

The Church: Stayin Alive, Stayin Alive

Truth is neither new nor old fashioned. Truth is timeless and eternal. Every generation has its own version of platform shoes and tomorrow they always look silly. The progressive or “emergent church” is always one fad away from old fashioned. And the nostalgia for the “good old days” (1940’s or 1970’s) has more to do with feeling good than faith.

On the Mt. of Transfiguration Peter wanted to “capture” the moment. He wanted to fast freeze something that happened (“It is good for us to be here”) and hold on to it by building three tabernacles. Much of religion is trying to maintain the man-made tabernacles or Spiritual “Kodak Moments” of experience. Church history is filled with monuments to moments. The Keswick (or deeper life) movement, the Pentecostal movement on Azusa Street in Los Angeles in 1901, the Prosperity Gospel or Peace Street movement, etc. Some of these “tabernacles” have turned into denominations.

The Glory Cloud is still moving and faith must follow the light of God’s Word and the leading of the Holy Spirit. The tabernacle in the wilderness was movable for a reason: God moves. We are to be in this world but not of it. Once a group (i.e. denomination) pours the cement of its own experience it becomes stuck and is forced to stay long after God has gone away.

Being in the world but not of the world is to be “other-worldly,” or as Peter said a “peculiar people.” The world, the flesh and the devil have formed a triple alliance against us. They are not trying to kill us as much as trying to seduce us, to get us overly concerned about how we look. In this world it is not as important to be “with it” as it is to be “with Him.” - id



lol

What used to be a “Trip”
or next was something “rad”
what’s thought to be real “hip”
is tomorrow just a “fad”

The Church in Platform Shoes
is no longer front page news
while trying to be “cool”
may tomorrow look the fool

Today less Rock of Ages
and much more Rock & Roll
less sacred Holy Pages
less manna for the soul

We can’t pretend the world to “friend”
and still be friends with God
and those who stand with Christ “won’t bend”
and this to the world seems “odd”