

The Christian Arsenal

www.christianarsenal.com

Jesus, The Divider of the World

A message for pastors, ministers, and preachers
and everyone that considers themselves Christians.

Jesus, is the divider of the world.

by Franz Sigel Shroy

Luke 12:51

Do you think I came to bring peace on earth?
No, I tell you, but division.

Preach as if everybody's life depends on it. They do!

Many preachers preach a different Jesus than the one found in the Bible. The Jesus they preach has been sanitized, culturized, modernized, politically correcticized, folded, bent, spindled, french-fried, with a healthy helping of watered down luke-warmness.

This is NOT the Jesus of the Bible.

Jesus told people to "go and sin no more". Many of today's preachers tell people to feel good about their sin, because it is really an alternate lifestyle, or that it is not sin because the Bible was written a long time ago, and our culture has changed. Yes it has, it has become toxic to our spiritual lives!

Is "sin" what WE think it is, or is "sin" what GOD thinks it is? THIS is the big question. In fact THIS is the biggest question you will ever ask yourself. If sin can be determined by each person, why wouldn't everybody just do what they want? Charles Manson, Ted Bundy, Hitler, your aunt Nellie, YOU, everybody could determine what sin according to their own choice. This would be an amazingly messed up world, much as it is today, because many actually believe this is true.

It is NOT!

God is the determiner of what "sin" is. Those that have either been deceived or that have deceived themselves will find out what sin is, and what the penalty for sin is. Believers have had this penalty already paid for them with the death and resurrection of Jesus.

This makes Jesus of primary importance. So, if you believe in Jesus, you had better believe in the Jesus of the Bible, not the phony-balony Jesus that most preachers preach about these days!

Jesus came to divide believers from unbelievers.

Jesus divides the believers from the unbelievers.
Jesus divides the Christians from the non Christians.
Jesus divides the righteous from the unrighteous.

But doesn't the Bible teach against us dividing others? Yes.
The Bible teaches us NOT to divide the Church.

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If you want to do a good study, study the word 'peace'. Many of the lessons in the Bible can not be found by just studying the word 'divide'. A good study requires both words.

As Christians we are supposed to enjoy peace. This is why we should share the Word of Truth with others, so that they can also enjoy peace. Jesus is the King of Peace.

There is no peace without Jesus.

The Bible teaches us that we should share the news of what Jesus did on the cross, and that He arose in order that He could be the sacrifice each of us needed to be reborn spiritually.

By the very action of our obedience to God, in our sharing the message of salvation, in our living righteous lives, the world will be divided.

THIS is the very reason Jesus came. To DIVIDE!

Matthew 13:24 Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed(1) in his field.

(1)(ὁδὲ ῥῆϊά sperma *sper'-mah, seed, or offspring*)

25 But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds(2) among the wheat, and went away.

(2)(ἁέῃ ῥῆϊί zizanion *dziz-an'-ee-on, or false grains, sometimes called "darnel" which can range in its quality from the best when it can be used for chicken food, to the worst as when it is infected with the mold "ergot" which is poisonous to humans. In the early stages it can not be told apart from wheat, but when it starts to develop heads, the heads are black*)

26 When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.

27 "The owner's servants came to him and said, 'Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?'

28 "An enemy did this,' he replied. "The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?'

29 "No,' he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may root up the wheat with them.

30 Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.'"

Matthew 13:34 Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables; he did not say anything to them without using a parable.

35 So was fulfilled what was spoken through the prophet: "I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter things hidden since the creation of the world."

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36 Then he left the crowd and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field."

37 He answered, "The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man.

38 The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one,

39 and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels.

40 "As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age.

41 The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil.

42 They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

43 Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.

2 Timothy 3

¹But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. ²People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, ⁴treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God—⁵having a form of godliness but denying its power. **Have nothing to do with them.**

⁶They are the kind who worm their way into homes and gain control over weak-willed women, who are loaded down with sins and are swayed by all kinds of evil desires, ⁷always learning but never able to acknowledge the truth. ⁸Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so also these men oppose the truth—men of depraved minds, who, as far as the faith is concerned, are rejected. ⁹But they will not get very far because, as in the case of those men, their folly will be clear to everyone.

