

## WHY DON'T THEY JUST ADMIT IT?

Those caught up the change movement have already or are in the process of abandoning the faith of Christ revealed in the Bible (I Tim. 4:1). They despise the church of Christ. They no longer believe the principles of the faith; they no longer worship according to the Biblical instruction; they no longer want to identify themselves as members of the church of Christ. Many of them have repudiated, the idea of restoring the ancient faith and practice of Christianity found in Scripture.

Why then are these champions of change so determined to stay in our midst? Why do they protest so loudly when they are charged with departing from the faith? Why will they not just admit that they have abandoned their former relationship with the churches of Christ?

\* Perhaps it is a matter of pride. Sinful man hates to admit he is wrong or has been wrong?

\* It may be financial. It is often the case that members of congregations that been captured by agents of change are unaware of what is happening. If they understood that their young preacher has repudiated the faith, they would call for his resignation or leave the congregation or withhold their contributions. To protect their financial base they pretend they are faithful preachers of the word, knowing full-well they are not. To do otherwise would wreck their scheme by cutting off the flow of income (II Pet. 2:15).

\* They have a circle of influence among some churches and schools who while willing to tolerate a large degree of error and foolishness, would back away if a man declared he was no longer a part of the church of Christ. If such occurred the promoter of change would suddenly find himself with a shrunken circle of influence and fewer places to speak and influence brethren to embrace the doctrine of change.

\* Some will thus pretend because of family connections or friends. They know their parents, other close relatives and friends would be shocked, hurt or even alienated if they discovered the preacher had renounced the church of Christ. Hence to keep such ties intact, they will continue the charade of being faithful members of a church they no longer believe in.

\* Some, having already rejected the church in their hearts, are waiting to be sure the majority are going their way before they abandon the ship. They don't want to make a rash move and find themselves on a limb that is going to be sawed off.

It is obvious to those familiar with Scripture that none of these possibilities is scriptural or honorable. An honest soul would just admit, I no longer believe as churches of Christ believe, I am leaving for those who share my changed faith. But only *honest* souls would do this and accept the consequences. JHW