

Beware of the 501(c)3!

Part 1: What is the “501(c)3”?

It was many decades ago when Democrat President Lyndon Johnson was angry with “the church”. They had caused him to almost lose the presidential election. How? The church had exposed his agenda and promoted his opponent. In order to help secure political rulership by Democrats in the future, he sought to muzzle the church from speaking up about politics. His goal was achieved in 1954 by the passage of his “Johnson Amendment”. The witnesses of the Word & Spirit were soon dead in public thoroughfares.

The Johnson Amendment created the 501(c)3 option in the Internal Revenue Service. This option, once accepted by any church group, *would forbid the church from endorsing any candidate above another*. It essentially forbade any sort of effective political involvement. It was the beginning of “political correctness”. Clearly a violation of the constitutional right to free speech, but its repeal never made its way successfully into the court system.

This amendment would never have passed except for Johnson’s brilliant move to essentially bribe the church through offering an income tax deduction benefit for any donors for their donations to that church. The church swallowed the bait...hook, line, and sinker! It was the love of money which swallowed them into the belly of the dragon.

Once the 501(c)3 was locked in place, then we saw the methodical removal of prayer from schools and the ten commandments taken from public places, all while we watched the myth of the “separation of church & state” take hold. This twisting of truth was generated to keep the church far away from politics. That was only the beginning.

The silencing of the church would follow with the systematic removal of religious rights and the subsequent oppression of those who endorsed the Scriptures. Such people began to be labeled as “intolerant”; as those who supported “hate crimes”. Eventually pastors could be fined & jailed for edifying traditional marriage and teaching against homosexuality. But the worst horror was the steady advancement of abortion. And guess what? The church as a whole was dutifully silent as the kingdom of darkness advanced. The age-old tactic of keeping truth out of the arena proved successful once again.

Why was the church as a whole not exiting from their 501(c)3 status so that they could speak up? Are we not commanded in **Matthew 5:13-16** to be effective salt & light? What does salt do? Salt is to preserve and to add flavor. Salt in a people preserves & gives the flavor of His life to babies, marriages, families, society, culture, and yes, government too. And Light? Light exposes both truth & also corruption. It illuminates the way to go.

We’ll see in Part 2 why the church remained silent.

Part 2: Seeing the “big picture” about the 501(c)3

Once a church group signs up for 501(c)3 status, then they have signed into a contractual agreement with government. This agreement calls for the civil government to set the boundaries for what can be spoken and not spoken in their church group. It is a business contract. Such a contract is a type of covenant. The 501(c)3 status is a proclamation that the main focus of the group is to run a government sanctioned religious business. This priority is set for financial reasons. The religious group & leaders sacrifice what they considered to be “relatively insignificant” in order to provide a financial incentive to their business clientele. For the religious business clients who buy into this (those who donate to the group), they yoke themselves to a group that is yoked to civil governing authorities who likely have little or no interest in the Word; and often even a disdain for truth.

The scriptures warn us repeatedly of such a trap. For starters, the motive is money for all involved in the religious group. That is the first and most obvious red flag of warning.

“No man can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and like the other; or he will honor one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon (wealth).”

Matthew 5:24 George Lamsa Translation

The implications however are far more devastating than this. To donate with even a partial motive of financial benefit may make good sense of stewardship from a worldly perspective, but if the financial motive in giving is there at all, then it is acknowledging that the direction of the Spirit of Elohim (God), has not been wholly considered in the giving. In other words, the financial benefit received may compromise the hearing of what He has to say to us. This had dire consequences for Saul who compromised what he was told, (in order to keep the best of the enemies’ resources and to keep the people happy, **1Samuel 15**). “Saul was 95% obedient and only 5% greedy” is another way to assess that situation. That’s not the degree of obedience that pleases our Elohim (God).

Such behavior is described as a ***bribe*** when describing Samuel’s sons.

“...for they were greedy for money. They accepted bribes and perverted justice.”

