

The Gospel Unashamed

"From the cowardice that shrinks from new truth, from the laziness that is content with half-truths, from the arrogance that thinks it knows all truth, O, God of Truth, deliver us."

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~ All articles are written by Terry Carter unless otherwise stated ~

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Terry Carter, Editor

The Fall of Man (A Modern Version)

Recently, while reading the account of the fall of man in **Genesis Chapter 3**, it occurred to me that what the serpent really did was fact-check what God had said. Worse yet, he went on to declare it false with a selfish motivation. We have always pointed out that he called God's Word into question, flatly denied the truthfulness of it, and accused God of improper motives in giving His command.

It takes real arrogance and pride for anyone but God to set themselves up as the ultimate arbiter of truth. However, that is what the serpent did with Eve.

It seems to me that we have a similar situation in the modern world today. There are people who have too much power and control over what can and cannot be said. They have the arrogance and pride to act as the arbiters of truth. When I made the connection between the serpent and modern-day fact-checkers, the thoughts below came to my mind. I hope you find them enlightening and helpful.

Now the serpent was craftier than any of the corporations or government entities. It said to the average person, "Can you really trust yourself to decide what is true and what is false after hearing all viewpoints?" And the average person replied, "That is what we have always trusted in the past".

Then the serpent said, "We have fact-checked your conclusions and found

them to be misguided, misleading, and dangerous to you and others. Therefore, we have blocked your thoughts and banned them from ever being posted, shared, or liked again. Don't worry. We have your best interests in mind. Post, share, and like only what we approve, and we will give you such pleasures. Stick with us and you will become "woke" and you will be like social justice warrior gods.

You can pontificate on every conceivable topic and share your wisdom with the world. You can finally tell everybody what they ought to think and how they ought to act. You will be able to post all the selfies and personal news you want so all your friends will envy you and the life you lead. Everyone will know all your activities and approved ideas. People will worship you and hang on every post you make".

So, when the average person saw that the serpent's platform was good for communication, pleasant to their self-image, and desirable to make them popular and envied, they turned over all their private information and convinced all their friends, family, acquaintances, and even total strangers to do the same.

But behold, the serpent was dishonest and could not be trusted to decide what was true and what was not.

Furthermore, the serpent began to show his fangs. Rather than allowing the average person to share their thoughts, they censored them

according to whether those thoughts fit with the politically correct narrative that was currently accepted. So, the freedom of speech that we once cherished so dearly was lost forever. However, it was too late for the average person to take back their privacy for they had already given that up.

Furthermore, the serpent crushed all other attempts to provide a platform for free speech. Thus, mankind was cursed to serve the serpent forevermore to which they had become enslaved.

It is not known whether a savior will ever come to crush the head of the serpent and free us from his oppression. While we wait for one to redeem us from the serpent's grip, the average person continues their love affair with the very thing that has enslaved them.

Lessons to be Learned From This:

The above story is obviously fictional. However, what the serpent actually did in the Garden of Eden was to fact-check God Himself and declare that God's truth was misleading and false. Anyone or any group that claims to be the ultimate judge of truth and falsehood is usurping what belongs to God.

The serpent in the fictional story above is obviously meant to represent "social media" in general. While I am not opposed to social media per se, I am very much opposed to the loss of free speech we are experiencing as a result of social media's fact-checking and blocking of accounts that go

against the accepted politically correct narrative. Worse yet is the loss of an absolute standard for truth and error.



When people, after hearing all the evidence available, abdicate their God-given responsibility to decide for themselves what is true, they are on the fast road to oppression and slavery. Eve listened to the fact-checker in the Garden without fact-checking him. This led to bondage for all of mankind. It brought a curse on us all and our posterity.

There is a reason that freedom of speech is the first amendment in the constitution of the United States. Without it, all our other freedoms are vulnerable to tyranny.

If only certain people are allowed to speak certain things, it becomes extremely difficult to ever know the real truth. However, it is also much easier to control people who are kept in the dark. That is why the serpent censored and edited God's Word and it is why those in power today seek to censor and edit those with whom they disagree.

What are they hiding? Why are they so afraid of it being known? Is it that they think we are not capable of making intelligent choices? Or do they fear that knowing the truth will set us free from their domination?

What I want to know is this: Who is fact-checking the fact-checkers, and why should I believe them? You may want to ask this question about many more organizations besides social media. You might want to ask it about the news media, the educational system, the entertainment industry, the government, and even your local congregation.