

There is none good but God

Last month at first Sunday service one of the pastors shared a testimony about an incident where he responded to a question from another saying "I'm good." Dr. Hunt heard the words and brought correction. The pastor then posed a question to the assembly at large asking whether he was wrong for his words. He went on to explain that God judges the intent of one's heart and the words were not spoken with ill intent.

The Lord has shown us that the proclamation, "I'm good" is tantamount to proclaiming a person to be God. When addressed as "Good master," Jesus said "Why callest thou me good? There is none good but God." (Mark 1:18). Dr. Hunt showed some time ago that the enemy is attempting to defeat man by encouraging him to proclaim himself to be good (and therefore has no need for God). Whether a person does so ignorantly or with knowledge does not matter to the enemy. Similar to what the Lord has shown us regarding the black crab syndrome, we must watch what we say regardless of our stated intent. The key is **we do not know the intent of our heart unless the Lord reveals it to us.**

Recall that when God created man He gave him the power to name (Genesis 2:18). This power was not limited to naming, for example, animals that fly as "birds," but also included the ability to name outcomes and results (similar to his heavenly father). God intended Adam to grow and develop in this role and to exercise dominion over the entire Earth. The enemy, desiring to be as God, convinced Adam that despite God's word, Adam had grown so much that the power to name that God had given him could be used to contradict God therefore proving Adam to be equal to God. Because of this, the Lord has continuously shown that we must watch what we say lest the enemy goad us to contradict what the Lord has shown us. In short, we must speak in our heavenly language (which is not limited to speaking in tongues, but more broadly means we must always be directed by the Lord in what proceeds out of our mouth.)

When the Lord speaks and shows His will, it is important for us to hear the word and allow the Lord to conform our behavior and communication to the word. For instance, the Lord has shown us that we must always recognize Jesus as the Christ. The enemy has attempted to render the church ineffectual by separating the Christ from Jesus. Therefore, when we pray, we pray in "Jesus Christ's name". We could pray in "Jesus' name" like many others but God has shown this to be unwise. We must demonstrate the same watchfulness in using others words the Lord has shown us to refrain from such as "intimacy" to mean a close personal relationship and stating that we engage in "sex" instead of "love making."

So, in answer to the question that the pastor raised was it wrong for him to answer "I'm good?"

Yes, because the Lord, by Dr. Hunt, has shown us a more perfect way.

