

Bible Based Ministries

Postbox and Inbox

*A sample of correspondence received
March 2016*

Our purpose in publishing a sampling of the correspondence we have received, in the words of Arthur W. Pink:

“...the time has again arrived for us to indicate to our loyal supporters before the Throne of Grace something of the manner and extent to which the Hearer of prayer has been pleased to grant their requests.”

“Our object in compiling this...feature is to evoke praise and thanksgiving on the part of those who are most deeply interested in this work, by quoting excerpts from some of the letters at hand telling of help and blessing received, under God...”

“Our purpose...is to evoke praise unto the Lord, that in this cloudy and dark day He is still ministering to His own, giving seed to the Sower, and then blessing the same unto the eater. We know not why the mighty God should condescend to use one so feeble and unworthy; sufficient for us that He is pleased to do so. Our longing is to be used more widely, in sending ‘portions’ to a large number of Christ’s scattered and hungry sheep. Will you not pray more definitely, dear reader, that *this* may be so; and that God will graciously fit and furnish the writer.”

Your article about loneliness [*The Lonely Christian*] was great and obviously has struck a chord with many others.

England

We are always thankful to the Lord for even “distance” fellowship with the salt of the earth. Yesterday I distributed one of your papers, *The Lonely Christian* to our Studies in the Scriptures group. It has already received responses of appreciation for its helpful content. Our group has some people attending that know exactly what loneliness and isolation is for the sake of the Lord Jesus. We thank the Lord for your work and expect to make more use of your material as it is needed. I directed our people to visit your site and familiarise themselves with the testimony. Warm regards in Christ.

Australia

Thank you so much for the article *The Lonely Christian*. Apart from my Bible, it is the single most encouraging thing I have read in quite some time. Long periods of spiritual loneliness tends to make one question oneself (as I have often done), and say, “What is wrong with me?” Your article put things in perspective. How often I have fallen back upon Ps.73:25! By being enabled to write that article, you have obeyed God’s directive to His preachers to “Comfort ye, comfort ye my people.” So very refreshing from the usual fare described in Ezek.13:22! Thanks again.

Country unknown (by email)

Blessings to you and thanks for your wonderful God-given ministry. I live in New South Wales, Australia, and am interested in purchasing your CDs on the book of Revelation...

Australia

I wish to encourage you in the work you are doing, the gospel you are preaching and the light and truth you are emanating. Things are obviously even worse than I thought.

Scotland

... your work... is so important in this day and age. I do value the materials sent out.... It is a time not just of small things in Britain, but a time almost devoid of anything at all.... What passes for church has by and large bent over backwards to blend in with general life and declare good that which is evil. There is the odd church here and there where the word is preached totally uncompromised. For those of us with email it is easy to keep in touch and visit such a church from time to time if in the area. I feel for the elderly folk without such means of contact or those who can't afford it.... there are still those out there who have not bowed the knee to foreign gods.

May the Lord bless you, keep you and make his face shine upon you, now and forever.

England

We have just read your biography [available on the Bible Based Ministries website]. Amazingly, it is much like ours, especially —, who was raised Roman Catholic, then we went into the Pentecostal church, and by His grace we studied the Scriptures KJV, and found so many errors in their “teachings.” As we were very involved in this movement, it caused quite a stir when we left. We were “blaspheming the Holy Spirit”, etc.

But through many dangers, toils and snares, the Lord has brought us through. We are now well in our 70s and have been married for 52 years. We try to “fight the good fight” on our little blog-spot, and your material is such a blessing and encouragement. Keep up the good work and fight dear Shaun!

Australia

I only just discovered your ministry yesterday when I went back to some old articles on why Christians should not be celebrating Christmas. As you are likely aware, this is quite a sticky issue in many families, ours included. My direct family is fine with it, but our extended family just thinks we're looney!... I look forward to reading through your articles and deepening my knowledge, and hopefully finding new materials to spread to help others come to a deeper understanding of the truths of God's Word.

