

## **INTRODUCTION**

1. The SBC just had their annual convention 3 weeks ago on June 15 and 16th
2. I want to share with you several things that happened that will have an impact on our church
3. I've been sharing with you for the past two years that things have been going astray with the Convention
4. This didn't start happening two years ago
5. It's been on the decline for many years
6. For the past two years the SBC had as it's president J.D. Greear
7. J.D. Greear is the Pastor of Summit Church in Durham, NC
8. Greear is a liberal who has dangerous views:
  1. He says in one of his books that "Christians and Muslims worship the same God"  
(<https://capstonereport.com/2018/03/31/j-d-greear-says-christians-muslims-worship-god/31952>)
  2. He affirms some of the beliefs of "Black Lives Matter"  
(<https://religionnews.com/2020/06/09/southern-baptist-president-j-d-greear-says-black-lives-matter>)
  3. He believes "homosexuality is equal to deceit, boasting, greed and a rebellious attitude toward parents"  
(<https://onenewsnow.com/perspectives/guest-commentary/2019/09/16/constructive-criticism-for-jd-greear-on-homosexual-sin>). Quoting female bible teacher,

Jen Wilkin, Greear says, "We ought to whisper about what the Bible whispers about, and we ought to shout about what the Bible shouts about. And the Bible appears more to whisper when it comes to sexual sin compared to it shouts about materialism and religious pride."

(<https://reformationcharlotte.org/2019/01/30/jd-greear-minimizes-homosexuality-says-other-sins-are-more-egregious-in-gods-eyes>)

9. He has called on all Southern Baptist to "stand up for the rights of LGBT." The "rights" that LGBT people are fighting for are, for example, the right to use the public restroom of whatever gender they choose to identify as on any given day. Rights such the right to get married and practice sodomy in the apartment next door. The right to get married in your conservative church. The right to be fully embraced as an active, affirmed, and participating member of your church.  
(<https://reformationcharlotte.org/2019/01/31/sbc-prez-calls-on-christians-to-stand-up-for-lgbt-rights>)
10. He mocked John MacArthur after he was asked during a conference to respond to Beth Moore. Of which he said two words: "Go home." This was "apparently in reaction to Moore's Twitter war during the summer against Southern Baptist leaders who spoke out against women preaching in place of the pastor after Moore had announced she was "speaking" at a church on Mother's Day." (<https://capstonereport.com/2019/11/05/who-can-preach-southern-baptist-faith-message-explained/33195/>). Greear responded on Twitter by saying, "Dear @BethMooreLPM, you're welcome in our home any time" (<https://reformationcharlotte.org/2019/10/19/sbc-president-mocks-john-macarthur-welcomes-beth-moore-to-his-home-anytime>)
11. He affirmed voting for a Democrat who supports the murdering of unborn babies when he said, "If at the end of the day you look at it and feel like whoever the Democratic candidate is, you feel like that of all the different things, this is the better of the options, well that's great. Make sure you're clear about the wickedness of abortion. Make sure you're clear about the preciousness of religious liberty and the right of conscience, and

the fact that people need to have the dignity to make their own choices and to provide for themselves. Just make sure you're clear about whatever it is that is on the other side from where you voted." (<https://reformationcharlotte.org/2019/05/20/jd-greear-says-its-okay-to-vote-for-abortion-promoting-politicians/>)

12. This is the man who led the Southern Baptist Convention for the last two years who also appointed to committees others as radical as him
13. Why am I sharing all of this?
14. So that you know what's going on in the SBC and where it's heading
15. Where is the SBC heading?
16. Let me tell you about the newest President of the SBC that was elected on June 15, 2021
17. His name is Ed Litton
18. He has been the Pastor of Redemption Church in Saraland, AL for the past 27 years
19. He claims to be a Complementarian, which believes that men should be preachers not women, but he sometimes allows his wife to preach with him during a Sunday morning service
20. When he was questioned about that, he said, "My wife is a great teacher, and she helps me to communicate to our people." (<https://religionnews.com/2021/06/16/who-is-ed-litton-the-new-southern-baptist-convention-president>)
21. When he was questioned about this again by those who believed he was in violation of the Baptist Faith and Message, he said, "There is room in the SBC Statement of Faith for local churches to make that decision for themselves." (<https://religionnews.com/2021/06/16/who-is-ed-litton-the-new-southern-baptist-convention-president>)