¹⁰You, however, know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, ¹¹persecutions, sufferings—what kinds of things happened to me in Antioch, Iconium and Lystra, the persecutions I endured. Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them. ¹²In fact, **everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted,** ¹³while evil men and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. ¹⁴But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, ¹⁵and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶**All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.**

Teaching People are convicted. The word convince is linked to the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit came for three reasons, to convict the world of sin, for righteousness, and judgment. Preaching is not from the Holy Spirit unless it convicts people of sin and guilt or to become more righteous, because these are the tools that will convince people to change.

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Rebuking People are corrected. Rebuke means to correct, or to put right, and it has a severe and stern tone about it. Our task is to rebuke from the pulpit and in our interactions with people. We are not to capture the spirit of the age, but to change it because God's Spirit does not change. We are the conscience of the people. If you have a Red Letter Bible, open it and find the first red letters. The first red letters are not creation, or John 3:16, of the Sermon on the Mount. The first red letters, the first words spoken by Jesus were a rebuke to John the Baptist.

Correcting People are instructed. We must preach the word, or exhort with teaching and instruction. We must teach, warn, and instruct so that everyone in our congregation can be found worthy.

Training in righteousness People are to be converted. Preach the word, do the work of an evangelist. We are the harvesters. If we preach and convict, correct, and instruct, we should also convert. With our proclamation, we must give invitation.

At the end of the age, all the people of the earth will be divided. Some to heaven, and some to hell. The job of Christians is to tell people about this, and to give them a chance to avoid hell. The job of pastors, ministers, and preachers is to encourage, teach, rebuke, correct, and train Christians, in how to reach others, how to live holy lives, and how to NOT lose their saltiness. Do you preach a salty sermon, or a sugar coated one? Do you preach a sugar coated sugar sermon? If you do, you are probably very comfortable, you probably make a good living, and you are probably very popular. You are also making your living by selling destruction to others!

Not "dividing" hardens believers and unbelievers to the Gospel!

In doing our job of ministering to others, in speaking the truth, in telling others of the gospel, we enable the Holy Spirit to work in the lives of others. If we are not doing our jobs, we seal the fate of those that we have hardened by our refusal to do our jobs. If those we preach to are hardened, it may be because we are not doing what we should, in how we preach to them.

Division

Where we don't give **invitation through application** and then believe for a verdict, we not only harden saints we harden sinners. The saved can become puffed up with knowledge, but if they do not live holy lives, they will harden, fall away, and eventually die. **We must call believers to a commitment or they will become immune to challenge.** Unbelievers must also be called to a commitment, or they will simply view the Church as another group of hypocrites that are after their money. They can see a sellout a mile away, and **if** there is no difference between believers and nonbelievers, there is no reason to become a believer.

Division

Luke 2:4 So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David.

5 He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.

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6 While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born,

7 and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

8 And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night.

9 An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

10 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.

11 Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.

12 This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

13 Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

14 **"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."**

15 When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

16 So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

Division

Every time that Jesus spoke he caused division. Even when Jesus was being crucified on the cross, He caused division. One thief went to heaven and one went to hell. If we are going to follow in Jesus' footsteps, we must understand that we are also going to cause division, **NOT in the Church, but in the world.** It is our JOB! Looking only for positive results to our preaching will mislead us into doing sermons that please only man, and not God. If we are going to look for the results of our preaching as a way to measure our effectiveness, we must look for spiritual change in people, and not just compliments. If people walk out of our sermons, and we have been faithful to the Bible's teachings, then we have done our job of convicting people either of their sin (in the case of non-believers), or to live a better life (in the case of believers).

Division

Matthew 10:11 "Whatever town or village you enter, search for some worthy person there and stay at his house until you leave.

12 As you enter the home, give it your greeting.

13 If the home is deserving, let your peace rest on it; if it is not, let your peace return to you.

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14 If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake the dust off your feet when you leave that home or town.