Country unknown (by email)

There are very, very few today who publish the truth about the Roman organization. Throughout history... the Roman organization has been, and still is, one of the most bloodthirsty organizations on earth. Their effort has been to conquer ALL the world with whatever means needed to accomplish its purpose of conquest. Today the Muslims [are] overtly killing and destroying in order to try and conquer the world, as they have tried in centuries past. I point this out to expose the lies published by both the Roman organization and the Muslims in each of their false claims to be a “religious” organization; but instead both organizations are nothing but “POLITICAL”.

Shaun Willcock is one of the very, very few today who do not hesitate to set forth the truth of the worldly situations, and to proclaim the truth, as it is in Christ Jesus. May he be blessed to continue to publish a “thus saith the LORD” in all facets. AMEN!!!

United States

Many months ago I read your *the Madness of Multiculturalism*. I agreed – reluctantly – all my educators (to whom I owe much) steeped me in Tolerance as an expression of virtue and strength. I trained and forced myself to be “Non-Judgmental” in dealing with my fellow men. With effort I began to appreciate (had not yet learned how to celebrate!) “Cultural Diversity”.... I accepted as a pleasant variety the weird and wonderful ways of fellow men and women. “Don’t meddle! Don’t judge”, we were taught.

I am now almost embarrassed to admit that I was in my fifties when I learned that Kuru is transmitted by cannibals; what FMG is and why it is done; and so on. An endless list of the depravity of men and women. It took me yet longer to come to the logical judgment that such “Cultural Expressions” are abhorrent and should not be suffered by the civilised. Many, like me, kept wishing that the illusion of Cultural Equality still held true.

So although I could not escape the logical conclusions of *The Madness of Multiculturalism*, I kept some hope that the fantasy would not evaporate.

A few months later Europe (and the US and Canada) suffered again and again and again. Now no-one is trusted. We fear one another. My ancestors warred with others. Now we war with ourselves.

Sadly The Madness of Multiculturalism has arrived at its logical conclusion a lot sooner than expected – within weeks rather than years. Even sadder, I write as a human, I think it is already too late.

I would the Lord bless your work and your family.

England

I am presently half way through [*Jesuit Hollywood*!] We always say that “Rome is behind EVERY rotten thing in the world!” Indeed, Satan’s Seat.

All the churches here are “Futurist” (still waiting for Antichrist!), even the so-called Reformed ones. Others are Arminian, pre-trib, etc. (Jesuit inspired). Sad!

Remembering you and family in prayer.

Australia

Just received the email below from – – , my local Church of Scotland minister, to whom I sent one of your Christmas/Easter books. I send it for your interest.... I wondered if you had any comment to make on his comeback. I am sure you have heard it all before.

Scotland

(Here is the email)

Thank you for sending me a copy of *The Pagan Festivals of Christmas and Easter*, which I have read attentively. The following comments seem called-for.

1. I certainly celebrate Christmas and Easter, for I have been directly responsible for planning and leading what I have called “Christmas services” and “Easter services”.

2. Three (and only three) features of these services gave them their particular character: (1) the Scripture readings, which at Christmas included the Gospel accounts of our Lord’s birth and infancy, and at Easter included the Gospel accounts of the events preceding, during, and following our Lord’s death; (2) the hymns sung, which typically referred to the events concerned and what they meant for us; (3) what I said during these services, which typically worked from the Scripture readings.

