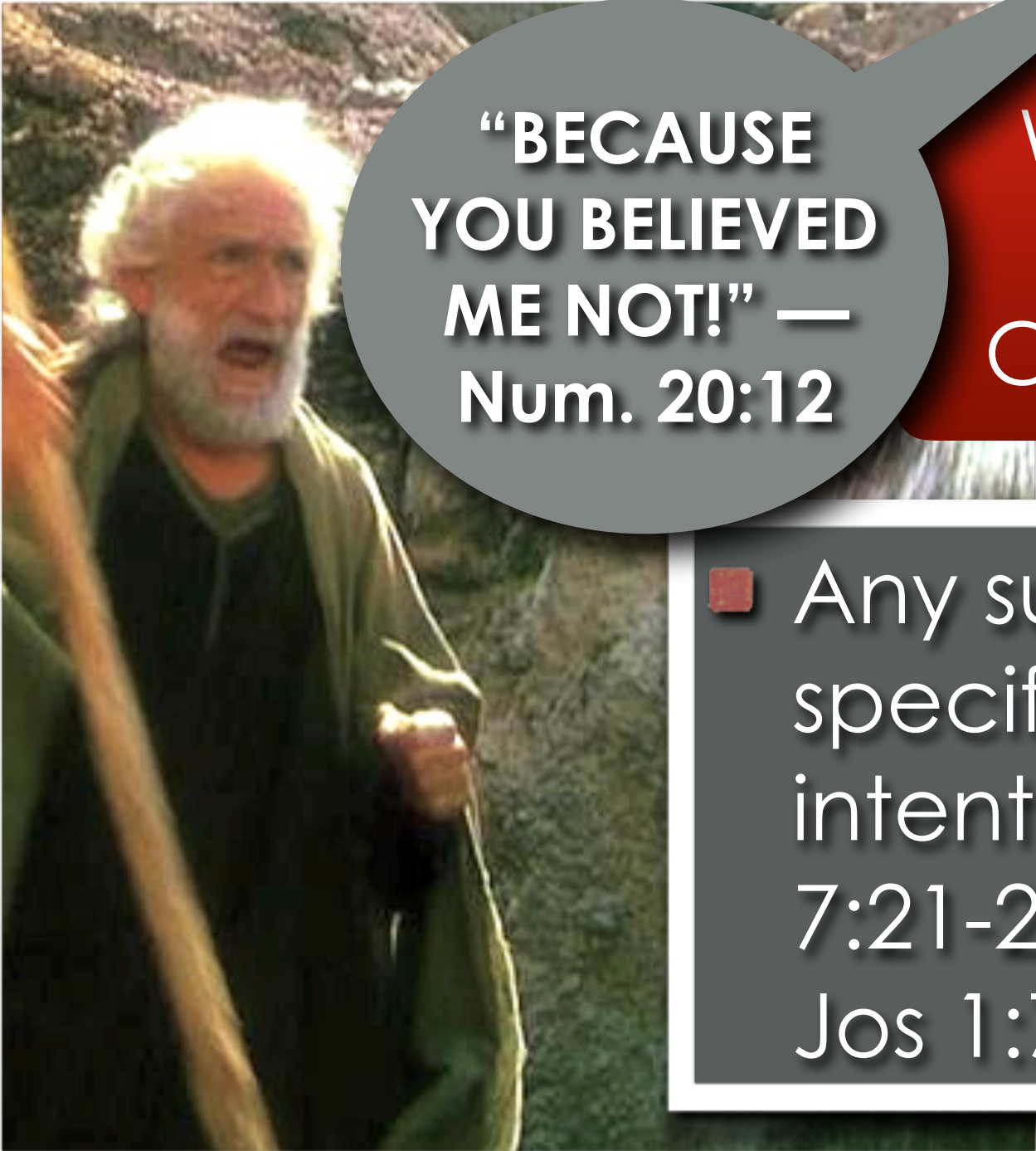
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Commands	Aids	Expedients	Additions
<b>Baptize</b> (Mt. 28:18-20)	<p>Aids &amp; Expedients do not change, by either addition or subtraction, that which God commands! Additions do!</p> <p>✓ Tools to build ark – Gen 6</p> <p>✗ Ox cart to move ark – 1 Chron 13</p> <p>In order for a thing to be an aide or expedient it must first be lawful!</p>		
<b>Assemble</b> (Heb. 10:24-25)			
<b>Lord’s Supper</b> (1 Cor. 11:23-29)			
<b>Give</b> (1 Cor. 16:1-2)			
<b>Preaching</b> (Acts 20:7)			
<b>Sing</b> (Eph. 5:19; etc.)	Song Book, PPT Leader, Pitch Pipe,	# of songs, which songs, On screen, book, memory / stand, sit ...	Man made instruments / Praise bands / Clapping



