

“Not Holding The Head”

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Jesus Christ is the one and only head of His body, the church. Colossians teaches, “And He is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence. For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell” (Colossians 1:18-19). Problems arise when Jesus Christ is not revered as the sole head of the church. Again, in Colossians we read,

Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind, And ***not holding the Head***, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God. Wherefore if ye be dead with Christ from the rudiments of the world, why, as though living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances, (Touch not; taste not; handle not; Which all are to perish with the using;) after the commandments and doctrines of men? Which things have indeed a show of wisdom in will worship, and humility, and neglecting of the body; not in any honor to the satisfying of the flesh. (Colossians 2:18-23, emphasis added).

A case in point emerged in the “News” recently when the Pope of Rome refused to meet with oppressed members of his Catholic Church during his Cuba visit. In contrast, the Vatican spokesman, Federico Lombardi, said the Pope would be available if Fidel Castro wants a personal meeting.

Mike Gonzales, Fox News Reporter said, “During this visit the pope could meet publicly with dissidents to offer them a measure of protection from their tormentors. He could speak clearly and loudly about their dignity as human beings. He could point out that they shouldn’t be thrown in dungeons for speaking freely, or accosted in the street by government mobs, especially when they are on their way to Mass” (<http://www.foxnews.com/opinion/2012/03/21/pope-benedict-why-wont-meet-cubas-dissidents>).

Who are these “dissidents”? According to Gonzales the dissidents who are seeking an audience with the head of the Catholic Church are “known as ‘Las Damas de Blanco’ aka ‘the Ladies in White,’ [and] are very deserving of being granted an audience with the head of their church. They are a group of defenseless women, mostly the wives and mothers of political prisoners, who bravely walk take their opposition message to the streets of Cuba, only to be met with violence by government goons.” The Castro’s on the other hand, as all communists, have always been enemies of religion.

Alas, another solid reason for honoring God’s way above man’s. The head of the church of Christ promised His followers, “Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world” (Matthew 28:20b) and, again, “I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me” (Hebrews 13:5b-6).