1Samuel 8:3 New Living Translation

Now let’s see what else the Word says about a bribe, we find in **Amos 5:12** that accepting a bribe is a transgression and sin. In **Ecclesiastes 7:7** we find:

“...a bribe destroys the heart.” George Lamsa Translation

“..bribes corrupt the heart.” New Living Translation

Here below we'll see three other results of being a part of benefiting from a bribe:

First, **Isaiah 33:14,15** tells us that in order to fully experience His presence we must be of those *"...who stay far away from bribes"* **New Living Translation**

In the big picture, the context of this passage tells us much more if we have ears to hear and a heart to receive it. If we can see it here, then we grasp that we cease moving into the baptism of fire that brings us into the full stature of our Messiah when we accept a bribe. If we don't deal with what His Word & Spirit has shown to us, then the avenue to hear any more from His Spirit becomes limited. In essence, it is a statement that we are comfortable where we are at and don't care to make any hard decisions that might rock the boat.

Second & Thirdly:

"Take no bribes, for a bribe makes you ignore something that you clearly see. A bribe always hurts the cause of the person who is in the right."

Exodus 23:8 New Living Translation

The second & third warnings here are that once involved with a bribe, then not only does our judgment become clouded, but the lack of righteous judgment damages the innocent.

Many 501(c)3 groups do many valuable, important good works that we all admire. Elohim (God) also works through them in many ways. We have written notes to some of those groups (in response to their financial pleas), to explain that we do not donate to organizations that have 501(c)3s even though we respect many of the works that they do and pray for such works to blossom when our Elohim (God) gets all of the glory.

If one of us feels called to support the works of 501(c)3s, then it is best to not let the giving be known so that a reward for it cannot be traced back to the giver. And of course we should not claim the benefit at income tax time.

Another warning-sign pops up if the "ministry" takes any glory for the fruit of the good works. If the work is of Elohim (God), then to Him be all of the glory. To be a steward of His work reminds me of a caretaker of the Bride that uses the Bride somewhat to his own advantage. We would not expect the King to be pleased with such behavior! Another hidden motive for religious leaders being silent on politics is that they don't want the money, energy, or time of its clients to be diverted from "their ministry". This is one big reason why they warn its members to stay under "their covering", to not attend other groups, to avoid networking with believers of other religious groups, and to not read material by certain authors. Even religious groups that do not have 501(c)3s are susceptible to such motives. Some of these groups even go so far as to pressure "their people" to not vote!

In the next part we take a look at the awakening of His Bride that is occurring now. The awakening is the result of increased Light. Why are we seeing increased Light? What are the results of it? Read on to find out.

Part 3: Change is Happening!

We'll need a bit of background before moving on. Most all of us agree that we are in the last days, the end of the age...the time of the great harvest. This means that prophecy is being fulfilled quickly. These fulfillments herald the beginning of a new age. This new age is referred to as "the Millennial Age" when the Son will rule upon the earth with His resurrected saints. So of course this is the time of acceleration of several things which we cannot ignore, and which continue to intensify.

- the separation of tares from wheat (bringing alignments, polarization, & conflict)
- exposed corruption & judgment of it, both in the church and in the world
- the liberation of His people along with many nations coming into His Kingdom
- His Life seen in a people, reigning with a rod of iron to do right (no compromise)

With that backdrop of the big picture, we see in this context that the Father has chosen the USA and Israel to be strong at this time...strong in military, in technology, in energy, in economy, and politically. Also, the two nations have a real allegiance that goes beyond political rhetoric.

We also see that Elohim (God), has sovereignly raised up President Donald Trump. He does not have any strings attached to either major political party. He obviously has a calling at this time to "Make America Great Again". Much to the dismay of his opponents, he is actually doing it, and with all of his opposition by media, Democrats, and establishment Republicans, it is apparent that the accomplishments done by him can only be attributed to Elohim (God). We also see the work of people of His Tree being raised up in the Supreme Court.

When running for office in 2016, Donald Trump spoke to a large meeting of religious leaders. He told them that repealing the Johnson Amendment would be a top priority for him. When he announced that, he expected a standing ovation, but was sadly met with only dead silence. The religious leaders representing a broad spectrum of denominations did not want to have their religious businesses disrupted. They had some wealthy donors in their congregations who were Democrats, establishment Republicans, homosexuals, and some who were not pro-life. Getting rid of the Johnson Amendment would put them in the hot seat, and ultimately lead to some donors leaving.