3. Since all Christian sermons ought to start from God's Word, it is entirely proper to preach from whatever happens to be read from Scripture during the service concerned.
4. And since the more closely a hymn adheres to Scripture the better it is, it is entirely proper that a hymn which happens to be sung during a Church service reflect whatever happens to be read from Scripture during that service. (There is, of course, a tradition which maintains that Christian worship ought not to include hymnody, but Mr. Willcock does not assert this in this book.)
5. I conclude that it is primarily the Scripture readings which make one of my services a "Christmas service" or an "Easter service".
6. So by asserting that Christians ought not to celebrate Christmas and Easter, *Mr. Willcock must imply that the Gospel accounts of our Lord's birth and infancy ought not to be read in Church at Christmas, and that the Gospel accounts of the events preceding, during, and following our Lord's death ought not to be read in Church at Easter.*
7. But I find nothing in Scripture which says this - and nor does Mr. Willcock or he'd surely quote it in his book.
8. That need not make Mr. Willcock mistaken, for another Scriptural principle always applies: that we ought not to do what God merely permits if it would be a stumbling-block to others. So if I choose passages of Scripture which discourage others from believing in Jesus Christ, I ought to choose other passages. Mr. Willcock does not use this argument, however. Only in Mr. Blanton's Foreword is it suggested, and only Mr. Blanton's disquiet at Protestants' celebrating Christmas and Easter suggests that their doing so might put others off believing in Jesus Christ. (In fact it didn't put Mr. Blanton off.)
9. So I'm bemused that Mr. Willcock writes as he does. Yes, there are Christian groups which teach with no Scriptural support that certain passages of Scripture ought to be read at certain times of year. That is to teach the traditions of men as if they were the commands of God, which is a very serious error. But Mr. Willcock teaches with as little Scriptural support that certain passages of Scripture ought not to be read at certain times of year, which is the same error. And it seems to me intrinsically much worse to silence some part of God's Word than to require that it be heard. So Mr. Willcock's book brings to my mind our Lord's saying about motes and beams.
10. Mr. Willcock also seems not to have assessed his own position by his own criteria. He rightly warns against false religion and Satanic counterfeit; but is it the Holy Spirit who wants me not to read the accounts of our Lord's Incarnation, Death and Resurrection at the very times when my people are most ready to hear about them? To ask the question is to know the answer.
11. Mr. Willcock asserts that in leading Christmas services I "celebrate the birth of the sun-god of ancient Babylon" (page 30). Never in any service for which I have been responsible have I said or done anything which could reasonably be understood to be the worship of a sun-god. Even Mr. Willcock may recognize that this is likely to be the case: 'No Christian would say "it's December; time to celebrate the birth of the sun-god".'(p60) But although I do not intend to worship a sun-god, and neither say nor do anything directed to a sun-god, and do not even mention a sun-god, and hadn't so much as thought of a sun-god until he put it into my mind, he still asserts "the festival of the birth of the sun-god, by any other name, is still the same festival - even if the name of Christ has been attached to it". One might as well assert that since William Webb Ellis was playing football when he picked up the ball and ran with it, rugby footballers are still playing soccer. Reasoning which supports a conclusion so divorced from reality is patently flawed in logic or in premise.
12. It seems to me that Mr. Willcock draws the wrong conclusion from his valid perception that myths are generally "based on a core of truth that [has] been grossly distorted" (p40). I'm sure that he would agree that such a core of truth ought to be affirmed, not discarded. Where we disagree is on whether or not it is ever lawful for Christians to employ cultic acts which have expressed that core of truth. He rejects them in the tradition of Calvin. I, following

Luther, hold that acts which are not themselves forbidden may be used so long as they are spiritually helpful to those concerned. Which view we adopt depends upon whether we think the core of truth more important, or the gross distortion - the work of the Holy Spirit, or the work of the devil.

I have just written that nothing I have done in Church could give the impression that I have anything to do with a sun-god, but it comes to me that this is not quite the case. For I have occasionally used a Celtic cross, for example to separate readings on an order of service, and the Celtic cross combines the cross with the symbol for the sun, as is well known. But when I use it, am I really worshipping the sun? Or am I affirming that in Jesus Christ we really receive what our sun-worshipping forebears hoped for? The truth is that I don't usually think about it. I just select "Wingdings" font and type "W". There are many more important things to worry about.

(Our reply to the above)

Thank you for sending me the email from -- . People will always raise objections, because Christmas is so important to them, but unless they can biblically refute the facts about it, all their objections amount to nothing. The bottom line for -- , as for anyone else, is very simple: does God's Word command the observance of Christmas? If the answer is No, then the matter is settled. This is all the Christian needs to know.

Just a few points to be made in reply to his email (again because the onus is on him to prove that Christmas is scriptural; this he has failed to do, and indeed cannot do):

He says that his Scripture readings at Christmas-time are to do with the birth of Christ. But who said he has to read these at Christmas-time? Certainly the Bible doesn't say so. We are not commanded to read certain portions of Scripture at this time of year. This is nothing but human tradition.

