Ephesians 4:10-16

Biblical Civility

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1.7.18

Introduction:     A super-heated, word-charged culture

Key Question:   What is the role of the church in an age of Trolling, Tweeting, Flaming and Word-bombing?

Answer: The church’s mission is to be God’s instrument of filling “all things” with the glory at Christ.  How?

 I. Guiding Principles

A. God give a variety of gifts to those He intends to lead His church. (v.11)

B.      God gives one central purpose to all leaders: to equip the saints for the Work of Ministry (v.12-14)

C.      God gives the saints a primary tool for ministry: to speak the Truth in Love (v15a)

      II.            Required Practices (v.15)

A. We must say what is true (v.15a)

B.      We must only say what is provable (v.15b)

C.      We must only say what is loving (v.12, 15-16, 29)

III.            Redemptive Priorities

A. Are my words opening conversations (or closing them)?

B.      Are my words building up or tearing down

Conclusion:         Poison or Antidote