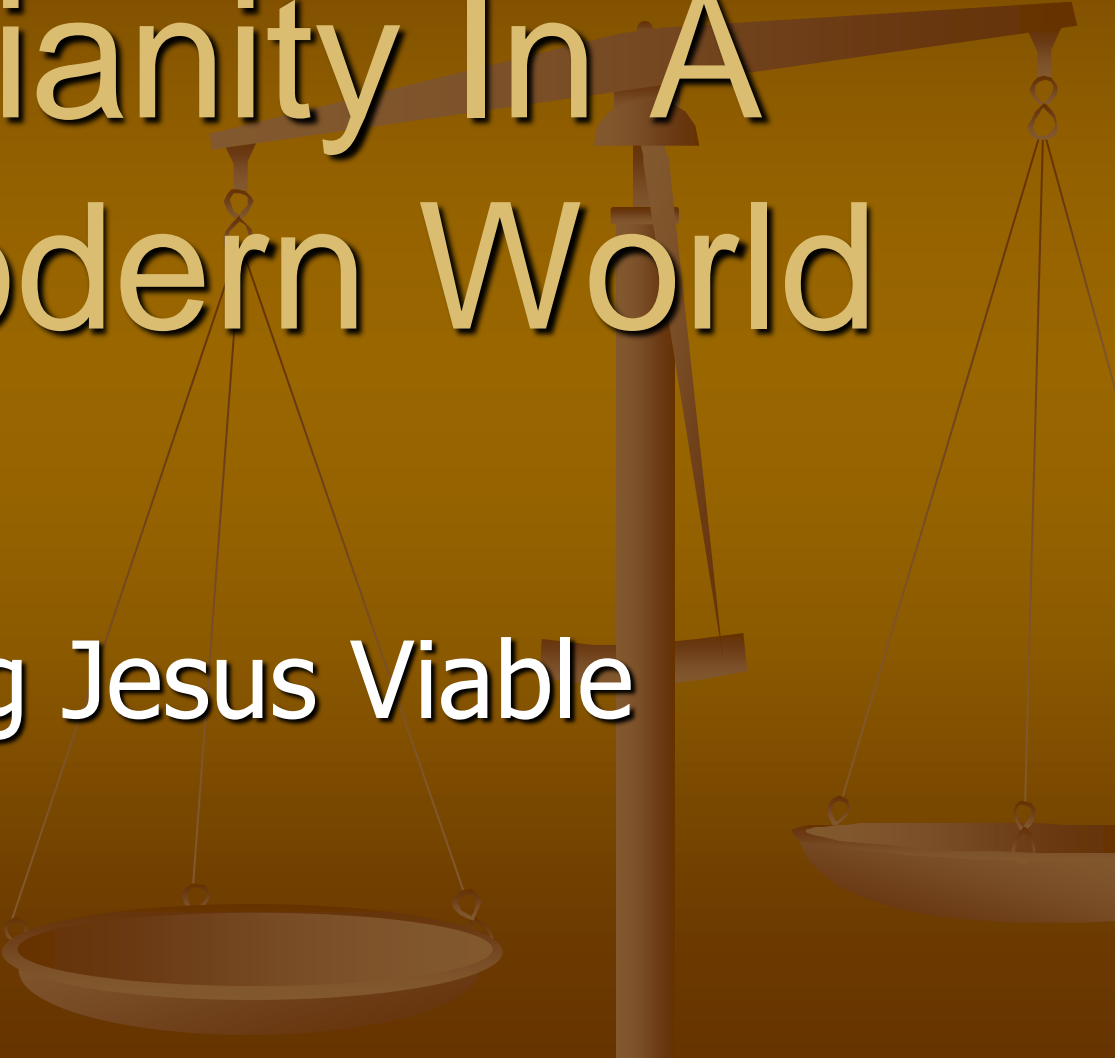


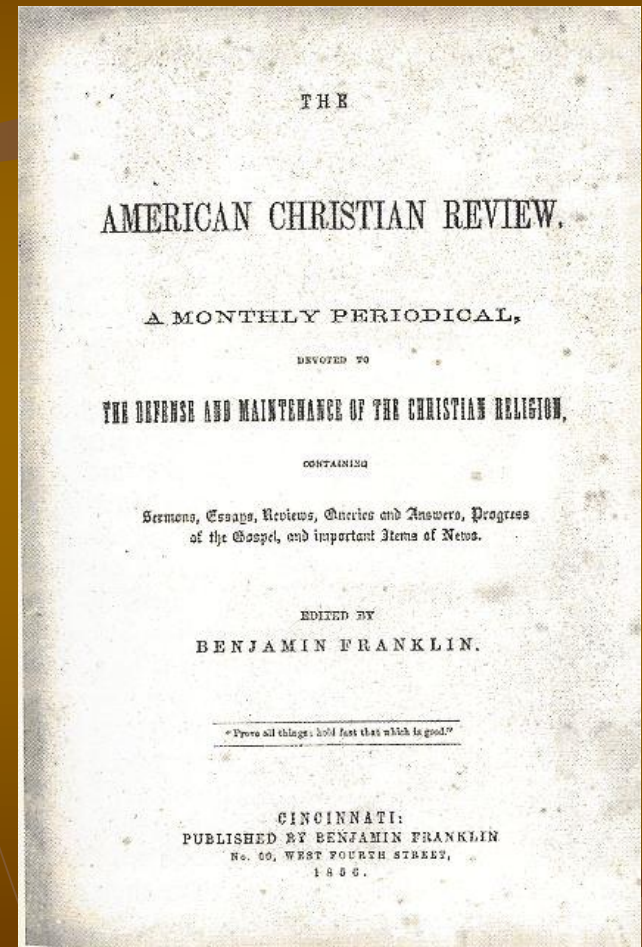
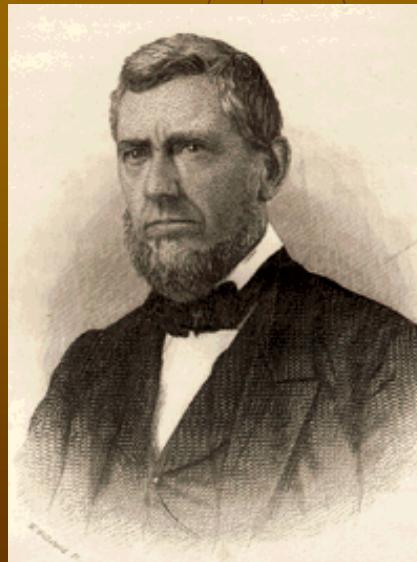
# New Testament Christianity In A Postmodern World



Making Jesus Viable

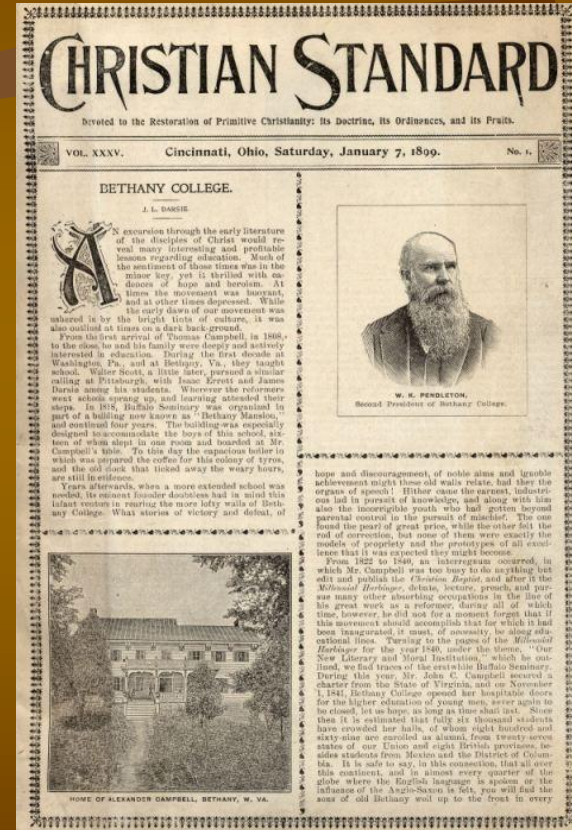
# First A Little Look At The Past

- *American Christian Review* – 1856 –  
Editors: Benjamin Franklin, John F. Rowe, & Daniel Sommer:  
Voices Of Truth  
Among 19<sup>th</sup>  
Century  
Christians



# Ten Years Later

- Isaac Errett Begins A Paper In Reaction To The Reaction To The Conservative Sound Of The ACR And Calls It The Christian Standard - 1866