He writes: "So by asserting that Christians ought not to celebrate Christmas and Easter, *Mr. Willcock must imply that the Gospel accounts of our Lord's birth and infancy ought not to be read in Church at Christmas, and that the Gospel accounts of the events preceding, during, and following our Lord's death ought not to be read in Church at Easter.*" A strange inference indeed; I imply no such thing. If, as was the usual practice in past ages and should still be the practice today, the entire Bible, Old and New Testaments, is read consecutively, book by book, chapter by chapter, week by week in the services of the local church, and *it so happens* that the local church's service falls on December 25 (let's say it is a Sunday that year), and *it also so happens* that on that particular Sunday, the Scripture reading is the account of the birth of Christ, then of course this must be read. This has nothing to do with Christmas. It has to do with the consecutive reading of the Word of God in the public service. One is not observing Christmas by doing so. But if one deliberately *chooses* such texts *for* December 25, *because* one believes December 25 is Christmas Day and that Christians should observe Christmas Day, then that is an entirely different thing.

He is correct in saying we ought not to do what God permits if it would be a stumbling block to others. But *Christmas is not something God permits*. That principle only applies to *indifferent* things, as is clear from Rom. 14; it does not apply to the observance of a heathen religious festival dressed up as a "Christian" one.

He says: "Yes, there are Christian groups which teach with no Scriptural support that certain passages of Scripture ought to be read at certain times of year. That is to teach the traditions of men as if they were the commands of God, which is a very serious error." Yet if -- teaches that at the time celebrated as Christmas, certain passages ought to be read or should be read (relating to the birth of Christ), he then does what he condemns right here. On the other hand, if he is willing to say that he is under no obligation to read those passages relating to the birth of the Saviour at that time of year, then the obvious question is: why does he do so? He does so, because it is "Christmas time", his flock would expect it, he would want to, and if he were not to do so there would very likely be an outcry.

“But Mr. Willcock teaches with as little Scriptural support that certain passages of Scripture ought not to be read at certain times of year, which is the same error.” I teach no such thing (and I’ve explained it above). – – has pulled this out of thin air.

“Mr. Willcock also seems not to have assessed his own position by his own criteria. He rightly warns against false religion and Satanic counterfeit; but is it the Holy Spirit who wants me not to read the accounts of our Lord’s Incarnation, Death and Resurrection at the very times when my people are most ready to hear about them? To ask the question is to know the answer.” People are *not* more ready to hear about the Christ of God at this time of year. This is a fallacy, without any evidence. Yes, more people attend a church service at this time of year than at any other, but that is not the same thing as being ready to listen. Besides, the majority are there to hear of the baby born and laid in a manger, to sing carols, and to feel all warm and fuzzy inside with the “Christmas spirit”; they are not there to hear of Christ as He now is – glorious, seated at the Father’s right hand, all-powerful, reigning over all, and who hates sin and will punish the sinner eternally. This is not a message that is acceptable to them at this time of year, any more than it is at any other time of year. For the natural man hates the Gospel. But to hear a sermon about the birth of a baby, and to hear again the well-known accounts of the shepherds, the wise men, etc., is part of western tradition. They love to hear this.

“Mr. Willcock asserts that in leading Christmas services I ‘celebrate the birth of the sun-god of ancient Babylon’ (page 30). Never in any service for which I have been responsible have I said or done anything which could reasonably be understood to be the worship of a sun-god.” Yes, this is precisely what is happening. But as – – in fact goes on to point out, I never said those who do so are doing it deliberately. They *are* doing so, however, for again: the Lord has nowhere commanded, in His Word, that Christians are to observe the invented birthday of Jesus, and moreover to do so at precisely the same time as the ancient heathen worshipped their sun god. I stand by what I said: “the festival of the birth of the sun-god, by any other name, is still the same festival - even if the name of Christ has been attached to it”. This fact remains true at all times. “A rose by any other name is still a rose”, and the festival of the birth of the sun god, even when it’s re-labelled “Christmas”, is still the festival of the sun god.” The fact that – – was not deliberately observing the festival of the sun god is not the point. I could take the Hindu festival of Diwali, the so-called “festival of lights”, and start saying I can be reminded of Christ by keeping this festival because He is the light of the world; but I have simply “christianised” a heathen festival, and this is an abomination in God’s sight. I have no more authority from the Lord to do this, than I have with Christmas. Both are pagan.

