The New Tolerance
By: Aaron Gadberry

First I have to give credit of some of this thought to Josh McDowell and Bob Hostetler. I got a portion from their book The New Tolerance.

Traditional Tolerance vs. New Tolerance

"Traditional tolerance values, respects, and accepts the individual without necessarily approving of or participating in his or her beliefs or behaviors. Traditional tolerance differentiates between what a person thinks or does and the person himself."

"The definition of new...tolerance is that every individual's beliefs, values, lifestyle, and perception of truth claims are equal...There is no hierarchy of truth. Your beliefs and my beliefs are equal, and all truth is relative." - Thomas Helmbock

It has a "Don't knock it till you try it," twang to the whole thing. The new tolerance all came about whenever society started changing the definition of who you are.

Traditional "who you are" is a valuable person with a soul. Someone who matters and is held equally with every other person.

New “who you are” = what you do.

With the second definition of who you are in effect under traditional tolerance there was disaster. Everyone felt that they were being judged as a person because someone had the ability under traditional tolerance to not condone their actions. Therefore new tolerance movement began.

This is the ironic part. At this point in society if you do not believe and live the new tolerance not only are you not tolerated, but you are considered a judgmental bigot. How can a message of tolerance be so intolerant?

Comments?

Aaron