

Salty and Lit

by Tricia Berg

Today, I ran across this short speech from last year by Elizabeth Johnson ("Activist Mommy") where she said that the young people are now referring to positive things as "lit" (formerly "cool" or "neat") and negative things as "salty." I didn't know those words had been hijacked along with many other words, such as "gay" (which used to mean happy), and also symbols like the rainbow (which used to represent God's promise not to flood the whole earth with water ever again—but make no mistake—destruction is coming by fire - Gen. 9:8-17, 2Pet. 3:6-7).

Here is the video link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9n8o8eiuXZY>

It's well past the time for ALL OF US to resist the multitude of distractions and deceptions that are keeping us from noticing what is going on around us and recognizing evil for what it is. I would like to add one more thing to Elizabeth's message that desperately needs to be said (and I realize that she may have had a time limit, and was trying to keep it positive). Jesus said this:

*"You are the salt of the earth, but **if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.** You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." Matthew 5:13-16*

Who wants to be THROWN OUT and TRAMPLED? Right BEFORE the above passage, He said this:

*"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you **when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.** Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you." Matthew 5:10-12*

The persecution Jesus was referring to was NOT being "persecuted" for sinning because not everyone would endorse it and that's not "fair." It's the opposite. (2Tim. 3:12-17) It's caused by standing up for the truth, with LOVE. In case

anyone thinks that is the same thing—approving of sin IS being loving—think again.

*So that we may **no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.** Rather, **speaking the truth in love,** we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love. **Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. But that is not the way you learned Christ!**—assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, to **put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires,** and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to **put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.** Ephesians 4:14-24*

*I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to **present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.** Romans 12:1-2*

Some people want to hear that God “doesn’t see” their sin once they’re saved, and some people want “all roads to lead to heaven.” Some want both, but BOTH teachings are inspired by the devil. Both will prompt opposition by those who listen to Satan against anyone who tries to speak God’s truth. (John 8:44, Matt. 10:34-40, 1Thess. 2:14, 1John 3:4-10)

They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the **Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.** 1 John 4:5-6

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along

with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever. 1 John 2:15-17

When we care more about being liked by telling people what they want to hear than about their eternal souls, that is NOT being loving. Paul said that sexually immoral believers (of any kind—let's not be hypocritical - Rom. 2:1-11) are just like joining Christ to a prostitute. (1Cor. 6:9-20) Paul also said (and Jesus also sent His angel to John in the Book of Revelation to say) that people who PRACTICE such things will not enter the kingdom of God! (1Cor. 6:9-10, Rev. 21:8, Rev. 22:15, Gal. 5:16-21, Rom. 1:28-32, 2Tim. 3:1-5) Their portion is in the LAKE OF FIRE! How scary is that? Who wants to go there?!! How could that POSSIBLY be loving to let people believe lies with consequences THAT great? I'll tell you what it is. It's UNBELIEF. It's believing in a made-up God who would never "judge" anyone. It's idolatry. (1Thess. 4:2-8, Heb. 13:4-5)

We CAN be forgiven of ANY sin, but we are set free by salvation from being enslaved TO sin as well as the penalty for our sins. (1John 1:5-2:6) There is a difference between slipping and living in a sin. If our fruit is BAD, then it is NOT being produced by the Holy Spirit. The Bible says we need to check OURSELVES against the Bible to see if what we believe is actually the faith that SAVES, or if we're just lying to ourselves and everyone else. (Gal. 5:16-25, 2Cor. 13:5, Jam. 1:19-25, Matt. 7:24-27, Phil. 2:12-16, 1John 2:3-6, 1John 3:7, 24, Titus 2:11-12, 1Tim. 1:8-11)

*So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, **"If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."** They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?" Jesus answered them, **"Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. **So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.**" John 8:31-36***

So I agree with and immensely appreciate Elizabeth's message and ministry of love and truth. She knows that this is not a game where the one who is "nicest" to everyone else "wins." The one who is VICTORIOUS in this "game" is the one who overcomes the temptations of this fallen world by relying on the power of Jesus INSIDE of them as a believer, loving God more than anything or anyone and loving their neighbor as themselves. (However, "love" does not equal lies, and "grace" is not a license to sin - Rom. 6:1-23) His Spirit is NOT present within people who are not born again. (John 3:3-8, Rom. 8:9) Nothing we can do will give us new birth in Christ EXCEPT for TRULY believing in Him in our

hearts as our Savior AND Lord (empty words do not cut it). (Acts 2:36, Rom. 10:8-10, Luke 19:27)

No amount of “good deeds” will save anyone. However, those who bear bad fruit are doing so of their own power, not His, and that is NOT a good sign as to the condition of their souls. (Heb. 6:7-8, Heb. 10:26-27, 1Pet. 4:17-18) The devil is working overtime, even inside of the church today, to keep people distracted and confused. Don’t fall for his tricks! The “wolves” are counting on people trusting them. Read your Bible (NOT a paraphrase, but a solid translation) for yourself so you can recognize lies when you hear them.