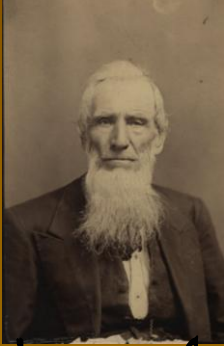
# On The Home Front

- Georgia Had Been Hit By General Sherman By 1865
- The Civil War Took It's Toll On Brethren
- Through The War The Church Was Held Together In Georgia By Some Faithful Gospel Preachers

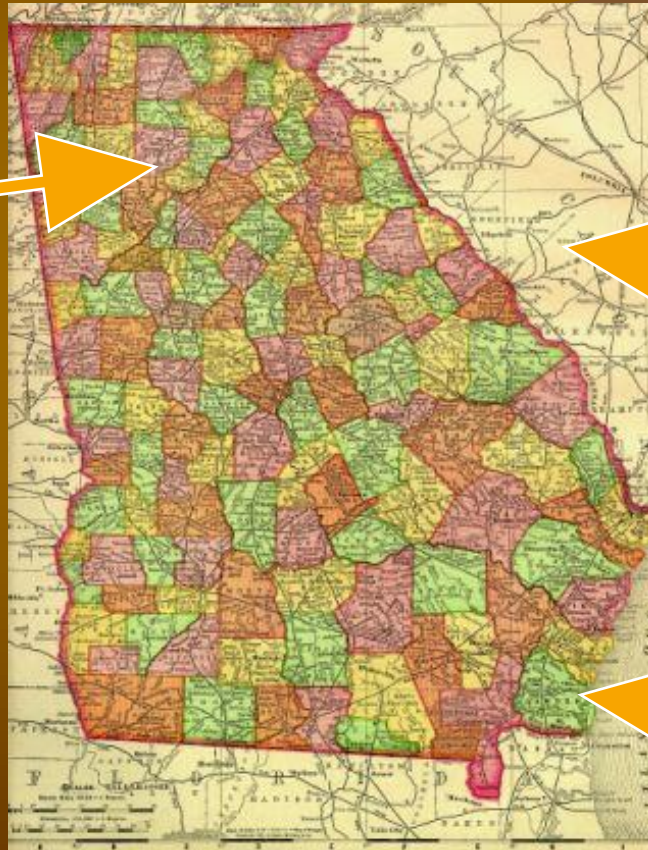


# Preachers In Georgia

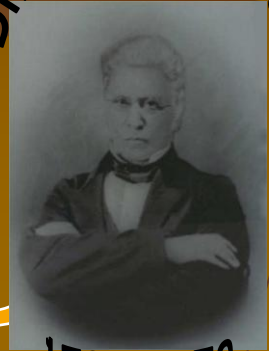
Nathan W. Smith



1813-1899

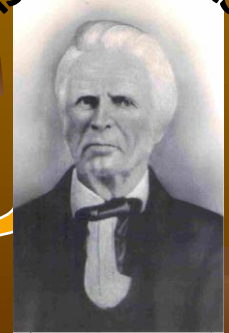


Dr. Daniel Hook



1795-1870

Christian H. Dasher



1789-1866

# Acworth/Marietta, Georgia

- Nathan W. Smith Strengthened Churches All Through North Georgia
- However, The Winds Of Change With The Financial Stress Of The Civil War Took Its Toll
- Influence Of The ACMS & The Instrument Brought Apostasy

