



The Burning Bush—Online article archive

Reformed Presbyterian wedding ends up at chapel for priest's blessing!!



The departure from God and truth advances apace. In one of the most disappointing and grieving reports to come our way in a long time, a young couple, who both profess faith in Christ, were recently married in a Reformed Presbyterian church in Co. Down. The bride was a member of the congregation and the groom was a professedly converted Roman Catholic. Guests were informed by way of a small printed leaflet in the church porch, when they turned up for the wedding service, that, following the service, the couple would be travelling to "St Bridget's" Roman Catholic chapel, Belfast, to receive the blessing of the parish priest, 'Father' O'Neill!

This astounded many of the guests, as it will many believers within the United Kingdom and further abroad, since the Reformed Presbyterian Church in Ireland would maintain that it is faithful to the historic Presbyterian creeds, in which Roman Catholicism is denounced as unbiblical and antichristian, and that it is opposed to the ecumenical movement.

Permission

That permission was granted for the announcement to be made available in the church porch and that the service went ahead in the light of the planned "blessing" by a priest, is both disappointing and inexplicable. Whether or not a man who has signed the Westminster Confession of Faith could, in good conscience, become party to such a travesty may be considered open to debate by some.

Protest

For those who see it to be the chief duty of ministers in these evil times to be faithful to God and to His truth, being party to such proceedings would be unthinkable and they would have withdrawn in protest from the wedding service immediately it became known that such an unscriptural "blessing" was planned.

If truth can be so easily mixed with error within the camp of professing evangelical Protestantism, then what hope is there of the present race of ministers ever seeing a reversal of the trends taking place?

What a need there is for revival and for the Spirit which endued John Knox and the believers of his generation, to be poured out abundantly again upon the professing Church of Christ. Jeremiah encountered such a spirit of compromise with error. There were those in his day who easily combined the worship of God with idolatry. It was his task to proclaim faithfully God's abhorrence of such wickedness. His words to the people of his day fit well the circumstances of our day also.

"Behold, ye trust in lying words, that cannot profit. Will ye steal, murder, and commit adultery, and swear falsely, and burn incense unto Baal, and walk after other gods whom ye know not; and come and stand before me in this house, which is called by my name, and say, We are delivered to do all these abominations?" Jeremiah 7:8-10.