

THOUGHTS

BY DOUGLAS W. SCHROEDER
SPEAKER ON THE WORD TODAY

YOUR GIFTS BRINGING LIFE TO THE WORLD

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Relish the responses to The Word Today from newer languages:

Thank you to each of the brothers who will help us to remember every day a WORD from God. In one of your programs, I heard about our value that we have in Christ. Very beautiful and clear. The teachings are short and useful for my life. God bless you. (TWT Albanian)

C

I recently received the Lord while listening to your radio program... I have received the Bible and radio you sent me. Thank you very much. Now, not only me, but also my friends are using this radio to hear the word of the Lord. It has helped me a lot. My life is growing. (TWT Amharic)

A very good radio station, great to listen to - awesome! (TWT Slovak)

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We have such a profoundly beautiful mission through The Word Today to breathe life into people's lives through the Word of God! The Spirit of God is moving people to respond to the call of Jesus to discipleship!

EXCOMMUNICATED AND CLUELESS

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"Double Lives of Suburban Wives" star Tammy was kicked out of her church because she is involved in making adult content online. Her response included this self-important reaction, "But ultimately, at the end of the day, God knows my heart. You know, God has purpose even in my life right now, as I'm sitting in this chair, you know, that pastor didn't know about. And I lean into that more than I do human opinions."

B

Tammy evidently has no desire to repent of her overt, public sin, so her church kicked her out. That is appropriate, as outlined in the steps of church discipline in Matthew 18:15-20. An important footnote to the process of excommunication is that Jesus assures His followers, "I tell you the truth, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in Heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in Heaven" (v.18). Whether Tammy's activities are ok with God is not for her to decide! Her church judged it as sin and she has refused to repent. When her church condemned her activities, it was telling her that she had better repent or face condemnation by Christ! She has been kicked out of the fellowship of believers whether she likes it or not! She is cut off from God's mercy until such time as she repents, that is, quits her overt sin!

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R

Many Christians have little understanding of the dynamics of the body of Christ, the Church, and the mechanism of forgiveness through other believers. A Christian is fundamentally impaired spiritually when they cannot recognize that they are kicked out of the Church because they are unrepentant! They have no understanding that they are under God's wrath until such time as they repent!

2026

'Double Lives' star Tammy says faith held firm after church expulsion | Fox News



*The Bible is God's Word...Jesus is God's "Word" made flesh...
His death and resurrection, the message needed Today.*

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THE LIE OF THE "GOOD MAN"

How many times have we heard the defense of a man on trial that he is a good man. If it is a teen, we hear the spokesperson of the family, often the mother, say, "He is a good boy." Who is to argue with that assertion, as little is known about the perpetrator? Was he a decent guy but collapsed into a moment of recklessness or unlawfulness? Was he out of sorts, perhaps influenced by circumstances? Not likely. People do not typically steal, disobey officers, or kill someone else in an out of character fit of behavior. The odds are far more likely that they were behaving typically.

Jesus taught an important principle to evaluate others, "Therefore by their fruits you will know them" (Matthew 7:20). In an extended analogy, Jesus taught that like trees, the good ones bear good fruit and the bad ones bear bad fruit. Now we know that Karmelo Anthony is a monster who hours before he fatally stabbed Austin Metcalf to death at a track meet stalked his girlfriend. According to a fresh news report, the 75-page filing by prosecutors in the trial site, "... dozens of alleged prior acts... including threats, assaults, weapons-related messages and statements about committing robberies." He described what happens when he gets angry, "When I get mad I see red. When I get mad I blackout...can't control myself." A photo of him acting like a badass holding a gun is part of the prosecution's evidence. A video appears to show him aiming a gun at a home. That is a young man who has conditioned himself to violence and not only excuses, but exults in it. Bad fruit.

That is the way it tends to go in these instances. An evil act is committed, and the family says, "They're a good man." Perhaps not in every circumstance, but the majority are not good, they are bad and deserve the full punishment of the law.

I struggle to think of an instance wherein a person committed a felony and was so out of character that it might be said they are a good man. You are usually safe to side with Jesus in this matter, that the perpetrator is a bad apple.

<https://www.foxnews.com/us/karmelo-anthony-photographed-guns-docs-reveal-alleged-history-rage-threats-violence>

*Blessings,
Douglas W. Schroeder*

THE WORD TODAY reaching the world with GOD'S WORD