15 I tell you the truth, it will be more bearable for Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

16 I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves.

Division

Matthew 10:34“Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword.

35 For I have come to turn “a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law—

36 a man’s enemies will be the members of his own household.’

37 “Anyone who loves his father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me;

38 and anyone who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me.

39 Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

40 “He who receives you receives me, and he who receives me receives the one who sent me.

41 Anyone who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and anyone who receives a righteous man because he is a righteous man will receive a righteous man’s reward.

42 And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward.”

Division

Mark 9:38“Teacher,” said John, “we saw a man driving out demons in your name and we told him to stop, because he was not one of us.”

39 “Do not stop him,” Jesus said. “No one who does a miracle in my name can in the next moment say anything bad about me,

40 for whoever is not against us is for us.

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41 I tell you the truth, anyone who gives you a cup of water in my name because you belong to Christ will certainly not lose his reward.

42 “And if anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to be thrown into the sea with a large millstone tied around his neck.

43 If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life maimed than with two hands to go into hell, where the fire never goes out.

45 And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than to have two feet and be thrown into hell.

47 And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell,

48 where “their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.” □

49 Everyone will be salted with fire.

50 “Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with each other.”

Division

Mark 5:30 At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, “Who touched my clothes?”

31 “You see the people crowding against you,” his disciples answered, “and yet you can ask, ‘Who touched me?’”

32 But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it.

33 Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth.

34 He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering.”

You can not do a study on “dividing” without doing a study on “peace” because the message of dividing is taught, but the actual word isn’t always used. Even so, it is indisputable that the concept of dividing is used.

Mark 9:50 “Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with each other.”

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The Church, Christians, are the salt of the world. We are to live in peace. If we fall away, we lose our saltiness, and we are a part of the world, then we lose our peace.

If you are living as you should, division just happens. I'm teaching holiness, truth, and Christian living. I'm teaching the Bible. If you live a godly life, if you pray, if you do good works, if you read the Bible, if you truly try to please God, and you mention this to other people, you will divide automatically, because we follow Jesus, and Jesus divides. Telling people about Jesus divides. This is what we are called to do. We should judge our actions, our activities, our faith, and our very lives as to whether we cause division to the secular world. If we do, this is the only thing that can save people.

Are you a Christian, and you are not being persecuted? Really? If you believe you are a Christian, and you are not being persecuted, then I would look at my life and see why you are not a living threat to Satan and the kingdom of darkness.

If you're not fighting at the edge of battle, you are not in the fight!

2 Timothy 3:12 tells us ¹²In fact, **everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted**

Division

Luke 12:49 **"I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled!**

50 **But I have a baptism to undergo, and how distressed I am until it is completed!**

51 **Do you think I came to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but division(3).**

(3)(ἀέαιἰἄñέοιῦò diamerismos *dee-am-er-is-mos'* division, from the word

ἄέαιἰἄñἄḡæù diamerizo *dee-am-er-id'-zo* to *partition thoroughly* cloven, divide, part. As in a cloven hoof). The sheep and the goats. This word comes from the word ἰἄñἄḡæù merizo *mer-id'-zo* (literally) to *apportion*, bestow, share, or (figuratively) to *disunite*, *differ*:—deal, be difference between, distribute, divide, give part. In this sense, God will apportion each part to their place, and will reward them with what their nature deserves).

52 **From now on there will be five in one family **divided** against each other, three against two and two against three.**

53 **They will be **divided**, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."**

Division

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2 Timothy 3:16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Teaching to convict people. Unbelievers to become believers, and believers to live godly lives. **Preach with the authority of the Holy Spirit.**

Rebuking people. Rebuke to correct those in error. All Christians are "conscience buddies" of all other Christians. This is why we are told to confess our sins to each other, to pray together, to worship together. To live in peace with each other. **This means that YOU can not be changed by your congregation, but rather YOU are the vehicle of change to your congregation. I am absolutely amazed at how many wimpy sermons are preached every single Sunday.**

