

Commentary: Arising in America- A Multi-Religion, Pseudo-Christian Movement

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By Bruce DeLay
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As an American, I can stand shoulder to shoulder with other Patriotic folks, regardless of their race, religious creed or background and work to rescue our Nation. I have a track record of doing that very thing. But as a Christian, I cannot sit silently, much less actively participate, when the Christian Faith is being misrepresented and even re-defined before my very eyes. **We are currently watching a Multi-Religion Pseudo Christian Movement arise rapidly in America.**

And since my Christianity has priority over my American Patriotism, I have to draw the line. I love my Country, but I owe far more to Jesus Christ, my Lord.

Let me be clear: I have met Glenn Beck a couple of times, and I like him. What's not to like? He's sincere, creative, funny, and shares many of my specific views regarding the problems in our Nation. I admire his efforts in many areas: Business, Media, Internet, Investigative Reporting, Historic Americana, and so on. He gets things done. But I do wish he would steer clear of Spiritual matters. He is misrepresenting Christianity terribly. And many spiritually-malnourished Christians, who have been starved for Biblical Truth in their own Churches, are falling for it.

I predict that within a year we will have a whole new type of Mega-Church in America. The problem is: It will not actually be Christian (therefore neither Church), although it will present itself on the surface as Christian.

I'm not quibbling over non-essential doctrine here, this is serious. In some ways it will re-define Christianity in the minds of well-meaning people. It will be more "Giga-Church" than merely Mega-Church. Mega-Church is so last millennium, isn't it? It will make the Mega-Churches of yesterday look like dinosaurs.

Now I'm sure that Glenn believes he is doing the right thing. He already has his Associate Pastors and Helps Ministry (Pat and Stu) in place. He has a whole new brand of "Praise and Worship" Music, complete with a large supply of up and coming artists. And no one throws a big Event like Glenn, either. He gets the big-named speakers in to Teach, Evangelize, and Prophecy. Glenn's wife even held a Women's Conference in concert with the Restoring Love Event, just like every good Mega-Church Pastor's wife does these days. In truth, Glenn is beating the modern American Mega-Church at their own methodology game. He seems to have already taken the title of "America's Pastor" from Rick Warren. Yet this indicates to me that American Christianity is in even greater danger than when Rick Warren was in the national limelight. Wow - that's saying a lot.

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Just remember: The Rolling Stones can fill a Stadium. Oprah can build a successful TV network. Being successful in these ways does not automatically equate to Biblical Christian faithfulness.

Bigger isn't always better.

One of the first red flags I noticed was Glenn's misrepresentation of the historic Black Robed Regiment a couple of years ago. This was also about the same time he began to lean more toward Spirituality in his message. For someone who wants to always get History right, Glenn was totally off base on this one. At a national Rally in Washington DC, he introduced "The Black Robed Regiment", including Catholic, Jewish, Mormon, and yes, Islamic clergy. The true Black Robed Regiment following the Great Awakening were Christian, Protestant preachers, period. And, oh yes, they were Male, also. It's not politically correct, but it certainly is historically accurate. Mormonism wasn't even invented until almost the mid 1800s. There were a total of zero Mormons alive during America's War for Independence.

You will notice that Glenn talks a lot about God. Many say: "That's nice". He seldom talks about Jesus, however - and when he does, he has made it clear that he's not referring to the Jesus of the New Testament. He lumps Jesus Christ in with figures like Gandhi and Mother Theresa. To a Bible-believing Christian, Jesus is Emmanuel, God with us in the flesh. He is the only begotten Son who died on a Cross for our sins and who Raised from the dead. Without His blood, men are doomed to eternal hell.

Jesus is the only Name under heaven by which men must be saved. He is the Way, the Truth, the Life, and no man comes to the Father - unless they come through Jesus.

Yet, our pulpits stopped preaching the real Jesus long ago. Now good folks are easily deceived. Religious humanism is just as wrong as Secular Humanism. Man cannot save himself. To suggest that he can - is to marginalize the Cross and trample the blood of Christ under foot.

You will also notice that Glenn emphasizes Good Works. It makes people feel good to do good works, and it makes the recipients of good works feel mighty thankful, even indebted to those who did the good works for them. We all know that God wants us to help our fellow man, but any Christian should be able to recognize a Works-oriented theology when he sees one. Orthodox, Biblical Christian teaching is clear: our good works are like filthy rags. There is none righteous, no not one. It does not make us good people or even better people if we do good works. Our only goodness is in Christ. Any Good Works we do - is only after we've been Born Again. Our Good Works are a result of our Salvation, not something that we use to earn Salvation. Only Jesus' blood could buy our forgiveness.

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I call all Christian leaders involved with Glenn Beck into account on this Biblical truth. Please get Glenn's attention, lead him to Christ, and turn this Movement from the direction it is headed.

Unfortunately, some Christian leaders are seduced by microphones, cameras, invitations to speak at prestigious events, and large crowds. Those things can add up to: money and fame. But, at what price?

America needs a Savior, alright. But will we find Salvation in our Patriotism? Will we find Salvation in any national Movement for Goodness? No. These things are quickly becoming subtle substitutes for Jesus Christ and His true Church. And the well financed media-message is drowning out the real Gospel which declares: Jesus is the Only way.

How far down must America go before she humbles herself and cries out for mercy through Jesus Christ? If we prop America up with patriotic pseudo-saviors, then God will allow more judgment to be poured out. Let's simply turn back to Almighty God through His Only Son: Jesus Christ. Not through Moses, not through Mohammed, not through Mary, not through Joseph Smith, and not even through George Washington. Until then, we are just going through the religious motions and prolonging the inevitable judgment we face due to our Sin. (I actually think George Washington would be offended by his image being immortalized on Mount Rushmore). Patriotic idolatry? I submit that the apostles of the New Testament, and the American Founders would see it that way. Abe Lincoln would blush in shame if he saw himself at the Lincoln Memorial.

I met Glenn Beck not long after he first got involved with Mormonism. I prayed for him, and I figured he would discover the problems with the Mormon religion in due time, ultimately exposing it – as he does with other corrupt institutions. But he has gone deeper into this religion, instead. I guess it's hard to bite the hand that feeds you. However, I do know that it is possible to strongly promote God and Country without going into spiritual La-La Land in the process. Many organizations like the John Birch Society were doing it before it was cool.

But this Multi Religion Pseudo-Christian Movement is taking on a life of its own. If it continues *as is*, I predict it will do far more harm to Christianity in the end, than any good it is currently doing for our American society. It has the potential of leading many people astray.

To recap: This Multi-Religion Movement, passing itself off as a Patriotic Christian thing, is poised to become franchised into Mega-Churches across America and even abroad (Global Tea Party). This Movement does not honor Jesus Christ for who He truly is. It is Works based, rather than Grace. It stands to overtake and even absorb Mega-Churches which have been seeking direction for a while now. While it may mention Scripture at times, it is not Bible-based.

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While Christians may agree politically, we must not prioritize politics over Jesus. The anemic state of the America Church has given way to such Movements. The Bible must be taught and preached in our Churches again.

My prayer is that this Movement would either be turned back toward a Grassroots political Movement; or that Jesus Christ would reveal Himself to Glenn and redeem the whole thing. I urge Christian Leaders to tell the Church the truth, and not be afraid of being a Political party-pooper. Mark my words: there is danger here, and we must acknowledge it for what it truly is. Jesus is the only Answer for America.

– *Bruce DeLay*