# What Is Your **Problem** With “**Contemporary Worship?**”

**UNLEARNED:** MANY do not understand the the need for, the nature of, nor “how to establish” **divine authority!**



“BECAUSE  
YOU BELIEVED  
ME NOT!” —  
Num. 20:12

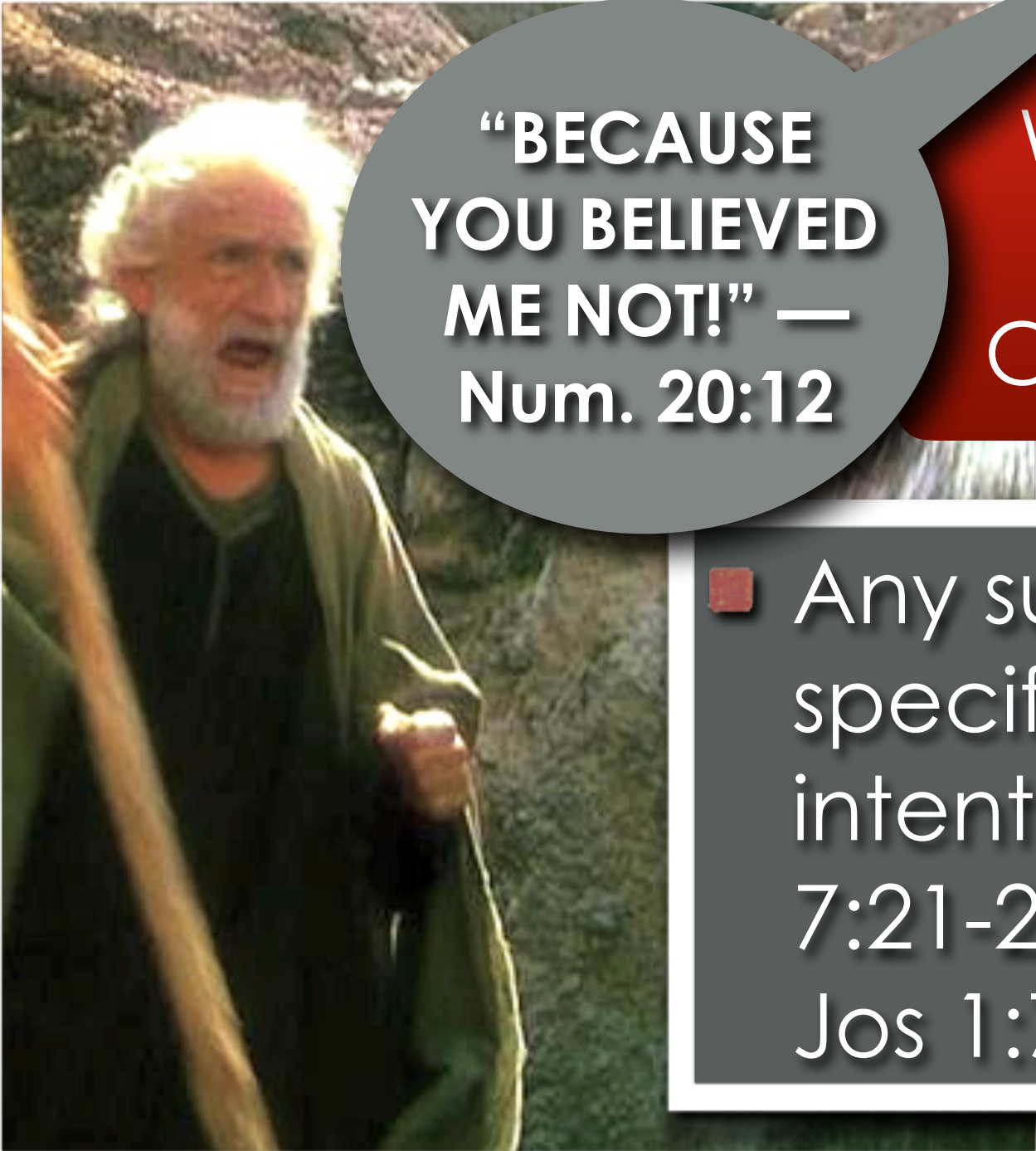
When God **specifies** - we  
**CANNOT** substitute — (1  
Chron 13:5-8; Heb. 7:11-14)

- Nadab & Abihu – (Lev. 10:1,2)
- Moses – (Ex 17:6; Num 20:8-24)
- King Saul – (1 Sam. 13 & 15)
- Jeroboam – (1 Kings 12:25-33)
- Uzziah – (2 Chr. 26:16-23)



