THEY THINK IT STRANGE
I Peter 4: 1 - 4
Sermon by Donald Townsley

INTRODUCTION
1. Peter said this of the attitude of the world in the first century toward Christians.
2. Today it is strange to some that Christians believe:

I. ALL THE BIBLE, BUT ONLY OBEY THE NEW TESTAMENT
   1. The word of God must be rightly divided -- II Tim. 2: 15
   2. There are three dispensations in the Bible -- PATRIARCHAL, JEWISH, GOSPEL
   3. We are no longer under the Law of Moses:
      (1) Col. 2:14
      (2) Heb. 10:9
      (3) Rom. 8: 2 - 3
      (4) Eph. 2:15
      (5) Gal. 5:4
      (6) Heb. 7:12
      (7) II Cor. 3:11
      (8) Heb. 8:13
   4. Purpose of the Old Testament today -- Rom. 15:4 ; I Cor. 10:11

II. THEY THINK IT STRANGE THAT WE DON'T CALL PREACHERS "REVEREND", "DOCTOR", AND "PASTOR"
   1. Only God is REVEREND -- Psa. 111:9
   2. Jesus condemned the wearing of religious titles -- Matt. 23: 7 - 12
   3. The preacher is not the pastor, the pastors are the elders -- Eph. 4:11

III. THEY THINK IT STRANGE THAT WE DON'T USE INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC
   1. Only vocal music is authorized -- Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16
   2. We are not to go beyond what is written -- I Cor. 4:6; 2 John 9
   3. Instrumental music is NOT OF FAITH -- II Cor. 5:7; Heb. 11:6; Rom. 10:17
   4. Instrumental music is NOT COMMANDED BY CHRIST -- Matt. 28: 18 - 20
   5. Instrumental music makes the WORSHIP VAIN -- Matt. 15:9

IV. THEY THINK IT STRANGE THAT WE BELIEVE THERE IS BUT ONE BODY - ONE CHURCH
   1. Eph. 4:4 "one body"
   2. Eph. 1: 22 - 23
   3. Eph. 2:16
   4. I Cor. 12:13
   5. Eph. 5:25
   6. Eph. 5:23
   7. Matt. 16:18
   8. Acts 2:47
V. THEY THINK IT STRANGE THAT WE BELIEVE GOD’S GRACE IS EXTENDED THROUGH THE WORD CONDITIONALLY.
1. Tit. 2: 11 - 12
2. Acts 20:24
3. Saved by Grace -- Eph. 2:5
4. Saved by the gospel -- I Cor. 15:2
5. Rom. 5:21; Rom. 1: 16 - 17
6. Rom. 5:2; Eph. 2:8
7. Conditions in becoming a child of God -- Hear, Believe, Repent, Confess, Baptism

VI. THEY THINK IT STRANGE THAT WE BELIEVE THE WORK OF THE CHURCH IS LIMITED
1. Preaching the gospel to the lost -- Mk. 16: 15 - 16; I Tim. 3:15
2. Edifying the saved -- Matt. 28:20
3. Helping needy saints -- I Cor. 16:1 - 2
4. Not involved in social programs
   (1) The church is not a religious and social organization.
   (2) It runs no camps, has no kitchens, and sponsors no trips

VII. THEY THINK IT STRANGE THAT WE ARE UNLIKE THE WORLD IN MANNER OF LIFE
1. I Pet. 4: 1 - 4
2. I John 2: 15 - 17
3. I Pet. 2:11
4. II Cor. 6: 17; Rom. 12:2

VIII. THEY THINK IT STRANGE THAT WE BELIEVE BAPTISM IS NECESSARY TO SALVATION
1. Mk. 16:16
2. Acts 2:38
3. Gal. 3: 27
5. I Pet. 3:21

CONCLUSION
1. Friend, if you think God’s people are "strange", why don’t you investigate-- if you will, you will no longer think we are strange.

Preached at Erwin, Tenn. Radio 1987; Hebron Lane 1986; BCTV 12 1987; River Bend 1998