Correcting people. Instructing people, exhorting people to help each other, and to live godly lives. **Don't preach until you get compliments, or Amen's, preach until somebody living in sin walks out. If you have truly reached them, they will come back after the impact of what you actually said reaches them. Preach until someone cries. Preach until someone comes forward and tells you they want to be saved, and to become a Christian!**

Train in righteousness. It is our job to preach the true Gospel, or in other words, not just to share interesting stories, or clever sayings, or to try and win a popularity contest, or to try and be known as a really great public speaker, but rather to share the gospel with other people so they will be converted. We are to invite them into our Christian family of the Church.

John 14:27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

John 16:33 "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

Matthew 13:24 Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. ²⁵But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. ²⁶When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.

²⁷"The owner's servants came to him and said, 'Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?'

²⁸"An enemy did this,' he replied. "The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?'

²⁹"No,' he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may root up the wheat with them.

³⁰Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.'"

Matthew 13:34 Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables; he did not say anything to them without using a parable.

³⁵So was fulfilled what was spoken through the prophet: "I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter things hidden since the creation of the world."^z

³⁶Then he left the crowd and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field."

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³⁷ He answered, "The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man." ³⁸ The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels.

⁴⁰ "As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age.

⁴¹ The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil.

⁴² They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.

Matthew 16:47 "Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish.

⁴⁸ When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away.

⁴⁹ This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous

⁵⁰ and throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

As Christians, WE set the terms of division. Those we reach will be separated from those that are cast into hell. ONLY those we reach.

I found this great list of what true Christianity is about at
<http://www.truechristianity.com/true.htm>

1. True Christianity must line up with the Bible, the word of God.
2. True Christianity will be rejected by the vast majority. This has always been the case throughout history. In Noah's time only 8 people were saved in the whole world. In Lot's time only Lot and his family were saved in two cities. The Bible says that our time will be similar to Noah and Lot's time so it is very likely that the percentage of people saved could be similar.
3. True Christianity will be considered radical by most people. Jesus, the apostles and the prophets were considered radical. The Bible says that Christians are a peculiar people.
4. True Christianity will boldly rebuke and hate evil to such a large extent that those who preach the truth will greatly upset those who are evil. Those who preach truth will suffer persecution as a result.
5. True Christianity will be controversial and cause divisions (Luke 12: 51,52). To cause these divisions major change would have to occur in someone's life which would upset others. 6. True Christianity will testify that almost everything that almost everyone does is evil.

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focus is to proclaim or aid the proclamation of the Gospel.

8. True Christianity will not be conformed to the world by accepting or desiring materialism, money and commercialism as a good thing or a part of life.

9. True Christianity will not be able to be proved wrong, although people may appear to make it sound untrue by arguing against it by using false statements.

10. True Christianity will not be deceptive or misleading or cause people to believe a lie. It will be about honesty and truth. People today are saying misleading things such as that the church is fine. They say people are supposed to be getting healed everywhere and saying they are healed when they are not. This could be compared to a dishonest salesman who says something is great when it does not work in order to get people to accept their product or system.

11. True Christianity is positive about good things and doing God's will, but it hates evil. It is not like the mainstream that is positive about many evil things. Saying that something evil is good is only leading people to do evil. Many people say that things are fine and that many people are being saved and doing God's will when this is not true. This is only suppressing the fact that the world is almost totally evil and causing people not to repent.

12. True Christianity has the fruits of commitment to doing God's will and it will follow the historical example of those who did God's will such as Jesus, the Apostles and the Prophets. Using your time and money to do God's will is the purpose of life. The majority don't do God's will by working for the corrupt system or spending their money and time on unnecessary things. Where does this leave the mainstream Church and the millions of people who think they are Christians. Although the mainstream churches have a lot of true Bible teaching, it appears that they probably will not fit into the category of the minority of saved believers. Therefore they may be rejected and considered lukewarm if they don't repent.

Amen.

Franz Sigel Shroy

Love Christian Fellowship.