

SUNDAY

FEB 16

1975

7 PM

Do you find Christians offensive?

I am assuming that you all do sometimes
and some of you do all the time.

Tonight I want to suggest one reason
why this might be so

- That Christians come on in such tiresome
fashion.

Because I think it is a matter which people
who are called to be Xn ought to reflect on

You need only make a beginner's start
at the earliest Xn literature in order
to realize - That Christianity has
a peculiar problem - It can get
said wrong!

Why N.T. letters got written, Gospel records written
down & both got preserved: - Given outwardly
Xn had this problem from the beginning - Never free from
as it was passed on & received it often turned
into its opposite.

Now

What I am assuming is that the problem of Christian
Newsy makes interesting preaching -

1. When you begin to see why it matters whether you hear the message accurately or not: - you begin to see what Christianity is all about.
2. Until you begin to see how dangerous and all our remedies for the problem of heresy - I don't think you see very deeply into the Gospel.

1. (a) CGIT LEADER -

distress - delinquent girl
- short of points - closing banquet w/choro not fair. girls paralyzed.
→ not a cheat - got that message before those.

(b) LUTHER - what must I do
- rail abandoned of Gal.
rediscovered about N.T. eggs all the time.

(c) Women Workers in Church; -
Super-Demanding Father of her Sons
while not serious?

Makes a difference — people pick up
the wrong message.
You can destroy them with a message meant to save

2. Now imagine how we go about connecting those errors. →

SENT
Leader -

You gotta
you're wrong.

heard as
liberating.

JAMES BALDWIN

ie. you can have opposit - connect language.
you can carry opposit " "

~~in~~ Gospel - held out a new way
word for Blacks while they
were kept conventional King
"An Language"

MOST
FRIGHTFUL
STATE
of
all

operation of connecting error undisturbed
like it was no problem
was just
like you could do it without
sin.

When you consider these matters you get a
very deep look into the nature of the gospel
Depth - at which it deals with the
matter of sin & salvation.

When Christians come on as the only ones
who aren't sinners, that is when they are
most offensive. That is when they least
understand the Gospel.

4
They are most destructive when they come
correcting error like they could not sin.

If I do good to you without a cause that
when I am being most just when most a sinner
I can do you a bit of harm,

But when you are on a losing hunt - about how
you see your salvation, go about correcting
attacking errors - like I could not sin. That's
in a different category - I could destroy you

The innocent are as frightful,
inquisitors as the power hungry.
How profoundly true it is:
Only sinners can bear the Gospel.

Paul Says "We have this treasure in
earthen vessels."
- so the glory would always be to God: - What good news
Can you imagine the change
coming - over vessels on earth?

Prayer: -

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O Lord:

There's a hymn that goes.

Ransomed

Healed

Restored

Forgiven

We could use an earnest or call that.

For We are captives to compulsions that destroy us
to flights that deny us.
Victims of a bad conscience

→ Break the power of that which has us in
thralldom,

We are broken in body & mind and unable to
sort out whether this comes from
our illness or our ill will.

→ Make your word flesh in us

We are Wendare - the constructions we put on our
personal lives - our history of coping
- come apart - our makeshift shoes of
life

→ Restore our souls

all our remedies fail to deal with
guilt & self resignation.

Break through with a knowledge
of our forgiveness,

O Lord:-

Not only in our petty grasp of
our personal lives.

in the way we form social & national
institutions & communities -

Systems of commerce & justice.

Organs of economy & life together.

Enslaved
Sick
Guilty &
Widow } }

Hasten your Kingdom.

Open our eyes see the places
where you have called us to
participation in it.