

## "IT IS TOO MUCH", #2

### INTRODUCTION

- I. In a previous lesson, we looked at old Rehoboam's effort to keep the northern 10 tribes in Dan and Beersheba instead of their returning to Jerusalem to worship.
  - A. He set up places of worship in these 2 cities, and told the people, "It Is Too Much" for you to return to Jerusalem to worship.
  - B. As a result, he (1) Changed the **Object** of worship (from God to the golden calves; (2) Changed the **Place** of worship from Jerusalem to Dan and Beersheba; (3) Changed the **Priesthood** from the Levitical order to his own priesthood; and (4) Changed the **Day** of worship from the 7<sup>th</sup> day of the month and the 15<sup>th</sup> day, to the 8<sup>th</sup> month, and 15<sup>th</sup> day—as recorded in 1 Kings 12.
- II. In our lesson today, we are going to apply the term "It is too much", to those in the religious world, telling THEM **it really is too much** for THEM to ADD TO God's teaching in the New Testament.
  - A. God has ALWAYS warned against ADDING TO His word. Deut. 4:2; 12:32; Prov. 30:5-6; Rev. 22:18-19
    1. Rehoboam made his changes that are said to have come from HIS "heart." 1 Kings 12:33
    2. God wants NOTHING that HE does not have in HIS heart for us to do. Jer. 19:5; 23:16
  - B. Now, let's consider some things that denominations today have ADDED to God's word, that are JUST TOO MUCH.

### DISCUSSION

#### I. 1<sup>st</sup>, it is "too much" to ADD HUMAN DOCTRINES TO THE N.T.

- A. God's word contains ALL or EVERYTHING that we will always need to know in serving Him. Matt. 4:4; 15:9; Acts 15:5-6, 24; 2 Pet. 1:3; 2 Tim. 2:16-17; Jude 3
  1. If we require MORE, or teach MORE or practice MORE (or LESS) than the teaching of Christ authorizes, we are not abiding IN the doctrine of Christ. Col. 3:17; 2 John 9
  2. If we add TO the word, "it is too much," or if we take away FROM His word, we don't have enough.
- B. The creeds and councils of men are declarations that God's word is NOT enough.
  1. This applies to the Catholic Catechism, the Book of Mormon, and the creed books of all the denominations that surround us today in this very community.
  2. Such actions make worship "vain" or sinful. Matt. 15:9

#### II. 2<sup>nd</sup>, it is "too much" to ADD INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC TO SINGING.

- A. We are not saying that the playing of instrument (such as the organ, piano, or guitar) is wrong in ANY kind of secular music, but when it comes to the singing of "psalms, hymns or spiritual songs" **in worship to God** it is wrong to do so. Col. 3:16-17
  1. To ADD western songs, rock and roll songs, patriotic songs, or love songs TO worship songs, it is "too much." Matt. 26:30; Acts 16:25; Rom. 15:9; 1 Cor. 14:15; Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16-17; Heb. 13:15; Jas. 5:13
  2. To ADD the organ, piano, harp or guitar TO "singing" in worship, is MORE than the Lord authorizes, and MORE than the early church used, and is simply **"too much."**
    - a. But some people think and say, "but we like it", or "it makes singing so beautiful to use it."
    - b. We need to remember that we are not to worship to suit ourselves, but the Lord. Luke 16:15
- B. Some congregations of the church of Christ are NOW giving in to the influences of denominations, and are ADDING TO their singing by bringing in the organ, piano, or band music in concerts, and have **departed from the faith of the gospel.**

1. When God set up the rule of Judges to govern Israel, some decided that they had to have a king, "to be like the nations around them." 1 Sam. 8:5
2. Today, God has specified the kind of music He wants, but some decide that they want "to be like the denominations around them."

**CONCLUSION**

- I. There are many other ways people do by adding TO God's word, but these 2 areas we have considered today should be sufficient to show the folly of doing "too much."
  - A. We believe it is "too much" to add addressing angels in prayer, instead of God.
  - B. We believe it is "too much" to add common food as part of the Lord's Supper.
- II. True worship belongs to those who have confessed faith in Jesus as God's son, repented of all sins, and have been buried with the Lord in immersion in water.
  - A. If you have not done these things, you need to consider your relationship with God.
  - B. This life provides the only opportunity this side of the Judgment day for us to get right with God.

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