

Pleasing Men

. . . Or do I seek to please God or men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ.—Galatians 1:10

The decision to please God or man causes a dilemma. It may be a personal dilemma where we are faced with saying what someone wants to hear or saying what we know is God's truth. No one wants to lose a friend, but we need to make certain that the words we are speaking are the words that promote God's law and truth.

The dilemma is not relegated to individuals. Churches constantly face decisions to please God or man. Years ago I heard about churches removing hymns that spoke of sin and need for Christ's shed blood. They even stopped singing *Amazing Grace* "*that saved a wretch like me.*" Later I witnessed churches replacing Bible preaching with book studies and motivational messages.

There has been a slow slide away from pleasing God toward making decisions that please men. We hear of churches taking surveys to make decisions based upon what the unsaved want. They believe that they need to please men in order to build their church. I have even seen news reports of churches removing crosses because they offend some.

Can't people see that they are moving away from God? We need to be extraordinarily concerned that our words and actions please God rather than trying not to offend men.