



bits from bob....

**The “too sweet” gospel—focused on service more than salvation
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Presenting Christ as the great problem-solver often tends to obscure the authority of God the Father (and of Jesus himself) in spiritual matters. In a time when the church more and more struggles with a lack of authority and its message is being challenged by the surrounding culture, the church has preached Christ as sweetness and light, and has failed to contradict the teaching that all roads lead to God. We should be preaching the nature of God and the demands of God, and providing a biblical, substantive theological base for life. The church has sought to serve more than to save souls, sweetness has been preferred to gospel clarity, healing physical problems has taken precedence over healing spiritual separation and restoring saving relationship with God.

If the sweetness of Christ blurs the authority of God, the sweetness of the Holy Spirit is even more problematic. In the minds of some Christ may retain some authority to judge, but the Holy Spirit has nothing to do with judgment in the minds of most people, even though Jesus said that the Spirit would talk about and convince people of judgment.

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