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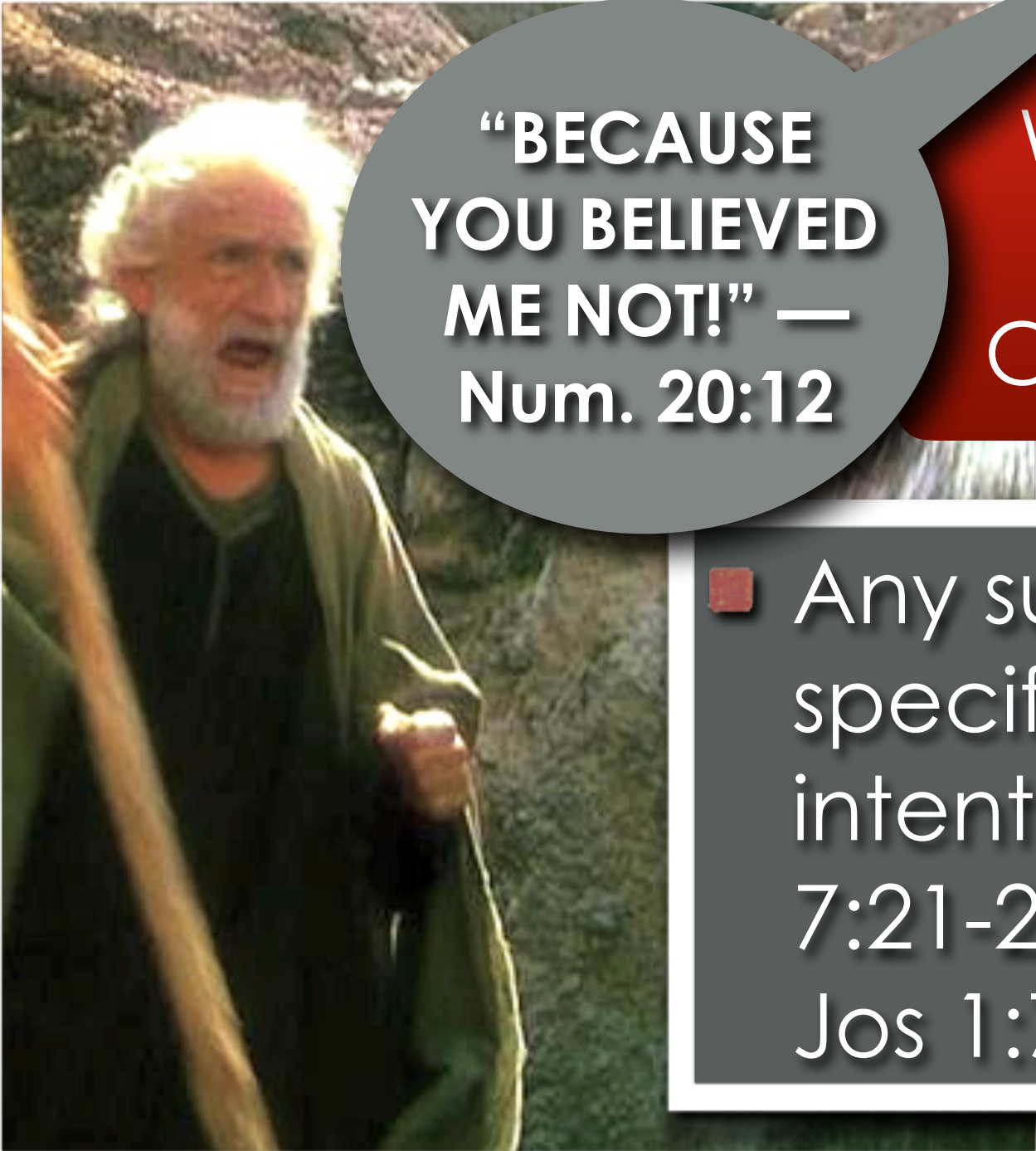
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**Ephesians 5:19 (NKJV)**  
<sup>19</sup> speaking to one  
another in psalms and  
hymns and spiritual songs,  
singing and making  
melody in your heart to  
the Lord,



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“BECAUSE  
YOU BELIEVED  
ME NOT!” —  
Num. 20:12

When God **specifies** - we  
**CANNOT** substitute — (1  
Chron 13:5-8; Heb. 7:11-14)

- Any substitute for what God specifies is evil, regardless of intent (cf Num 20:8,11; Matt 7:21-23; 2 Jn 9,10; Dt 4:2; 12:32; Jos 1:7; Pro 30:6; Rev 22:18,19).