22. Churches did make that decision when they signed on in agreement of the Baptist Faith and Message in 2000
23. In Article VI. The Church, it states, "Its scriptural officers are pastors and deacons. While both men and women are gifted for service in the church, the office of pastor is limited to men as qualified by Scripture." (<https://bfm.sbc.net/bfm2000/#vi-the-church>)
24. If you're the President of an organization whose doctrinal statement states this emphatically, then you cannot say "There is room in the SBC Statement of Faith for local churches to make that decision for themselves" when they already did, but not only that the Bible affirms this in 1 Timothy chapters 2 and 3
25. Another red flag is what has recently come out about Ed Litton's sermons
26. They are plagiarized
27. He didn't write them
28. For years he copied J.D. Greear sermons including a sermon preached in 2015 that Greear preached in 2013 (<https://capstonereport.com/2021/07/03/sbc-president-ed-litton-copied-j-d-greear-sermons-as-early-as-2015/36467>)
29. What was his response when confronted?
30. He "told Southern Baptists that he was sorry he got caught and will do things differently in the future. In an interview with SBC This Week, the official podcast of the SBC, Litton did not confess plagiarism was sin and did not admit he lied to the *Washington Times* in defending the removal of many older sermons" but claimed they were updating their website but did not give reason to why they left 18 months of sermons and removed the older ones. (<https://capstonereport.com/2021/07/03/unrepentant-ed-litton-clings-to-power-in-southern-baptist-convention/36462>)
31. Litton also shares the same view on homosexuality that Greear holds and also quotes from Jen Wilkin who said, "The Bible

appears more to whisper when it comes to sexual sin."

32. But if you're copying sermons why not copy quotes
33. There are many other things I would like to share with you on these issues with the SBC like social justice and critical race theory in the SBC but I will save this for later
34. But for today we need to ask, "What can we do with all of this?"
35. I have 6 responses to this that I want to share with you this morning
36. The first is to...

## **LESSON**

### **I. PRAY**

1. We need to pray for the leaders of the SBC
2. We need to pray for the messengers who voted them in
3. We need to pray about the backlash from all of this
4. We need to pray for the salvation of those promoting this

### **II. AFFIRM SCRIPTURE**

1. The Scripture affirms the God of the Bible is not the god of the Muslims

1. The teaching of Islam

1. Nabeel Qureshi who converted from Islam to Christianity said, "Christians worship Yahweh, the Trinity, whereas Muslims worship Allah, a monad (alone, a single unit, one). This is not an incidental difference; Islam makes every effort to condemn the Trinity as

blasphemy (4.171). The Quran rejects the relational aspects of God, saying that he's not a father (5.18) and he's not a son (112.3). It establishes its own doctrine of God, Tawhid, (belief in the unity of God) in diametric opposition to the Trinity, and that doctrine becomes the central doctrine of Islamic theology."

2. "Most people who say Christians and Muslims worship the same God are aware of this difference, but they treat it as relatively inconsequential. This is not a trivial difference, though; it has major implications... Ultimately, when we understand the Trinity, we realize that the doctrine is not just a theological curiosity. It has far-reaching implications for how we ought to live and how we see the world, and it makes the Christian God categorically different from the Muslim God." (<https://capstonereport.com/2018/03/31/j-d-greear-says-christians-muslims-worship-god/31952/>)

## 2. The teaching of the Bible regarding the trinity

1. Genesis 1:1 (elohim, im is plural but the word is singular. The singular God is expressed in a form of plurality. See 1:27)
2. Each member of the Trinity either claimed to be or is called God in the Bible
  1. God - Genesis 17:1 (NASB) Now when Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am God Almighty;
  2. Jesus - Hebrews 1:8 (NASB) But of the Son He says, "YOUR THRONE, O GOD, IS FOREVER AND EVER, AND THE RIGHTEOUS SCEPTER IS THE SCEPTER OF HIS KINGDOM.
  3. Holy Spirit - Acts 5:3-4 (NASB) But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back some of the price of the land? 4 While it remained unsold, did it not

remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not under your control? Why is it that you have conceived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God."

