

The Church is Intolerant in Principle Because It Believes . . .

"The Church is intolerant in principle because it believes":

The Church believes and follows the will of the Father over that of the world. There are "sins" of the world that the church will not tolerate *in principle* (the Church must follow the laws established by God as outlined in Scripture). It is obligated to assist all persons in their efforts to reach heaven. As such, the Church is obligated to point out that serious sin will keep them out of heaven. The world misinterprets this as "intolerance" (bigotry, narrow-mindedness, prejudice, etc.) However,...

"The Church is tolerant in practice because it loves":

Even though the Church points out the sins of the world, it *loves* all persons and treats them with the dignity due them as children of God. As children of God the church still accepts them (though not their sinful behavior) and serves them *accordingly* regardless of their sin. Jesus loved the woman caught in adultery...but remember, He told her to "*go and sin no more*". He loved her enough to point out she had to turn away from her sin (so she might gain Heaven).

"The enemies of the Church are tolerant in principle because they don't believe."

The world does not believe, nor follows, the laws of God. They follow their own will, saying in essence there is no such thing as sin. *All* people are entitled to believe and act as they please. As such, they see essentially any behavior and promote all lifestyles or "personal" decisions as acceptable. They see themselves as "tolerant". However,...

"They are intolerant in practice because they do not love."

The world practices intolerance towards those who oppose this philosophy. They admonish the Church as ignorant, bigoted, narrow-minded, and "old fashioned". If the world loved like the Church loves it would love the Church in spite of this. As such, the enemies of the Church are in fact *intolerant* even though its' own philosophy claims tolerance for all (the Church being the only exception).

Commentary by Tony Stout