

THE REMOVAL OF ANCIENT LANDMARKS

In various places throughout the world one will find ancient landmarks still standing even after being erected long ago. Many ancient landmarks were built to establish boundaries, without which confusion would have resulted. Unfortunately, many of those ancient landmarks have been removed or destroyed, and now there's nothing left to remind us of their past existence.

And so it is spiritually. God, through His Word, has established some landmarks so as to keep His people within the parameters of His holy and Divine will. Unfortunately, man, down through the ages, has sought to remove and destroy them, resulting in mass confusion and destruction! What are some of those ancient landmarks, you ask?

First, God has set up a landmark for salvation. Tragically, man has sought to alter, even remove, that landmark altogether. Man says, "Faith alone saves!" or, "Man does not have a choice in the matter because of predestination." Others claim that baptism is not necessary for salvation, while others profess that salvation is based solely on one's feelings. But God has ONE plan for saving man, and any alteration to that plan will result in eternal destruction (**cf. John 14:6; Acts 2:38; 4:12; Acts 10:34-35; Eph. 4:4-5**).

Second, God has set up a landmark for the church; in particular, the distinctiveness of His church. Again, man has sought to alter it. They say things like, "One church is as good as another," or "All religions are merely different parts of the one body." Such statements remove the church's distinctiveness. What saith the Scriptures (**cf. Mat. 7:21-23; 16:18; Eph. 4:4; Col. 2:18; 1 Cor. 1:10; 3:1ff**)?

Third, God has set up a landmark for worship. Worship is undergoing constant change within many religious circles today. But God, through His Word, has established His parameters for

worship, and such boundaries must never be altered or crossed (**cf. John 4:24; Acts 2:42; 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:1-2**).

We must keep in mind that the ancient landmarks that God has erected must never be removed! The wise man summed it up best when he wrote, "Do not remove the ancient landmark which your fathers have set" (**Pro. 22:28**).

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