### 3. The Trinity is essential to the Christian faith

1. Without the Trinity, there would be no Creator (Gen.1:1)
2. Without the Trinity there would be no Bible (2 Tim.3:16)
3. Without the Trinity there would be no incarnation of God's Son in the Person of Jesus Christ
4. Without Jesus Christ, there would be no salvation from sin
5. Without salvation, sin would condemn all to an eternal hell (<https://www.gotquestions.org/same-God.html>)

3. James White said, "So the real question is: Do we worship the same God? Not that we are identifying the same historical deity back in the history of Abraham. In worship, we are talking about truly engaging with God as he has revealed himself. There is no way that any honest Muslim who believes in Tawhid and rejects the doctrine of the Trinity can say, Yes, we are worshiping the same God. Certainly from a Christian perspective that is what we have to say as well." ((<https://capstonereport.com/2018/03/31/j-d-greear-says-christians-muslims-worship-god/31952/>)

### 2. The Bible affirms all lives matter

1. God even has no pleasure in the death of the wicked - Ezekiel 18:23 says, "Do I have any pleasure in the death of the wicked," declares the Lord GOD, "rather than that he should turn from his ways and live?"
2. He called for Israel to repent or they would die in their sin - Matthew 3:5-9 says, "(5) Then Jerusalem was going out to

him, and all Judea and all the district around the Jordan; (6) and they were being baptized by him in the Jordan River, as they confessed their sins. (7) But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers, who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? (8) Therefore bear fruit in keeping with repentance; (9) and do not suppose that you can say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham for our father'; for I say to you that from these stones God is able to raise up children to Abraham."

3. His call for you to repent is to say your life (soul) matters

4. But "Black Lives Matter" don't say this

1. They hate, destroy property, and commit murder (watch the news)
2. They are ungodly - On the Black Lives Matter website they state "We affirm the lives of Black queer and trans folks" (<https://blacklivesmatter.com/about>)
3. Two of the founders identify as "queer" (<https://abcnews.go.com/US/start-black-lives-matter-lgbtq-lives/story?id=71320450>)
4. They are Marxist - Black Lives Matter co-founder Patrisse Cullors said in a newly surfaced video from 2015 that she and her fellow organizers are "trained Marxists" (<https://nypost.com/2020/06/25/blm-co-founder-describes-herself-as-trained-marxist>)
5. That means they are socialists promoting a godless ideology

3. The Bible affirms that homosexuality is an abomination to God

Leviticus 18:22 says, "You shall not lie with a male as one lies with a female; it is an abomination."

1. Those who commit such an act were to be put to death in the OT - Leviticus 20:13 says, "If there is a man who lies with a male as those who lie with a woman, both of them



have committed a detestable act; they shall surely be put to death. Their bloodguiltiness is upon them."

2. God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah for homosexuality - Leviticus 19
3. Active homosexuals cannot go to heaven - 1 Corinthians 6:9 says, "Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals."
4. Homosexuality is a sin to be repented of - 1 Corinthians 6:11 says, "Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God."

#### 4. Women cannot be pastors in the church - 1 Timothy 2:11-15

1. They are learn in submission (v.11b; 1 Cor.11:3)

"Let a woman learn...with all submission."

1. In 1 Corinthians 11:3 Paul says, "But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God."
  2. That verse teaches that women are to be in submission to men in the sense that they are not to usurp the role of leadership in the church, which belongs to qualified men
  3. The word "submission" (hupotage) means, "the act of submission or obedience" (Friberg)
  4. D. Edmond Hiebert, says, "As a learner she is to be 'in quietness,' not talking or seeking to instruct others. She is to be in 'complete subjection' by voluntarily ranging herself under the divinely instituted headship of the man" (1 Timothy, p.60).
2. They are not to teach (v.12a) "And I do not permit a woman to teach."

