

Report #191
By H. Hoehn
Aug. 3, 1966
Reprinted Winter 2004.

Narrow Path Publishers
17872 North Hwy 21
PO Box 326
Curlew, WA. 99118-0326

When the Actions, Teachings, or Policies of the Church or it's Leaders are called into Question – some one piously intones: “Do not CRITICIZE!” or “Do not CONDEMN!”

No one can say: “Do not CRITICIZE!” without CRITICIZING. They are CRITICAL of your CRITICISM. They are doing what they avow should not be done: They are CRITICIZING YOU! You were Critical of A. You felt that A should CHANGE his ways, he should be Converted to the Truth. B attacks your Criticism of A – thus DEFENDING A and the Actions of A. B therefore takes the Position that A does not need to Repent, A does not need to Change, A does not need to be Converted. But YOU are to be Converted, YOU are to CHANGE YOUR THINKING, YOU are to be Blind, Deaf, and Dumb as to what you See & Know. Thus the Change, if any, must come about in YOU. Or else you are out of Court. You are out of your place, A is in his place. If you are not Silenced by this Attack then you are in Danger of being put out. A remains IN – in good and regular standing. What if more, many more A's come IN to the Church – while your Kind are put OUT. By this sort of Program, when will Evil ever come to an End? Or who will bring it to an End? Then to add Insult to Injury you are Invariably told: “Sr. White said so!”

IN OTHER WORDS:

What has happened unto you is because of the Testimonies of Jesus. Which call you to SILENCE! See no Evil, Hear no Evil, Do no Evil. I wonder if Moses did that at the Golden Calf Worship, or Phinehas, or Elijah. Each and every one of whom went FAR BEYOND mere WORDS or CRITICISM! But they JUDGED! And they SLEW the Wicked IN the Church.

I notice there were 3 men who said: “DO NOT CRITICIZE!” Their names were Korah, Dathan, and Abiram. They said: “The Congregation is Holy EVERY ONE OF THEM!” Therefore, of course they needed only Praise NOT CRITICISM! And you, Moses with all your “JUDGING”. “Ye take too much upon you, seeing the Congregation is HOLY EVERY ONE OF THEM!” So there. God had to speak to them in a Language that they could Understand-DEATH! Because instead of AGREEING with the CRITICISM OF MOSES they turned around and CRITICIZED HIS CRITICISM!

THE MEMBERS of the Congregation liked KD&A much more than Moses. Even after the signal manifestation of God's Wrath in the ground opening up and swallowing KD&A alive into the Pit. Early the next Morning they came clamoring to the Tents of Moses and Aaron declaring more emphatically that “Ye have killed the people of the Lord!” A plague broke out and took 14,000 of them.

In all this, one thing should be Clear: (1) KD&A CRITICIZED MOSES! And, equally clear: (2) MOSES CRITICIZED KD&A!

Conversely if Sr. White said NOT to Criticize by those very words SHE WAS CRITICIZING! She was CRITICIZING the CRITICS! If she meant that NO ONE SHOULD EVER CRITICIZE ANYTHING AT ANY TIME why did she CRITICIZE? Why did she not practice what she Preaches? Or why do not the General Conference men CEASE and DESIST from CRITICIZING? Why do they not practice what they Preach? Why do they hurl such Railing Accusations at the Critics? Why do they not cease CRITICIZING? Or is this only a Religion for some one else to Practice? Not for them? They are Immune from the LAW. They are ABOVE LAW?

It is Time to dismantle that Religion, see where they obtained it, see whether there really ARE such Statements in the Testimonies as they avow are there and see if these Statements (if indeed they can be found) are Universal in Scope & Application. Do they mean that NO ONE SHOULD EVER CRITICIZE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES WHATSOEVER? That the very act of CRITICIZING is WORSE than the SIN you were CRITICAL OF! Could that be so? (SDA MINISTRY. Oct. 1966. 0. 41).

Or – were those Statements SELECTIVE? Did they only apply to certain PEOPLE at a certain TIME under certain CIRCUMSTANCES, that THOSE people, at THAT Time, on that certain ISSUE SHOULD NOT CRITICIZE! Could THAT be the MEANING of the Term? What a difference THAT would make, if this Sword-Point were only pointed ONE-WAY! To the DOERS & SUPPORTERS of an Evil Work, that THEY are the ones that SHOULD NOT CRITICIZE! How many need to Know the Answer to this Question! A Question that can determine YOUR Eternal Destiny!

CONDEMN!

“...”holy water”...the sign of the cross... the images of Jesus and the Virgin Mary...I had never witnessed anything of the kind except in the heathen Chinese Joss houses, and this seemed to me but a little above the Pagan Worship ...The people were enveloped in the blackest clouds of error & superstition, & are kept thus by their Teachers...a ROUND OF CEREMONIES as verily as did the CORRUPTED RELIGION OF THE JEWS, which Christ in his day so strongly CONDEMNED.” A2:47-8.

CONDEMN!

“Great light has been shining upon the CHURCH and they are CONDEMNED by the Light because they refuse to walk in it.” A2:71.

“Those who have been growing in HARMONY with the World in CUSTOMS, in practices, in thoughts, are not growing in Grace...They should blame themselves, and humbly confess before God, and CONDEMN themselves...This Message concerns ALL OUR CHURCHES!” A2:143-4. R&H. June 7, 1887.