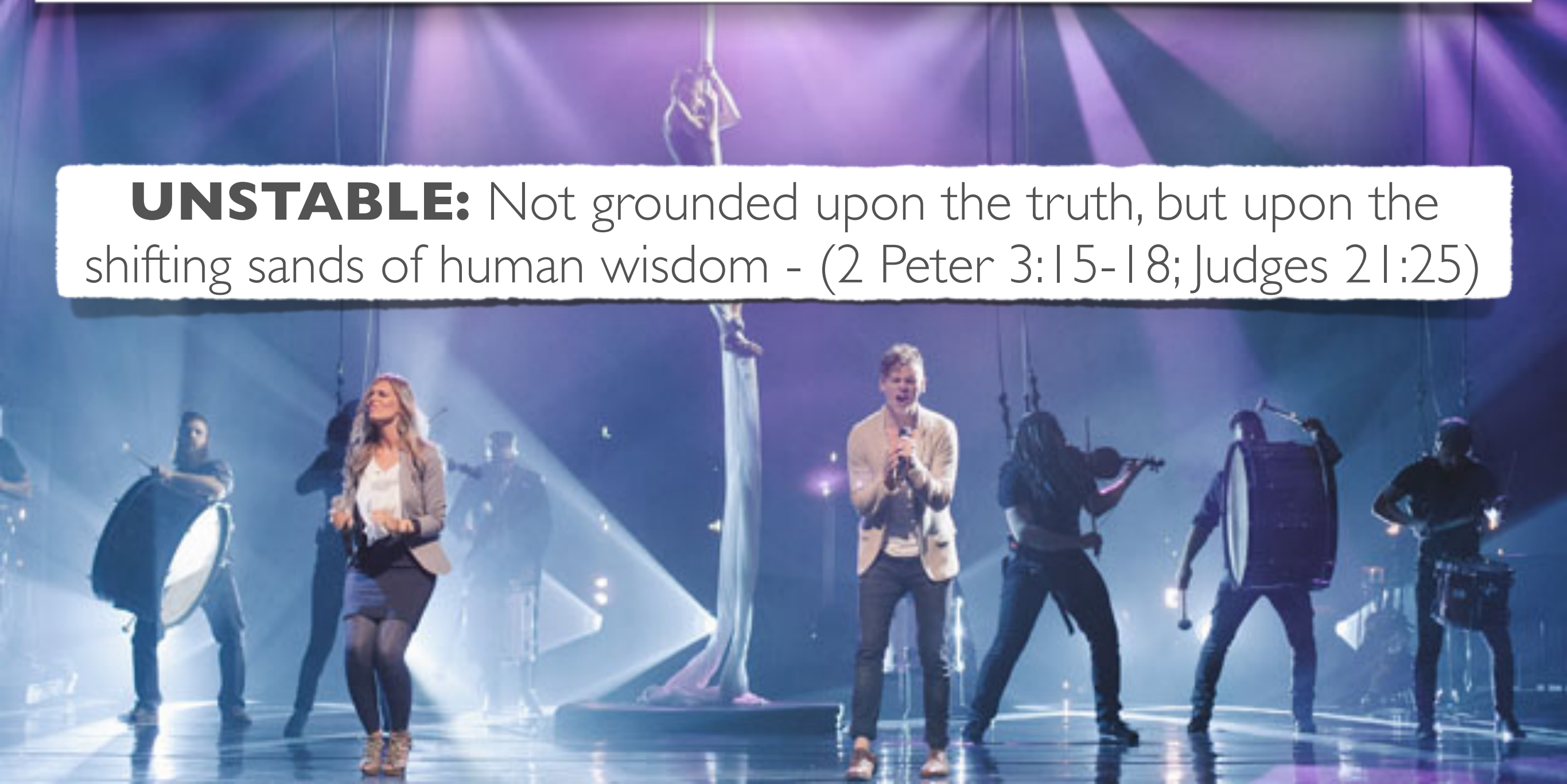


# *Give Me That* **SHOW Time Religion**

**There Is A MAJOR Problem With "Contemporary Worship"**

— Why So MANY CANNOT SEE IT —

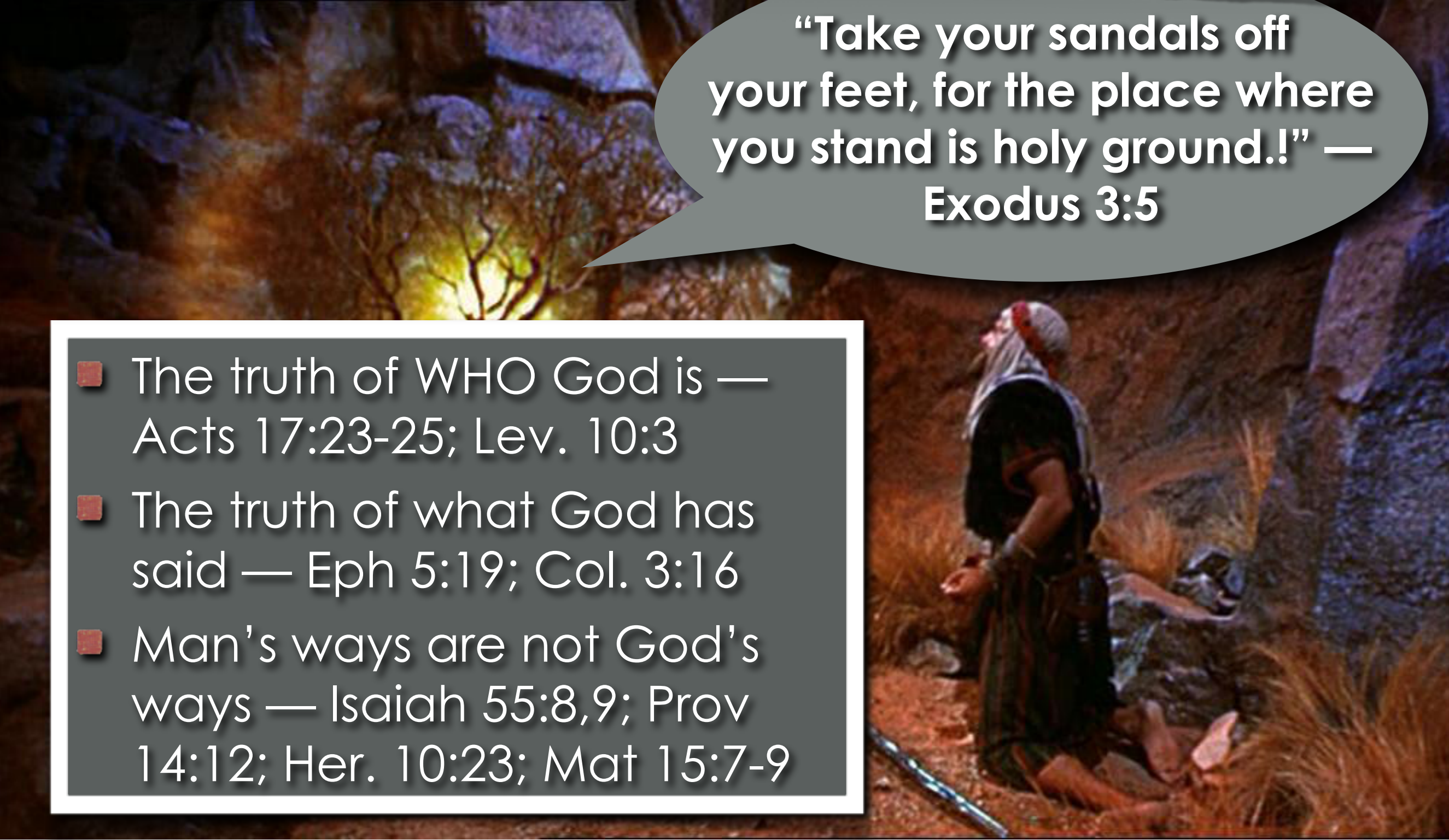
**UNSTABLE:** Not grounded upon the truth, but upon the shifting sands of human wisdom - (2 Peter 3:15-18; Judges 21:25)





