

What Would Jesus Say....  
*To*  
*Evangelicals?*

By:

Rev. Matthew J. Singleton

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Louisville KY

## About the Author

Matt Singleton holds a BS from Boyce Bible College and is near completion of a Masters degree in Theology at Campbellsville University. He is an ordained Southern Baptist Minister with experience as a campus minister and Youth minister and Christian coffeehouse leader. He also is a published columnist. He is happily married to his lovely wife Courtney Singleton.

# What Would Jesus Say to Evangelicals?

## Introduction

So the million-dollar question is “What is an evangelical?” Depending on who you ask you will get a different answer. Some may be as broad as “a born-again Christian” or “a conservative Christian”. Other answers are narrower. For the purpose of this book when I speak of the evangelicalism or the evangelical movement I will be speaking of a specific historic movement.

The Evangelical movement was started in the 1940’s and is the ancestor of historic protestant fundamentalism. Although it has a stepparent in another movement, known in theological circles as the Neo-Orthodox movement.

The evangelical movement unlike the fundamentalist movement had strong dogmatic differences with the policy of separation. They also dislike the militancy of fundamentalism. The evangelical ideal was that one could hold a fundamental faith and is accepted in the secular world. Much like one of their heroes C.S. Lewis. Their most famous spokes person Billy Graham and others. Many major Evangelical leaders have either had managed to have success or a measure of respect in the secular world (not to say that they are necessarily popular though). You can find this link with many figures. (Pat Robertson, James Dobson, Jerry Falwell, Tim Lahaye, Oral Roberts, Robert Schuller etc.)

Evangelicals are united by there belief in the Bible as God’s Word, Faith in Jesus as traditionally portrayed and the protestant view of salvation. And unfortunately that is as far as it extends.

The evangelical movement has over time become watered down from where it once was. Although, maybe that is more of a manner of perspective. Within Evangelicalism, I believe there are two traditions that are represented. The first being fundamentalist Christianity and the other being Neo- Orthodoxy. The movement for the most part has made the effort of trying to unify these fronts for political unity for

years. However, they are two different spiritualities. One takes the Bible as it's sole authority while the other feels free to go outside the boundaries.

However, the majority of Evangelicals come from a fundamentalist background, and they assume that their leaders are totally submitting to Biblical Authorities, even though many do not.

The Evangelical movement has so much potential for good and yet it seems to be slowly falling into false teaching. But who am I? How can one simply tell evangelicals or any other movement what it should do? What Authority do I have? I could use the Bible, but most would walk away without hesitation assuming I just had a private interpretation. So whom can I turn to?

If there is one authority in Evangelicalism that we must listen to, it should be none other than the Lord Jesus Christ Himself! If one does not believe in the Authority of Jesus then one is not an evangelical.

In engaging the central question, I have used the teachings of Christ to convey the will of Jesus. Some may look for a modern revelation, but that is not only highly unlike that our Lord would have any new doctrine, but it is also would not be convincing that as to whether it was truly Jesus. Besides Jesus Like the Father is unchanging in his opinions. How could he have been the truth if he had to change his mind?

Therefore, in this book you will find the Teachings of Jesus confront teachings of many Evangelical leaders. Many times in this book you find teachings that only a few evangelicals promote. Yet because of the movements refusal to separate from false teachings many times guilt must be placed upon the whole movement. Sometimes there are also issues involving a popular false idea that is not promoted in an academiMicah sense but still finds its way into evangelical life.

Nevertheless, we find that groups are held responsible for these types of activities in the prophetic tradition. When one is guilty many times the whole family is guilty. Therefore, the purpose of this book is for participants in modern evangelical churches to take a serious look at what there congregation

teaches and how the matches up with the teachings of Christ.

The Material in this book may seem judgmental. Part of this is because the ministry of this book is prophetic. I believe that the central theme of this book is prophetic in nature. Not to imply that it is inspired, but I do believe that God is using a book like this and possibly others to reach out and warns His people away from incoming traps.

It is not my goal to villainize evangelicalism or any other movement. Many teachers sited within this book are people I admire in many ways other than what they are criticized for. I believe that God has used many of these ministers to make this world a better place. But just as David in his sin caused the death of thousands of people Evangelical leaders can slip into sin and spread apostasy. God wrote down His word in order that we may keep each other accountable. I do not presume my self to be anything of worth on my own. Yet I believe it is my responsibility of an alerted Christian to shine God's Word upon this situation. It is through the double edge sword of correction from scripture that we may grow in faith through the fiery trials from the wicked one.

# God

Normally, conservative Protestants have had no difficulty keeping to the orthodox view of the doctrine of God. For the most part they still don't. However, these problems arise today commonly because of a lack of education and now in a day where philosophies have taken over the evangelical mind, the Doctrine of God becomes more and more a thing to capable of changing.

However this is extremely destructive, and is the very mark of Heresy and idolatry. In it's looses sense, disputing the orthodox doctrine of God is considered Heresy in Christian theology. Also, we must be fearful to remember the reason that this is idolatry, because as soon as we change God's definition then we have a different God.

*He is all powerful.*

“ Perhaps we would do well to listen to the likes of Rabbi Harold Kushner, who contends that God is not really as powerful as we have claimed. Nowhere in the Hebrew scriptures does it say that God is omnipotent. Kushner points out that omnipotence is a Greek philosophical concept, but it is not in his Bible. Instead, the Hebrew Bible contends that God is mighty. That means that God is a greater force in the universe than all the other forces combined.” Dr. Tony Campolo (Katrina: Not God's Wrath—or His Will)

Matthew 20:15 Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own? Is thine eye evil, because I am good?

Mark 10:27 And Jesus looking upon them saith, With men it is impossible, but not with God: for with God all things are possible.

Luke 10:22 All things are delivered to me of my Father: and no man knoweth who the Son is, but the Father; and who the Father is, but the Son, and he to whom the Son will reveal him.

Luke 12:5-7 But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him. Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before

# Spiritual disciplines

## Preaching

Luke 3:18 And many other things in his exhortation preached he unto the people.

Luke 4:16 And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up for to read.

Luke 4:43 And he said unto them, I must preach the kingdom of God to other cities also: for therefore am I sent.

Luke 16:16 The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it.

Luke 24:47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

Mark 1:39 And he preached in their synagogues throughout all Galilee, and cast out devils

Matthew 11:5 The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them.

Matthew 24:14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

Mark 16:20 And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

Of all people Jesus made himself an example as a preacher. He would preach from the Old Testament and prophesy the New Covenant. Not only that but he encouraged his followers to preach his saving gospel.

Notice that Jesus wasn't confined to be one particular place in his preaching. Preachers should not be limited to their comfort zones. We must be willing to go on mission for Christ. Now many like the idea to be servants over seas as missionaries. Yet few are capable of adapting to this lifestyle. Some of this is understandable in the sense that God did not make everyone to be travelers. Yet God does want us to go