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak. Ephesians 6:10-20

*Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. **Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith,** knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen. 1 Peter 5:6-11*

*You adulterous people! Do you not know that **friendship with the world is enmity with God?** Therefore **whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.** Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, “He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to*

dwell in us"? But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble." **Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.** Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. **Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.** Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. **Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.** James 4:4-10

"Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all, for I did not shrink from declaring to you the **whole counsel of God.** Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. I know that after my departure **fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them.** Therefore **be alert,** remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" Acts 20:26-35

If anyone teaches a different doctrine and does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the **teaching that accords with godliness,** he is puffed up with conceit and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy craving for controversy and for quarrels about words, which produce envy, dissension, slander, evil suspicions, and constant friction among people who are **depraved in mind and deprived of the truth, imagining that godliness is a means of gain.** But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. But **those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.** 1 Timothy 6:3-10

For the time is coming when people **will not endure sound teaching,** but having itching ears they will **accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions.** 2 Timothy 4:3

But these, like irrational animals, creatures of **instinct**, born to be caught and destroyed, blaspheming about matters of which they are **ignorant**, will also be destroyed in their destruction, suffering wrong as the wage for their wrongdoing. **They count it pleasure to revel in the daytime.** They are blots and blemishes, reveling in their deceptions, while they feast with you. **They have eyes full of adultery, insatiable for sin. They entice unsteady souls. They have hearts trained in greed. Accursed children!** Forsaking the right way, they have gone astray. They have followed the way of Balaam, the son of Beor, who **loved gain from wrongdoing**, but was rebuked for his own transgression; a speechless donkey spoke with human voice and restrained the prophet's madness. These are waterless springs and mists driven by a storm. For them the gloom of utter darkness has been reserved. For, **speaking loud boasts of folly, they entice by sensual passions of the flesh those who are barely escaping from those who live in error. They promise them freedom, but they themselves are slaves of corruption. For whatever overcomes a person, to that he is enslaved.** For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world through the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first. **For it would have been better for them never to have known the way of righteousness than after knowing it to turn back from the holy commandment delivered to them.** What the true proverb says has happened to them: "The dog returns to its own vomit, and the sow, after washing herself, returns to wallow in the mire." 2 Peter 2:12-22

This is now the second letter that I am writing to you, beloved. In both of them I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder, that you should remember the predictions of the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior through your apostles, knowing this first of all, that **scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires.** 2 Peter 3:1-3

Now I want to remind you, although you once fully knew it, that Jesus, who saved a people out of the land of Egypt, afterward **destroyed those who did not believe.** And the angels who did not stay within their own position of authority, but left their proper dwelling, he has kept in eternal chains under gloomy darkness until the judgment of the great day—just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which likewise **indulged in sexual immorality and pursued unnatural desire, serve as an example by undergoing a punishment of eternal fire.** Yet in like manner these people also, relying on their dreams, **defile the flesh, reject authority, and blaspheme the glorious ones.** Jude 1:5-8

These are hidden reefs at your love feasts, as they feast with you without fear, **shepherds feeding themselves**; waterless clouds, swept along by winds; fruitless trees in late autumn, twice dead, uprooted; wild waves of the sea, **casting up the foam of their own shame**; wandering stars, for whom the gloom of utter darkness has been reserved forever. It was also about these that Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of his holy ones, **to execute judgment on all and to convict all the ungodly of all their deeds of ungodliness that they have committed in such an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things that ungodly sinners have spoken against him.**" These are grumblers, malcontents, **following their own sinful desires**; they are loud-mouthed boasters, **showing favoritism to gain advantage.** Jude 1:12-16

"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. **Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.** Thus you will recognize them by their fruits. **Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.** On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.' Everyone then who hears these words of mine and **does them will be like a wise man** who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and **does not do them will be like a foolish man** who built his house on the sand. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it." And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, for he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes. Matthew 7:15-29

"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in **by another way**, that man is a **thief and a robber**. But he who enters **by the door is the shepherd** of the sheep. To him the gatekeeper opens. **The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.**" This figure of speech Jesus used with them,

*but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. **I am the door.** If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. **The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy.** I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."*
John 10:1-18

As you may have noticed, my articles are long. That is because of the inclusion of so many Bible passages for the convenience of the reader, so no one will have to take my word for anything. We EACH need to study for ourselves to grow in Christ and know the whole truth, not twisted little snippets out of context. Let's be armed and ready to overcome evil with good.

*I appeal to you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and create obstacles **contrary** to the doctrine that you have been taught; avoid them. For **such persons do not serve our Lord Christ, but their own appetites, and by smooth talk and flattery they deceive the hearts of the naive.** For your obedience is known to all, so that I rejoice over you, but I want you to **be wise as to what is good and innocent as to what is evil.** Romans 16:17-19*

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. Romans 12:21

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