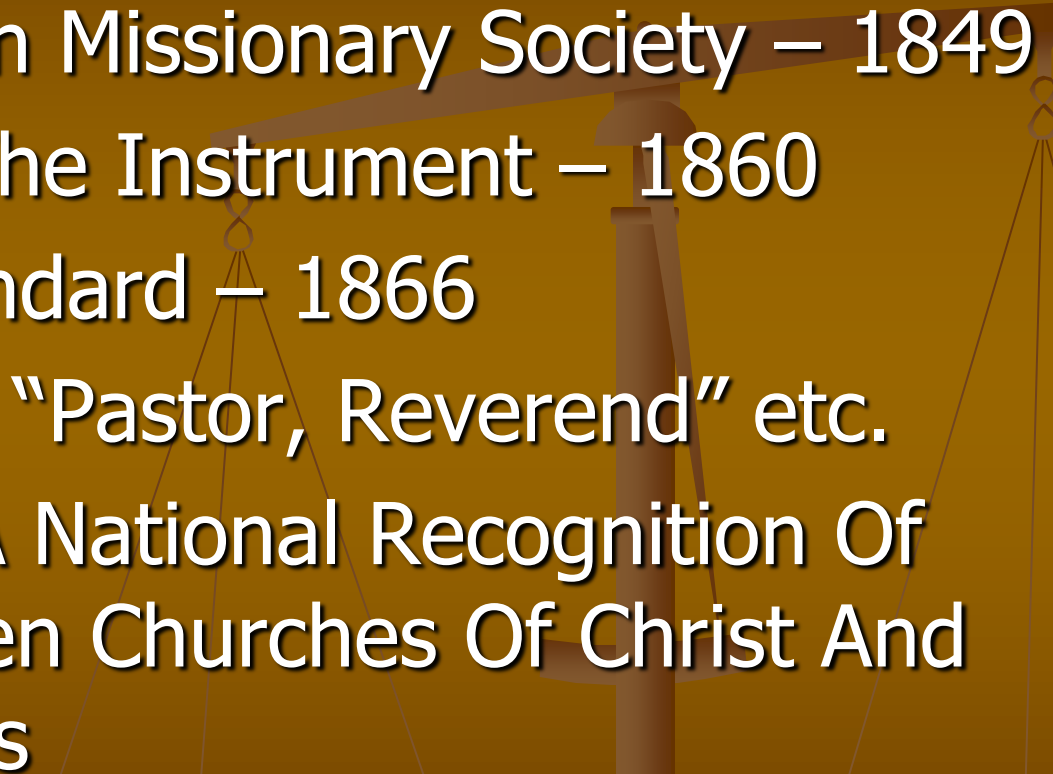


# Why The Changes?

- Cultural Influences
- Pragmatism
- Growth Among Evangelicals
- Desire Not To Be Seen As Different

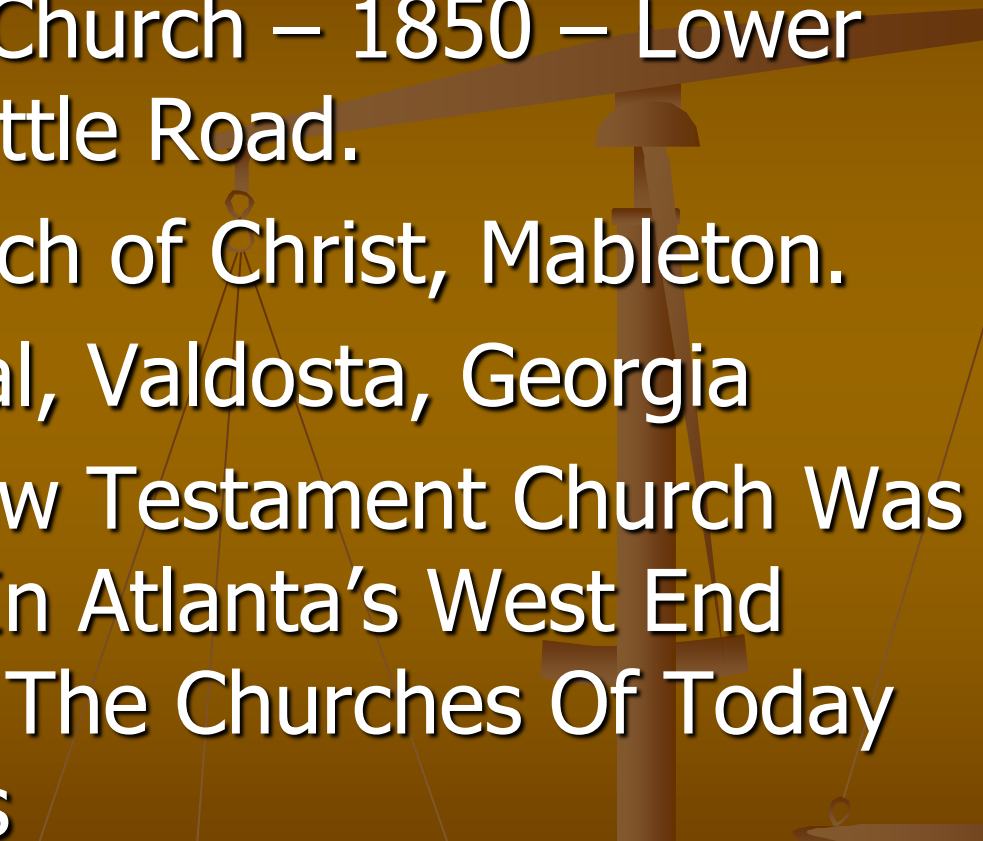


# Some Of The Changes

- American Christian Missionary Society – 1849
  - The Addition Of The Instrument – 1860
  - The Christian Standard – 1866
  - Titles Appeared – “Pastor, Reverend” etc.
  - By 1906 Census A National Recognition Of Difference Between Churches Of Christ And Christian Churches
- 