“I, following Luther, hold that acts which are not themselves forbidden may be used so long as they are spiritually helpful to those concerned.” To which I reply: Luther was wrong in this, as in so much else. Very wrong. This is not the Regulative Principle, which should govern all our worship. That which Scripture commands, I will keep; that which Scripture says nothing about, in matters of worship, I am not at liberty to observe, but must reject. And certainly I must *never* do as the Papists have done, and bring into the church’s worship that which was born in heathenism, and which has no sanction in God’s Word.

I hope this is of help to you, as you take a stand against the heathen/Papist festival of Christmas. – *Shaun Willcock*

Excellent commendable books from a true biblical and Protestant standpoint. May the Lord indeed bless your ongoing ministry for His glory and cause.

Scotland

If this guy [Alberto Rivera] is an evil fraud, as you say, why would he go after the Jesuits? Why wouldn't he be on their side? Why wouldn't he target, for example Bible Based Ministries? Wasn't he doing the Lord's work?

Country *unknown (by email)*

(Our reply)

You need to read the articles we have exposing him, as these explain who Rivera was. He certainly did not do the Lord's work. He was never a Jesuit. – *Shaun Willcock*

(His next email)

Your mind is a solid block of wood. Why would a devil go after another devil?

(Our final reply)

Your reaction was so typical of Rivera himself – un-Christian and insulting.

Not that one whose mind is like a block of wood could ever hope to instruct one so wise, polite, and of such a Christian character, as yourself; but in answer to your question, “Why would a devil go after another devil?” –

The Jehovah's Witnesses are a devilish religious system – yet they oppose Roman Catholicism and believe it to be a devilish religious system;

The Seventh-day Adventists are a devilish religious system – yet they oppose Romanism and believe it to be a devilish religious system;

Branhamites are followers of a wicked fraud named William Branham – yet they oppose Romanism and believe it to be evil;

Muslims murder Roman Catholics (and Roman Catholics have murdered Muslims) – the members of one evil, devilish religious system are opposed to the members of the other evil, devilish religious system;

Hitler fought against Stalin, and Stalin fought against Hitler – both were devilish men, yet each one despised the other, and opposed him;

And I could go on and on.

The fact that a man “goes after the Jesuits” does not make him a good man, much less a truly Christian man. – *Shaun Willcock*

I read your pamphlet on *Filthy Communication Out of the Mouth* with interest. That is exactly how people seem to react now when reprov'd... it certainly shows an unregenerate spirit.

I enjoy reading your pamphlets which I get through Bible Based Ministries.

Country *unknown (by email)*

Without question, there is nothing wrong in the way you replied to your correspondents in this matter of filthy mouthed individuals who profess to be Christian [in the pamphlet *Filthy Communication Out of the Mouth*]. In my estimation, individuals who insist on repeatedly and knowingly using filthy communications with purpose are not born again Christians, at least it is blatantly obvious that even though they may be a child of GOD they have not been taught and converted to the truth of the Gospel, as it is in Christ Jesus. When they use such filthy language on purpose it is of certainty that they have not seen the Kingdom of God, and, obviously, they have not entered the Kingdom of God.

Press on without fainting or lessening: 2 Timothy 4:2 “Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; 4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

And: Mark 6:11 And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear you, when ye depart thence, shake off the dust under your feet for a testimony against them. Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrhah in the day of judgment, than for that city. It is not only the work of a minister to reprove and rebuke: It is also the Gospel duty of ALL born again children of God to keep a watchful eye toward themselves and to kindly teach, reprove and rebuke others who have been born again, with humbleness of Christ Jesus.

United States

Wow, what a most important and much needed article on “Filthy Communication Out of the Mouth.” I’ve been in a similar situation often. I’ve wondered how to handle it when these same expletive words are used. I’ve chosen to try and set an example with someone I’m around very often hoping they would “get it” and see the example. Most are too dense spiritually and so I’ve backed away from the relationship.

