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**The Danger of CUSTOMIZED RELIGION.**

Zechariah 5

Those who weaken or warp God’s Word, commit social violence, and replace God with other affections will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

*The visions of the Flying Scroll and the Three Women and The Winged Measuring Basket!* When the Word of God is customized to justify sin (social violence), the Worship of God is always put at risk of being adulterated.

*Two dramatic changes must be in place or be taking place in our lives…*

1. The reality of our salvation is the centrality of God’s word which is being written on our hearts by the Holy Spirit (5:1-4).

* There is no claiming ignorance to God’s ways with those who have God’s words.
* Whenever or wherever the Word of God is tampered with to suit human depravity, all relationships are placed in jeopardy. Social violence will always bring the discipline of the Lord.
* If the Written Word interferes with your vision of the Living Word, you have your sights set on a different Living Word. The Word of God is Jesus in written form (John 1:1).

1. The reality of our salvation is the centrality of our Worship of God (5:5-11).

* Unless the Word of God is central, the ways of the world will be, and your relationship with God is placed at grave risk.
* The replacement of God by anything in our lives is the sin of anti-worship.
* “Shinar” is the symbol of independent human progress—the place of the “progressives.”
* What you have allowed yourself to be exiled to, you must be exiled from. Idolatry always attracts more sin. What’s going on in “Babylon” needs to stay in “Babylon.”

Diagnostics…

* Is your “heart” a garden wherein the Holy Spirit is sewing the Word of God so that a completely reordered new life is springing forth from the inside out?
* Do you keep defaulting to a customized version of the religious menu or are you committed to God’s truth as delivered?
* Is Christ the centre and God your goal?
* Are your activities taking you toward Jesus or away from him?
* Is church entertainment for you or are you moved toward becoming a living sacrifice?
* Are you living in such a way that the spiritually curious are brought into the worshipful presence of God just by being around you?