Contemporary Comments

"The Law and the Gospel " | December 8, 2012 | Order Info

Text: Psalm 19:7, 8; Exodus 23:1-9; 1 John 5:3; Romans 3:19, 20; Exodus 20:11; Deuteronomy 5:15.

If you had to admit which of the following laws you break most often, which one type would you choose: civil laws, moral laws, or the ten commandments?

There appears to have been a collision between these three types of laws in the conscience of Angus T. Jones, who plays the role of Jake on the television sitcom, Two and a Half Men. Currently 19 years old, he has worked on the show since he was eight years old.

News went viral recently when Jones spoke out asking viewers not to watch the sitcom he stars in stating that the show is "filth." This week journalists poked fun at Jones for aligning entertainment with the devil due to his newfound religious beliefs.

A YouTube video showing Angus with Christopher Hudson, said to be one of Jones’ mentors, created a stir among journalists. Hudson claims to be an Adventist pastor but uses the Internet site he established, ForeRunner Chronicles, as an avenue to preach what he believes to be truth rather than pastoring a stand-alone congregation.

One website posted this about Hudson: “Hudson is a Seventh-day Adventist and is famous for his fiery online sermons…In one of his videos he claims to have exposed Barack Obama’s pro-gay agenda and likens the President to Hitler. ‘Obama's Christianity is just a thin veneer to mask his espousal of the New Age agenda.’
“He (Hudson) claims that reports of Osama bin Laden's death last year were part of a conspiracy (Bin Laden actually died in 2007) and that Michael Jackson's death was a distraction for the Pope's call for a ‘new world order.’”

Angus took Bible studies from Bible Worker Nelson Jones (no relation) and was baptized into the Valley Crossroads Seventh-day Adventist church in Pacoima, California. A spokesman from the denomination’s North American Division said the Adventist Church welcomed actor Angus T. Jones “with open arms” but sent word via YouTube that Hudson is not authorized by the church to claim he is an Adventist pastor.

An interview between Angus and Connie Jeffery, host of the program Turning Point, aired this past week on the Hope Channel. Jones told Jeffery that since his baptism “I am not the same person…The things of this world don’t matter whatsoever.” The texts in this week’s lesson suggest that when we have an intimate relationship with Jesus things of this world won’t matter to us either.

John 17:14-15 reminds us that Christians are in the world but not of the world. Knowing Jesus as a friend is the key to obeying Jesus's commands, commands that will not then be burdensome.

Angus has one more year on his contract. Will it be possible for him to obey his civil responsibility and be a witness like a Daniel, or Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego? Let’s pray that with God’s help he will be able to keep the law and the gospel.

1. News
2. YouTube
3. The Adventist Channel

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