Boldness in confronting sin is a big no no today. You’re the ONLY ONE I know who is bold enough to obey the scripture. I’ve confronted sin in a much milder fashion than you and have been totally rejected. Or told what I said was hurtful and mean, making me the bad guy.

I’ve also been told by some that it’s a new day and our culture has changed and we can’t confront people any more about sin as it will run them off and they will never come to Christ or stay with Christ. This kind of thinking puts too much power in man. If a person is truly converted nothing will move him away from Christ. I say if we can’t take rebuke and exhortation from one another now for our own good, how in the world will we face the enemies of Christ who may want to kill us! We are way too soft and touchy!

Self-righteousness reigns and professing Christians have made it their garment instead of the garment of righteousness of our Lord. When you have no righteousness of your own and Christ’s righteousness is imputed to you, you have nothing to lose or to defend when you are corrected, and everything to gain.

Constructive criticism must be taken to heart in order to grow up in Christ. Isn’t being conformed to the image of Christ what it all about? You are most appreciated, dear brother. God bless you in striving for excellence! You are most needed in this day and age!

United States

Your article (*Filthy Communication Out of the Mouth*), which detailed a most extraordinary exchange of correspondences, indeed, highlights the deplorable state of what is passing as biblical Christianity these days. Incredible! Incredible! And yet, my friend, you handled the situation very well.

It’s shocking that anyone who professes Christ would support/condone/justify/use such filthy and unholy conversation. I had a somewhat similar experience whereby I had to rebuke an acquaintance (who professes Christ) for using the very same profanity. At first, he tried to justify his actions, so I quoted Ephesians 5:4 – to get my point across. Our exchange was not nearly as lengthy as yours; but I got the sense that he didn’t appreciate me pointing out his error. And yet this man professes to be a believer!

I believe that along with completely avoiding the use of such egregiously foul language, Christians should, also, guard against SOUNDING like the world in the use of certain slang terms or trendy lingo, if you know what I mean. Certain “catchy” phrases may be innocent enough; but there are many others that are not. And using these phrases give the appearance of a cozy friendship with the world. God’s Word is clear: “Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.” (James 4:4). And: “And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.” (Romans 12:2). So your

article is a timely reminder to us to pray earnestly: “Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips,” (Psalm 141:3). Amen! Good job!

United States

Years ago we listened to your highly informative sermon series on “Wine in the Bible,” and now this article, *Abstaining from Alcohol: Why Drinking in Moderation is a Devilish Deceit*, is an excellent complement to that. After all the Scripture verses you have provided (along with well-crafted supporting statements showing that total abstinence from alcohol beverages is the only proper path for the believer in Christ), I can’t imagine anyone being able to successfully argue to the contrary of this. However, the ones that argue typically tend to be those worldly, lukewarm “Christians” who are not interested in the truth of God’s Word – and don’t appear to be seriously pursuing holiness. And no matter how logically you point out that two entirely different drinks (both described as wine) are being spoken of and that to understand which wine is meant, we must examine the context – still they argue on. The ones I’ve run into adamantly believe that it’s their “Christian liberty” to drink alcohol. Of course they are wrong; but still they go on ranting against logic, against reason, and even against the holiness of God (when you really think about it). We know that God is not the Author of confusion (1 Cor. 14:33); nor are there any contradictions in His Word. So thank you for doing such a thorough job and for exposing the out-of-context Scripture twisting that goes on in order to defend what can’t be defended.

A.W Pink correctly stated, “No verse of Scripture yields its meaning to lazy people.” Yes, indeed! Sadly, it’s the lazy person who refuses to study and see the true meaning of God’s Word (in areas where there “appears” to be a contradiction). Therefore, I agree with your conclusion, “The Bible does not permit the use of alcohol, but instead strongly condemns it. If you love the Lord, and desire to observe what He has commanded and live a life of separation from the world and from sin, then do not attempt to use the Scriptures to defend the indefensible, but totally abstain from the use of alcoholic beverages!” Amen!

United States

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**Providing teaching from the Word of God, and a biblical exposure of the Papal system
and all that is associated with it**

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