# What Is Your **Problem** With “**Contemporary Worship?**”

**UNSTABLE:** Not grounded upon the truth, but upon the shifting sands of human wisdom - (2 Peter 3:15-18; Judges 21:25)




“Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground.!” — Exodus 3:5

- The truth of WHO God is — Acts 17:23-25; Lev. 10:3
- The truth of what God has said — Eph 5:19; Col. 3:16
- Man's ways are not God's ways — Isaiah 55:8,9; Prov 14:12; Her. 10:23; Mat 15:7-9



# What Is Your **Problem** With “**Contemporary Worship?**”

**UNSTABLE:** Not grounded upon the truth, but upon the shifting sands of human wisdom - (2 Peter 3:15-18; Judges 21:25)

A person in a desert landscape, looking up at a glowing, ethereal tree or light source in a rocky, arid environment. The scene is dimly lit, with the primary light source being the glowing tree, which has a warm, yellowish-orange glow. The person is seen from the back, wearing a head covering and a dark garment. The background consists of dark, rocky terrain under a dark sky.

**“Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground.!” — Exodus 3:5**

## **Hebrews 12:28–29 (NKJV)**

<sup>28</sup> Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. <sup>29</sup> For our God is a consuming fire.



What Is Your **Problem** With “**Contemporary Worship?**”

A **BOLD** STATEMENT - **TRUE** worship  
**CANNOT** occur in such an environment!



**Exodus 20:25** (NKJV) And if you make Me an altar of stone, you shall not build it of hewn stone; for if you use your tool on it, you have profaned it.



What Is Your **Problem** With “**Contemporary Worship?**”

A **BOLD** STATEMENT - **TRUE** worship  
**CANNOT** occur in such an environment!




**Acts 17:25** “Nor is He worshiped with men’s hands, as though He needed anything, ...”



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A **BOLD** STATEMENT - **TRUE** worship  
**CANNOT** occur in such an environment!



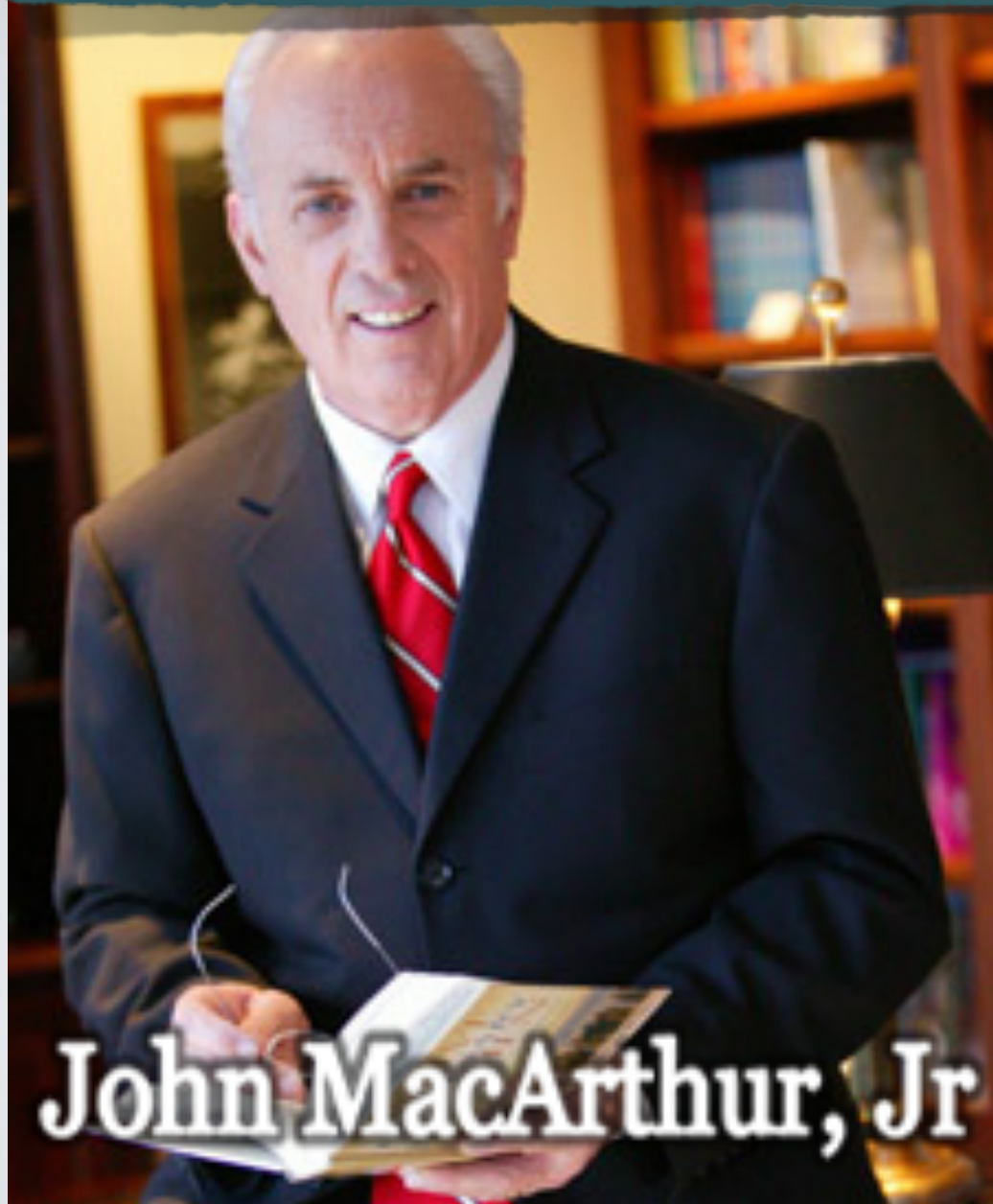
## **John 4:23–24 (NKJV)**

<sup>23</sup> But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. <sup>24</sup> God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”



What Is Your **Problem** With “**Contemporary Worship?**”

A **BOLD** STATEMENT - **TRUE** worship **CANNOT** occur in such an environment!