1. "Permit" Gr.epitrepo, "let, allow" (UBS), "let someone do something" (Friberg). It means to "allow someone to do what he wants" (MacArthur)
  2. The word "teach" is didaskein, with the use of the infinitive means, "to be a teacher" (Wuest)
  3. Kenneth Wuest, says, "The kind of teacher Paul has in mind is spoken of in Acts 13:1, I Corinthians 12:28, 29, and Ephesians 4:11, God-called, and God-equipped teachers, recognized by the Church as those having authority in the Church in matters of doctrine and interpretation. This prohibition of a woman to be a teacher, does not include the teaching of classes of women, girls, or children in a Sunday School, for instance, but does prohibit the woman from being a pastor, or a doctrine teacher in a school. It would not be seemly, either, for a woman to teach a mixed class of adults" (Word Studies in the Greek NT).
3. They are not to usurp authority (v.12b) "Have authority" or "usurp authority" (authentein) occurs only here in the NT
    1. Vincent says this is not a correct translation of the Greek word. It is rather, "to exercise dominion over."
    2. George Knight in his book "New Testament Studies" concluded that the common meaning of authentein in extrabiblical literature is "to have authority over." He discovered no negative connotation such as "abusing authority."
    3. Some people have reinterpreted authentein in 1 Timothy 2:12 to mean "abusive authority." They believe it is acceptable for women to teach and exercise authority over men as long as their authority does not become abusive. However, authentein does not mean "abusive authority." There's no justification for that addition to the text. If Paul were speaking of abusive authority, he would not have limited his warning to

women.

4. Teaching and usurping authority contrast with silence and submission. Women in the church are not to be in any position where men are subordinate to them.

5. God created life in the womb, abortion is murder

Psalms 139:13-16 (NASB) 13 For You formed my inward parts; You wove me in my mother's womb. 14 I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; wonderful are Your works, And my soul knows it very well. 15 My frame was not hidden from You, when I was made in secret, and skillfully wrought in the depths of the earth; 16 Your eyes have seen my unformed substance; and in Your book were all written the days that were ordained for me, when as yet there was not one of them.

6. Lying is sin

1. God hates it - Proverbs 6:16-17a says, "16 There are six things which the LORD hates, Yes, seven which are an abomination to Him: 17 Haughty eyes, a lying tongue."
2. It's full of hate - Proverbs 26:28 says, "A lying tongue hates those it crushes, And a flattering mouth works ruin."
3. It's an abomination to God - Proverbs 12:22 says, "Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD, But those who deal faithfully are His delight."
4. Liars will go to hell - Revelation 21:8 says, "But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

### **III. IF YOU HAVE ADOPTED THE VIEWS OF THESE MEN YOU NEED TO REPENT**

1. Not believing in the Trinity is a sin

2. Following Black Lives Matter is a sin
3. Homosexuality is a sin
4. The murder of innocent life is a sin
5. Being a woman pastor is a sin
6. Lying is a sin

#### **IV. STAY INFORMED**

1. Attend the Southern Baptist Convention each year and vote against this agenda
2. Learn about those who are serving as leaders in the SBC
3. Read what others are saying about what's going on

#### **V. PRAY**

1. You can never pray enough
2. Pray about your response to these things when questioned
3. Pray about your association with those who hold these same views

#### **VI. DISASSOCIATE**

1. We need to change our name
2. I proposed this a few years ago but it was for different reasons
3. Now I'm proposing this again because of the move the SBC has taken

#### **CONCLUSION**

1. I know this is not the typical message we normally have
2. I love preaching expositionally through books of the Bible
3. And I am preparing for our next book study in 1 Peter
4. But every now and then we need to address the times and events around us
5. The greatest answer to all that is going is salvation
6. God changes hearts from the inside and out
7. Those who propose these views may either be deceived or lost
8. But where are you at this morning?
9. Are you saved?
10. If not you need to repent and turn to Christ for the forgiveness of your sins right now
11. Each week I encourage you to examine yourselves in light of salvation
12. Today is no different
13. Let's do that as we prepare to share in the Lord's Supper this morning
14. Let's pray
15. Lord's Supper