# Some In Georgia Stayed The Course

- Pleasant Grove Church – 1850 – Lower Roswell Rd @ Little Road.
  - Liberty Hill Church of Christ, Mableton.
  - Dasher & Central, Valdosta, Georgia
  - By 1906 The New Testament Church Was Re-Established In Atlanta's West End Where Many Of The Churches Of Today Find Their Roots
- 

# What Is Postmodern?

“Its central “doctrines” all seem to spring from a denial that there are any rules for anything. So the postmodernists say that “There is no such thing as truth,” “Reality is merely a political construction” and “morality is meaningless.”

— John Ray

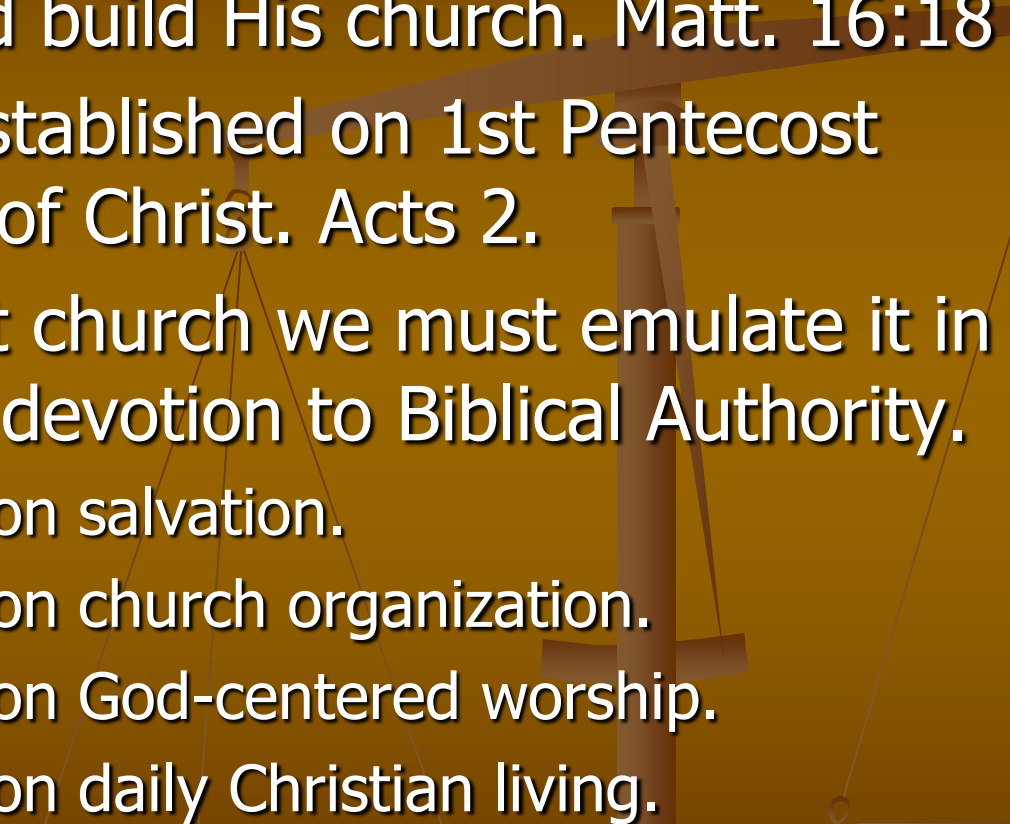
# Who Is The Postmodernist?

"Postmodernists claim that there is no objective truth, that there is only interpretation, and that it all depends on who is in power. According to the postmodernists, we are so biased by our race, class, and gender that knowledge is impossible. The postmodernists allow freedom of speech only for those who share their Leftist political views on issues like feminism, affirmative action, and free enterprise versus socialism. They hire and fire on the basis of ideology rather than scholarship, and they try to prevent speakers of whose views they don't approve from appearing on campus."