**John MacArthur, Jr**


“We have a society filled with people who want what they want when they want it. They are into their own lifestyle, recreation, and entertainment. They want comfort, happiness, and success. When churches appeal to those selfish desires, they only fuel fires that hinder true godliness.”

(Ashamed of The Gospel, When The Church Becomes Like The World, pg 85)



What Is Your **Problem** With “**Contemporary Worship?**”

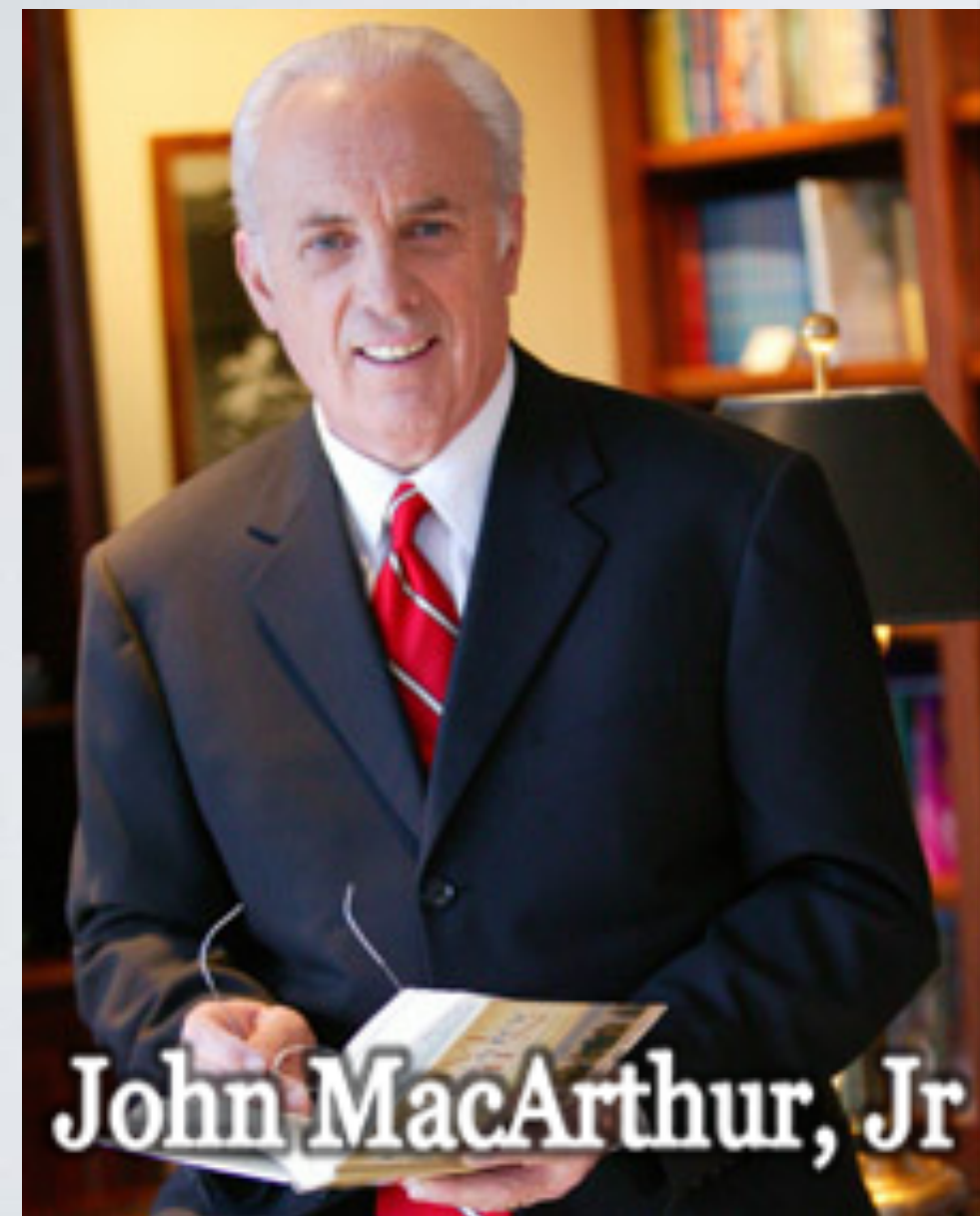
A **BOLD** STATEMENT - **TRUE worship**  
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- 
- A deeper spiritual problem is revealed and perpetuated by the “ENTERTAINMENT” atmosphere.
  - Many incorrectly associate emotionalism with spirituality. - (Prov. 4:24)
  - Could it be that many are actually seeking what they WANT rather than seeking to please God? - (Phil 3:18,19; Rom 1:25; 2 Tim 3:1-5)



What Is Your **Problem** With “**Contemporary Worship?**”

