

Prayer Boxes in the Church??

Q: I thank the Lord for your wonderful ministry. Keep the Faith! I have a question regarding "prayer boxes". I have noticed this new thing lately and I was wondering what is this all about. It seems to be some kind of pagan practice. Please advise. Thanks in advance. Respectfully, Bro_____.

A: Oh My! I haven't heard of it! But errors are coming in so fast these days it makes ones head swim! Could you please give me some more details of what you are seeing happening and I will share any thoughts I can on it when I understand the situation. God Bless!!

Q: The situation is that we have a prayer box in our congregation that people write there prayer requests on and place them in the locked box. The pastor says it doesn't matter what you write or how you write it God understands your needs. Each Sabbath during divine worship we have "altar call" where the congregation comes down in front to place their request in the box during intercessory prayer. **Once the box is filled over time the requests are burned to "signify our prayers ascending to heaven"**. I just know that I haven't always seen this type of thing. Each Sabbath the prayer box is held up by the pastor or elder during intercessory prayer. Maybe I'm looking too deep into this thing, but I was just wondering if you might have some feedback. Thanks again for your response.

A: Yes -- this is Pagan and has the spirit of Roman Catholicism which takes anything they want from heathen practices and brings it into the church and says it is now holy. We DARE not add anything to how God has instructed us to worship Him and we dare not neglect anything- Notice this verse as it solves a lot of questions people will ask you about 'What is wrong with this or that?' : De 12:32 What thing soever I command you, observe to do it: thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it.

De 4:2 Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.

Pr 30:6 Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar.

Re 22:18 For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: 19 And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

NOTICE how often this is repeated- and I have not listed all the verses that put this message across.

So the answer is that if we find such a thing in use or recommended by Jesus or the apostles, then we may safely use it. But when we think for a moment about the thought behind this we see it is spiritualist to the core!! God is a personal being -- and He wants us to communicate on a personal level-- Satan seeks to make God into an abstract force and gives the idea that prayer's power is actually in our mind or in the uniting of minds.

This is Pantheism and came in to our people with the Alpha apostacy and is reaching a terrible level among us these days!!

God have Mercy!!

God Bless you!

Comment: Thanks for your reply. I'm not sure myself if this is pagan or not, but I know that Tibetan Monks used prayer boxes, and the question is have Christians ever used prayer boxes? Like you said there are just so many things that are coming in that you really don't know anymore, where things originate from. Below in red is an excerpt from a book I found online. The author is Janell Moon and the Title is "The Prayer Box: Create, Write, and Live Your Prayers "

"There are many ways to pray. Muslims pray in salat(a ritualized prayer done five times daily, requiring prostration with the forehead touching the floor) and dua, a personal prayer invoking their God. Jews and Buddhists meditate and pray, and some Hindi say that chanting and dancing in prayer is the most joyous thing they do in life. In the Prayer Box, prayer is a personal communication with the source of your belief, the spirit or God in whose energy you can find rest. It's a connection with a wise one within-written, spoken, or whispered with earnestness and compassion. We are friends with the source that rocks us to sleep and opens our eyes to the light. There is no tradition from which we cannot borrow, no ancient or modern form that we cannot take to our altar. We dip into the traditions of writing out our longing to our "holy one" by writing prayer lines for the Prayer Box. We do not, however, repeat set scripts as the Tibetan Monks do on their prayer pages; rather, we write our wishes and concerns in our own voice to our spirit or God. In making our words seen to ourselves they are clarified. "

Jer 10:2 Thus saith the LORD, Learn not the way of the heathen, . . .

De 12:30 Take heed to thyself that thou be not snared by following them, after that they be destroyed from before thee; and that thou enquire not after their gods, saying, How did these nations serve their gods? even so will I do likewise. 32 What thing soever I command you, observe to do it: thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it.