WEBSTER defines CRITICIZE (analyze-examine in detail) means-to "EXAMINE & JUDGE." WEBSTER defines CONDEMN means-to "ADJUDGE (condemn-pass judgment-confirm)."

Much could be said about the Fine-Points of either "CRITICIZING" or, "CONDEMNING." When does to "EXHORT with all long-suffering & Doctrine"-when does that leave off & become "CRITICIZING?" And when does "CRITICIZE" leave off and become "CONDEMNING?" Or how far will "NOT TO" be Critical go to putting a Stop to all "CRYING ALOUD AND SPARING NOT" and thus cancel out any chance for anyone to receive the SEAL OF THE LIVING GOD?

"THE PLAIN STRAIGHT TESTIMONY must live in the Church, or the CURSE OF GOD will rest upon His people as surely as it did upon Ancient Israel because of their Sins." T3:269.

"If the LEADERS of the Church neglect to diligently search out the Sins...they become RESPONSIBLE for these Sins." (Same.)

"MARK THIS POINT WITH CARE: Those who receive the pure Mark of TRUTH, wrought in them by the Power of the Holy Ghost, represented by a Mark by the man in linen, are those that "SIGH & THAT CRY for ALL the Abominations that be done" IN THE CHURCH...But the GENERAL SLAUGHTER of ALL those who do not thus see...(shall) BEGIN at My Sanctuary." "THE LAODICEAN CHURCH." T3:267. A2:49. Ezek. 9:1-7.

It is the PRIMARY DUTY of a Minister to point out Sin. Because without the CONFESSION of Sin, there is no Forgiveness. This is the A-B-C of the Sanctuary Service. To merely SILENCE every voice that Reproves the Sinner, SILENCE means that Sin & Sinners shall INCREASE and GROW-wax STRONG and take over. If every one is to "HUSH!" and be STRUCK DUMB in the face of Evil, surely NO ONE will have any Sins to CONFESS and the function of a Minister means to MINISTER TO SIN! Which was what KD&A did. They were Church-Leaders. They employed the latest in PSYCHOLOGY. They could win Friends and they could influence people. In fact, the entire Congregation was on their Side. They were not near as good as they thought they were. The man they Hated was the man that saved their lives. He CRITICIZED and he CONDEMNED them! Yet he was a Friend of God. You may HATE this Truth; you may IGNORE this Truth yet it remains TRUTH. That there is SIN IN THE CAMP and it is the DUTY of some-to Point it out and for others NOT TO CRITICIZE!

.....

Malachi 2:17 Ye have wearied the Lord with your words. Yet ye say, Wherein have we wearied him? When ye say, Everyone that doeth evil is good in the sight of the Lord, and he delighteth in them; or, Where is the God of judgment?

Malachi 3:5, 6a. And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the Lord of hosts. For I AM the Lord, I change not;...

THE FRIEND OF GOD.

"The FRIEND of GOD." Such men APPROVE that which God APPROVES & CONDEMN that which God CONDEMNS." T4:615.

"The popular Sins & Indulgences of our day SHOULD BE CONDEMNED." T4:396.

TWO EXAMPLES

To High-Light what we have been saying so far, we have two EXAMPLES:

(1) "There were two other FALSE Prophets, Ahab & Zedekiah, who prophesied LIES in the name of the Lord. These men Professed to be HOLY Teachers; but their lives were CORRUPT, and they were Slaves to the pleasures of Sin. The Prophet of God had CONDEMNED the evil course of these men." T4:173.

Here we see that the Prophet of God who SAW the SINS & the EVIL COURSE of these men CONDEMNED them. This was a Prophet of God JEREMIAH. Now We will turn & see another Kind of CONDEMNING. (2) "Those who seek to CLOAK SIN & make it appear LESS AGGRAVATING to the MIND of the Offender are doing the Work of the FALSE PROPHETS...The FALSE Prophet CONDEMNED Jeremiah for afflicting the people with his severe denunciations; and he sought to REASSURE THEM by promising them PROSPERITY." T4:185.

Here we have two clear-cut Examples of CONDEMNING. The FALSE PROPHET CONDEMNED and the TRUE PROPHET CONDEMNED! Should there have been NO CONDEMNATION on the part of either one or should a man of God CONDEMN? And should the ones in Error be the ones to HOLD THEIR PEACE? And is that the ONLY Time & are they the ONLY ones to whom Sr. White said that THEY (the ones on the WRONG SIDE!) were the ones, the ONLY ones, that should neither CONDEMN nor CRITICIZE nor JUDGE, not do ANYTHING but hold their Peace? Is this the True Understanding of this Subject? And should we Study it further with this Object in View?

"...but this Message doesn't in every particular coincide with the ideas of all the LEADING MEN, & some CRITICIZE the MESSAGE & the MESSENGERS. THEY dare even to Reject the Words of Reproof sent to THEM from God through His Holy Spirit." "...To ACCUSE & CRITICIZE those whom God is using is to ACCUSE & CRITICIZE the Lord WHO HAS SENT THEM." TM 465-6.

Matthew 20:18. Behold, we go up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man shall be betrayed unto the chief priests and into the scribes, and they shall condemn him to death.

Luke 11: 32. The men of Nineve shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas is here.

Psalms 109:31. For he shall stand at the right hand of the poor, to save him from those that condemn his soul.

Proverbs 12:2. A good man obtaineth favour of the Lord: but a man of wicked devices will he condemn.