INDICATES A LACK *of* TRUE SPIRITUALITY



John MacArthur, Jr

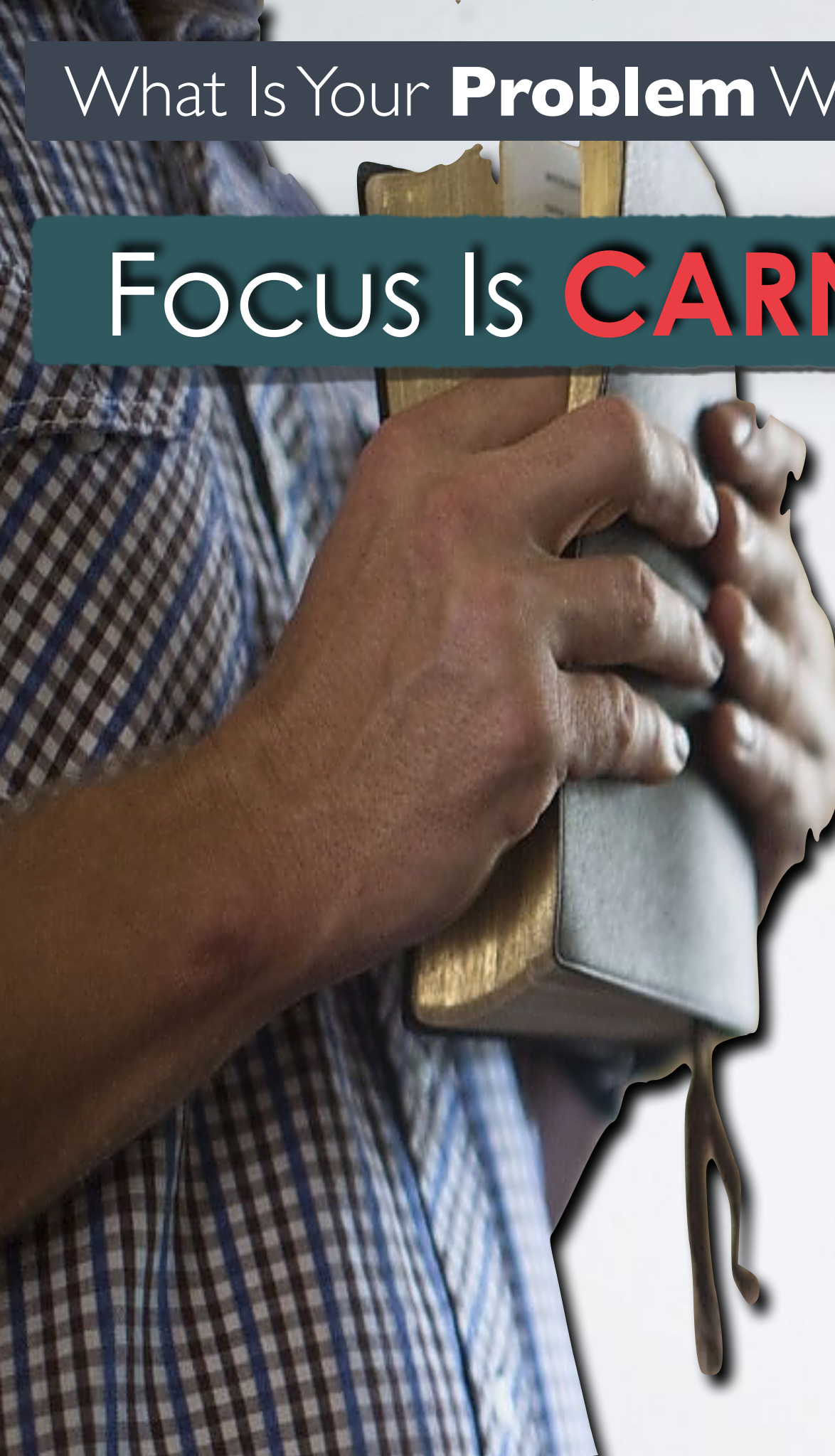
“If you get bored in church, may I suggest to you that it’s not a commentary on the sermon – it’s a commentary on your heart! Even if the sermon isn’t particularly worth listening to, the chance to pick up some truths about God that come through, should be the most exhilarating time of your life. If you’re uninterested or indifferent, it’s not a commentary on the sermon, it’s a commentary on you.”

(True Worship, MacArthur’s Bible Studies Series, Chicago: Moody Press, 1982, pg 89)



What Is Your **Problem** With “**Contemporary Worship?**”

