



## The Burning Bush - Online article archive

### Principles abandoned - God's Truth Betrayed!



Free Presbyterian Church elder and Social Development Minister, Mervyn Storey pictured at Corrymeela.

The Corrymeela Community objectives have been defined so: "The Corrymeela Community is a Christian community whose objective is the promotion of reconciliation and peace-building through the healing of social, religious, and political divisions in Northern Ireland. It runs programmes aimed at establishing a shared society defined by tolerance, where differences are resolved through dialogue in the public sphere and where there is equity, respect for diversity and recognition of interdependence."

In one word CORRYMEELA means ECUMENISM with its old objective of REUNION with ROME.

From its inception it was seen by the Free Presbyterian Church of Ulster as such.

Now we have a Free Presbyterian elder wishing "the Corrymeela Community well for its upcoming 50th anniversary celebrations."

The text under the photographs published on the Northern Ireland Executive **website**, reads:

*Social Development Minister, Mervyn Storey MLA pictured with Pádraig Ó Tuama, Corrymeela Community Leader as the Minister wished the Corrymeela Community well for its upcoming 50th anniversary celebrations.*

*Storey wishes Corrymeela well for 50th anniversary celebrations*

*Social Development Minister, Mervyn Storey MLA pictured with Pádraig Ó Tuama, Corrymeela Community Leader as the Minister wished the Corrymeela Community well for its upcoming 50th anniversary celebrations.*

*During Minister Storey's visit, he heard about the community's year long plan of events, which include a gathering of international volunteers at Easter, and a special event to be held at St Anne's Cathedral in November.*

As an elder in the Free Presbyterian Church of Ulster, Mr Storey took a solemn oath to oppose ecumenism and uphold God's Word.

Nothing could be more contrary to that oath than wishing well an ecumenical organisation such as the Corrymeela Community, with its objective of building the latter-day ecumenical "Tower of Babel".

Is this not something that his Session in Ballymoney Free Presbyterian Church, of which Mr Storey is a member, should consider and is it not something that the leadership of the Free Presbyterian Church should be concerned about?

Such actions cannot be excused under the notion that a man's political activities are separate from his spiritual ac-



Mervyn Storey with Pádraig Ó Tuama, Corrymeela Community Leader.



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tivities. There are those who would put forward this view to justify such actions but the Word of God condemns such a notion.

The dishonest activities of the publicans were not excused by the Saviour as being mere 'common business practice' in which all engaged.

Zacchaeus, who "was the chief among the publicans" (Luke 19:2) did not believe in this lie for when he was converted he immediately took steps to cease his dishonest ways and do what he could to put right his former dishonesty. "And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold," Luke 19:8. That declaration by Zacchaeus earned him the following response from the Saviour. "And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house, forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham," Luke 19:9.

Christ did not say, "There was no need for you to do that, Zacchaeus. What you do as a businessman has no bearing on your relationship with me." But rather the Lord Jesus said that the actions of Zacchaeus clearly showed that the grace of God had really come into his heart and made him a new man.

Pilate's decision to hand the Saviour over to be crucified was a political decision. Is it to be excused because of this? I think not and I know of none who would dare say it was.

The world would have a man leave his Christian convictions at the door to parliament or the door to his office etc. However, that is not what God's Word teaches.

What a man believes he is required to practice in every sphere of his life and dealings with others. Christ said to the woman: "Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more." John 8:11. It is clear that He expected her to live differently from how she had lived up until then. So it is with every Christian. "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new," 2 Corinthians 5:17.

Professing to be one thing and living as another will find no sanction in God's Word!

Mr Storey cannot stand up for the Word of God whenever he is in his church services and then abandon obedience to the same Word of God and act quite contrary when he is engaged in his political activities. He cannot swear allegiance to the Reformed Faith, which has the Bible at its heart, before his Presbytery brethren and then set aside that allegiance as he pursues his political career.

Apart from anything else that is hypocrisy!

He may like to think that he can as do many in the Democratic Unionist Party but the day is coming when they shall learn to the contrary.

"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit" Romans 8:1.

Ivan Foster.

25th February 2015.