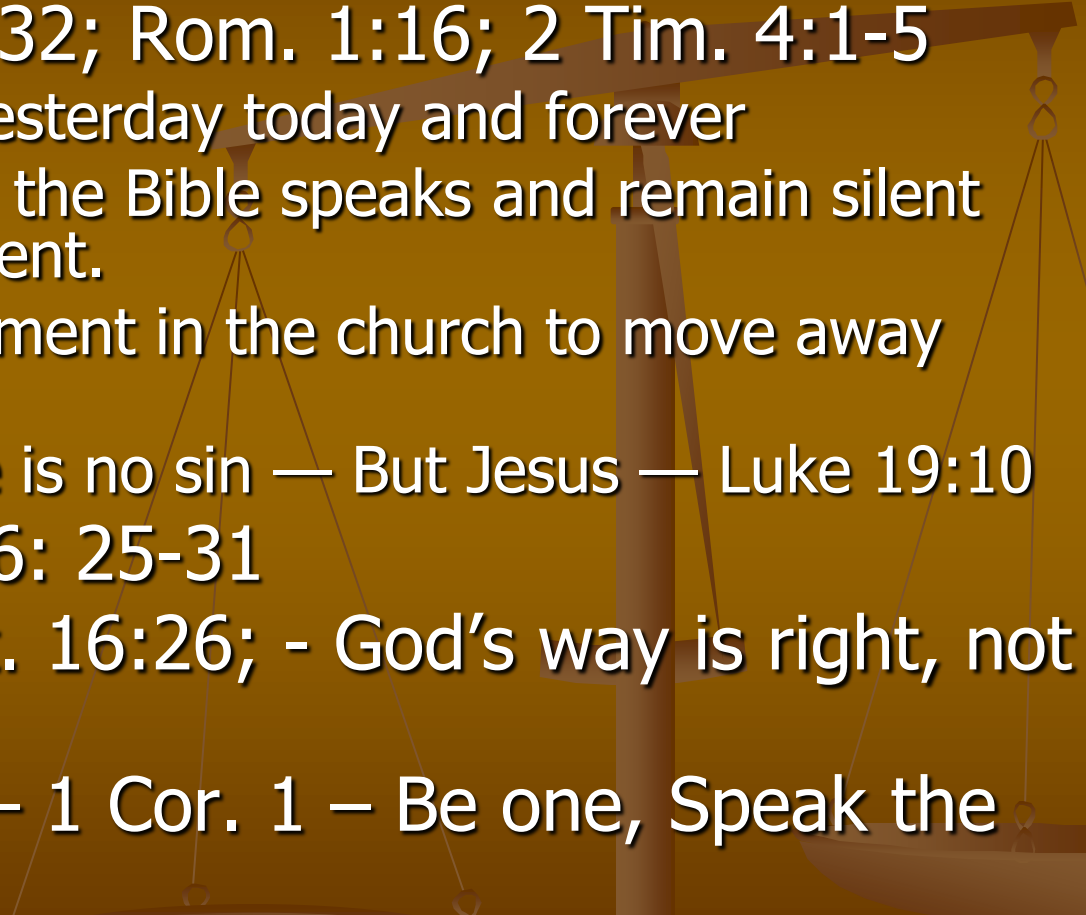
— Joe Willingham

# 1st Century Christianity

## We Understand . . .

- Jesus said he would build His church. Matt. 16:18
  - That Church was established on 1st Pentecost after the D.B. & R. of Christ. Acts 2.
  - To be a part of that church we must emulate it in every way through devotion to Biblical Authority.
    - Follow its teaching on salvation.
    - Follow its teaching on church organization.
    - Follow its teaching on God-centered worship.
    - Follow its teaching on daily Christian living.
- 

# 1st Century Christianity In A Postmodern World Avoids:

- Relativism – John 8:32; Rom. 1:16; 2 Tim. 4:1-5
    - Jesus is the same, yesterday today and forever
    - We will speak where the Bible speaks and remain silent where the Bible is silent.
    - See the subtle movement in the church to move away from this mentality
    - With relativism there is no sin — But Jesus — Luke 19:10
  - Materialism – Matt. 6: 25-31
  - Individualism – Matt. 16:26; - God's way is right, not man's.
  - Denominationalism – 1 Cor. 1 – Be one, Speak the same things, etc.
- 

# How A Teacher Brings This About

- Understand Your Value In This Process.
    - You've got something to say.
    - You are not just a warm body filling a position.
    - You are not just preparing lessons.
    - You are a viable part in God's plan to mold minds into being what they should become.
  - Expose The Reality Of The Postmodern Culture For What It Is To Your Students
  - Give Students A Viable Alternative – Christ!
  - Find Tools That Help Keep Them On Track
  - Personalize Your Work Through Availability
- 