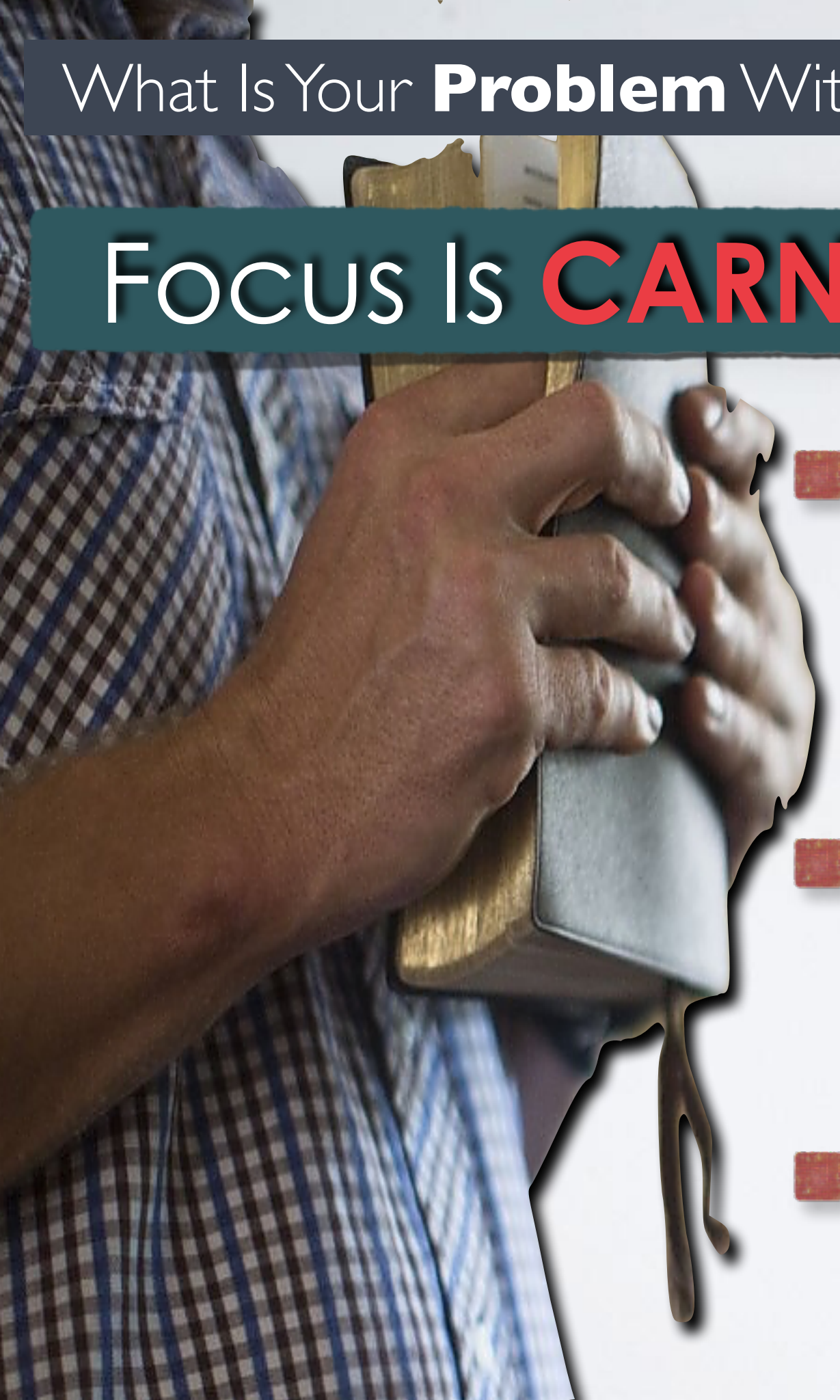
# Focus Is **CARNAL** NOT **SPIRITUAL**

- 
- Has NO New Testament or Historical Precedent – (1 Cor 14; Heb 12:28; John 4:24)
  - Diminishes Sense of Awe and Reverence That Should Be Present When Approaching God – (Heb 12:28)
  - Reflects and Promotes A Lack of Confidence in the Power of the Gospel!! – (Rom 1:16)



What Is Your **Problem** With “**Contemporary Worship?**”

# Focus Is **CARNAL** NOT **SPIRITUAL**

- 
- The **BIG** business of “CONTEMPORARY CHURCH” is a SELF CONSUMING practice, (The more money you pour in, the more money it takes)
  - Engenders the desire for brighter, faster, and more exciting experiences - taking them further from God ...
  - Reinforces a “Man Centered” and a “Self Serving” View of Worship – [Idolatry] - (Rom 1:25)



What Is Your **Problem** With “**Contemporary Worship?**”


# Focus Is **CARNAL** NOT **SPIRITUAL**

- 
- **Entertained people** – NOT converted people!
  - **Unlearned People** – NOT a people growing in the grace and knowledge of Jesus!
  - **A Compromising people** – NOT a steadfast unmovable people.
  - **Carnally minded people** – NOT spiritually minded people!



What Is Your **Problem** With “**Contemporary Worship?**”


# FOCUS MUST BE **SPIRITUAL / TRUTH**

- 
- Conversion – (Acts 2:36-38; 2 Cor 5:17; 1 Pet 1:22,23)
  - Submission to God!! - (Eccl 12:13; Mat 7:21-23; Col 3:17)
  - Transformation – (Ro 12:1,2)
  - Unity in truth – (Eph 4:1-6)
  - Edification , (Eph. 4:11-16)
  - Holiness – (Eph 4:17-5:17)
  - Maturity – (Col. 1:28; 2 Pet 1:3-10; Heb 5:12,13; 10:24,25)



What Is Your **Problem** With “**Contemporary Worship?**”

# FOCUS MUST BE **SPIRITUAL / TRUTH**

- 
- The OLD TIME religion IS SUFFICIENT TO FULFILL GOD'S PURPOSE & PLEASE HIM!– (Jer 6:16; Heb 1:1; Mat 7:21; 17:5; 2 Tim 4:1-4; 1 Cor 3:6)
  - We are dedicated to finding the pattern revealed in the New Testament - and following that pattern! - (2 Tim 1:13)







# *Give Me That* **SHOW Time Religion**

**There Is A MAJOR Problem With "Contemporary Worship"**

— Why So MANY CANNOT SEE IT —

## **Charts by Don McClain**

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