Once President, Mr Trump announced at a National Prayer Breakfast that he would "totally destroy" the Johnson Amendment. He tried to pass a bill to repeal the Johnson Amendment, but it did not even have enough Republican support to pass. Determined to do the right thing to restore religious liberty, he then resorted to writing an Executive Order (#13798) on May 4, 2017 to provide religious liberty to 501(c)3 organizations to preach politics without legal repercussions.

Part 4: The President's Executive Order

This Executive Order can be found at www.whitehouse.gov. Below is what religious groups are allowed to do now, ever since May 4th, 2017. It would be alarming to discover any religious leaders who didn't know about this major restoration of their religious liberties, (unless perhaps they are so uninformed politically as to be missing what His Spirit has been doing in this hour). It would be of even greater concern to find religious leaders who have known, but have not taken action to either exit from their 501(c)3s, or at a very minimum to at least begin to use their restored religious liberty to exhort their congregations to pray & to pay attention & to vote for the godly candidates, (note that in 2018 the Republican platform most closely adheres to the scriptural principles of pro-life, pro-God, pro-family, pro religious rights, pro-Israel & pro-country).

Here are four things that a religious leader of a 501(c)3 group *CAN NOW DO*:

1. They can speak about political issues!...*and should!*
2. They can educate their congregation about politics!... *and should!*
3. They can invite political candidates to speak at their church!... *and should!*
4. Religious leaders in their individual capacity as US citizens can participate in political campaigns, hold political office, and even endorse a candidate...& *should!*

Here are the two things that a religious leader or religious organization *CAN NOT DO*:

1. The religious leader or group may not use the organization/group to have the 501(c)3 entity endorse one candidate over another, (which they never do anyway).
2. The religious leader or religious organization may not give its 501(c)3 entity's money to one candidate over another, which they never do anyway.
(Note however that the religious leader in its individual capacity as a US citizen can certainly give his or her money to one candidate over another.)

The above is taken from a great one-page summary, found at www.firstliberty.org. Once at their home page, then click on "Take Action", and then click on "Whitepapers". Their synopsis can be downloaded and/or printed. Let's be part of His increasing of Light and spread the word for those groups who don't want to abandon their 501(c)3 status...to alert them to what they can do where they are! We must strengthen what remains. We are to sound the alarm as watchmen on the wall.

In our next part we are made aware of some other deviousness regarding the 501(c)3.

Part 5: Exposing the Dark Side of the 501(c)3

Those in a 501(c)3 have joined the same “club” with other organizations that have been granted the 501(c)3 status. That includes the Church of Satan, Planned Parenthood, Islamic organizations, atheists, and others. It’s no wonder we commonly see the form of godliness with no power among churches with 501(c)3 status.

For more exposure into the 501(c)3, go to www.strikeforceofprayer.com. They are not a 501(c)3. Yet they run a national phone prayer conference, and have helped states to organize their own state phone prayer conference calls. Our 7-man prayer team (which meets in a store after-hours here in northern Maine), was the 9th state to start one. In just a couple months since then, there are now over 30 states who have been set up to pray for their state. And of course we pray for our country, and many other things too. His Spirit leads. There are no “big names” and no “ministries” to take the credit...no buildings, salaries or religious programs. It is instead a convergence of people walking in His Light.

Their website with their national phone prayer conference is run by Michael Ortega. He is a friend with Mark Taylor. One of the guys in our prayer group knows Mike Ortega of Oregon. It is exciting how His Spirit is knitting us all together.

Our study on the 501(c)3 helps one to appreciate Mark Taylor’s prophetic word, “Purging the Temple”, (also on the 501(c)3). His word can be found on our website by going to <https://www.bibleconcepts.com> and then clicking on “Eric’s Library”, then on the submenu “Books, Studies, & Prophecies by Others”, and then on “Mark Taylor”. The bulk of his other prophecies can also be found there. Or better yet, get a copy of the book, “The Trump Prophecies” & read pages 193 to 216 (which details Mark Taylor’s prophecy in full).

On a you-tube interview I heard Mark once say that he won’t even step foot inside a building of a 501(c)3 entity. That is how strong he feels about the matter. At any rate, to hear Yeshua (Jesus) clearly, we must be careful about our associations.

To hear the latest you-tubes by Mark Taylor, go to www.strikeforceofprayer.com. At that site you will also see an amazing move that Elohim (God) is doing in stirring His people to pray, plus certain ways to take action in imparting His Life to a hurting creation.

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