

Essay from the bald pastor

#155 - Hello Kitty -

Believe it or not, the previously unknown fact that “the Hello Kitty is not a cat” startled the whole world. The exhibition to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Hello Kitty, a popular Sanrio character, has opened in the Little Tokyo in LA. However, prior to the event’s opening, Christin R. Yano, the curator of the exhibition and a professor at the University of Hawaii, made the following remark in her interview with the LA Times. “Hello Kitty is not a cat. She’s a cartoon character. She is a little girl. She is a friend. But she is not a cat. She’s never depicted on all fours. She walks and sits like a two-legged creature. She does have a pet cat of her own.” This revelation caused such a huge controversy that the official website of Peanuts, a similarly world-famous character, posted a comment saying, “We can confirm. Snoopy is a dog.” I don’t mean to belittle Hello Kitty, but it was surprising to see a character with only a 40-year history create such a fuss. This reminded me a simple statement in the Bible that tends to get overlooked can bear a great significance.

**“Paul devoted himself exclusively to preaching,
testifying to the Jews that Jesus was the Messiah.”**

Acts 18:5

As you may or may not know, the term “Christ” is not a man’s name but a special title given only to God, the Savior. Nevertheless, more than a few people consider him just a man. Even worse, the Jews killed him claiming that he was not a “Christ.” What’s more troubling is that many people among self-claimed pastors, churches, and Christians don’t believe that Jesus is the “Christ” or that the bible is a fact. Jesus performed a number of miracles as a proof that he is the God, including feeding tens of thousands of people with only five pieces of bread and walking on water. Yet, such unbelievers denied Christ’s divine nature by dismissing the former story as “he divided the bread into a grain-sized pieces” and the latter story as “he just walked on water’s edge.” What they did in essence was denying God and the Gospel altogether.

If those stories were true, I would immediately quit being a pastor, or even a Christian. If Jesus was not the Christ, there was no God, and the Gospel that claims “you will be saved by believing” was not true, churches would merely be an artifact called religion. So, let me declare clearly and remind you there is no doubt Jesus is the Savior sent from God.

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