

HOLD FAST—DON'T LET GO!

By Keith Greer

We live in a fast pace world. What is current today is obsolete tomorrow. Times are changing and we must change to keep up. This is the theme many subscribe to and believe in. Sadly, many have carried that thinking into the realm of spiritual things, even among my brethren.

Our "modern brethren" tell me we must get back into the "**mainstream of religion**". By the way, is that a Bible term? What is the "mainstream"? Allow me to help you understand. Simply put, meet the demand. Give the people what they want. People are different today and need to be reached in a different way. Needs are much more complex today, so I'm told. Could this be true and do we need to "repackage" the gospel message to meet the demands of the day?

"O LORD, I know the way of man is not in himself; It is not in man who walks to direct his own steps." {Jeremiah 10:23}

"There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death" {Proverbs 14:12}

"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways," says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts. "{Isaiah 55:8,9} Did man somewhere along the way get ahead of God? Does he believe he knows better than His Creator?

This is the devil's lie that my brethren have just put into a new dress with a new appearance. (Satan told Eve that God did not know better what she needed.) How did that work out?

While I will agree that times and people have changed, three things remain the same: **God, burden of sin, and the devil lying to mankind.** God is unchangeable; man still needs a way out from the guilt of his sins, and the devil is working to hide the truth from men. Since these are undeniable truths, what can we do?

Accept God and believe His word. God warned us of the devil's schemes. Give him his due; don't be deceived for he is crafty and cunning.

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour." {1 Peter 5:8}

"Lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices." {2 Corinthians 2: 11}

"You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a

murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it." {John 8:44}

Fight him! Don't give him an inch! Listen to God's advice...

"Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses." {1 Timothy 6:12}

"Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown." {Revelation 3: 11}

"To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne." {Revelation 3:21}

"But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members." {Romans 7:23} We are in a death struggle with good and evil. Only one can win – which will it be in your life? Eternity hangs in the balance!***