

*For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. [2] For if the word spoken through angels proved unalterable, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense, [3] how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?... (Heb 2:1-3; NASB).*

While you may not be aware, things are changing in our brotherhood. And not all change is good. Unfortunately, I am seeing things happening that I did not think were possible within the churches of Christ. Recently, my son Alex was in a Bible class at Harding University in which part of the syllabus was to study the Restoration movement in America. Only 6 people in the class had ever heard of the restoration movement! That is not Harding's fault, but rather the fault of the local churches these students came from who failed to teach them about our rich heritage.

Now I'm not going to put out all our "dirty laundry" for the world to see, but it bears noting that many are drifting from this much needed emphasis. Many things that our brethren are experimenting with are the very things that we tried to leave in hopes of finding pure, undenominational Christianity.

This brings me to ask, "Is the restoration movement in America dead?" Have we forsaken our historical background to the point that we risk drifting back into the denominational world from which we have attempted to separate ourselves? In some places, the answer is yes. These congregations wear the proper name but are no longer distinctive, and identifiable by the Bible pattern.

History reveals that humankind is never faithful to God for very long. Our restoration movement is over 200 years old, but seems to be waning in popularity. Too many don't even know what it is! My prayer is for a renewed effort to be faithful to God by keeping the restoration movement alive. If we don't... well,... I don't even want to think about it.

See you Sunday! -gls