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CelebrateChange.org

March 28, 2012

THE CHURCH NEEDS TO CHANGE, PART 1

"We're concerned about the moral decay of our culture, but have not done much to reverse the moral decay in the Church. We talk about transforming culture; we should spend more energy on transforming Christians. That can come only through the cross—through suffering." (Indivisible by James Robison and Jay W. Richards, p 13)

Reading the word it seems relatively clear to me this world is becoming more anti-Christ. It also appears that this distancing from God is expected when the word lets us know, "But evil men and imposters grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived, (2 Tim 3:13). The kingdom of darkness primary agenda is to keep people detached from the Lord. We do not like the outcome of this deterioration as it promotes the spread of human conduct being approved that opposes the word of God. The church speaks about its disapproval of the changes in our social views on morality and many Christians are labeled as being narrow minded, homophobic, and insensitive to the values of others. It is difficult as a Christian to approve certain choices people select when it's believed to be ungodly. However, when the world takes a peep into the Christian society much of what we say is disapproved is often found in abundance in our midst. After being born again we have abortion, homosexuality, adultery, etc, in our congregations. It's pretty difficult to throw stones when we live in glass houses, wouldn't you say?

If the body of Christ in this country (USA) would spend more time with each of us cleaning our own house, then we could positively impact more unbelievers to accept the Jesus we present. Timothy says, "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God..." 2 Tim 2:15, and further states, "...Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity," 2 Tim 2:19. "Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God," Ephesians 5:1 & 5.

The body of Christ should not be deceived into thinking we can legislate holiness through our government. Jesus never came to change the world's government but to draw men and women to accept His blood sacrifice as their atonement and join the Kingdom of God. We can impact world change but it means the Church must change by aggressively pursuing holiness. It happens by each of us being changed by the power of His Spirit working in and on us.

Residing in Fort Worth, TX, Dr. Vanessa Dantzer Ussery is the Emeritus Pastor of Home Assembly Church in Los Angeles and currently serves as its Chief Executive Officer. She is also the founder of "Celebrate Change Ministries" and the author of "My Be Attitude: Who Be You?", which is available online in softcover or eBook at MyBeAttitude.org, Xulon Press, Amazon and Barnes & Noble. Dr. Ussery is available for national speaking engagements, empowerment seminars, and lectures.

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