

## Mortally Wounded by Hurt Feelings?

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by Wayne Goff

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** *Going through my files, I came across the following statement by Dr. George P. Carrillot from Snellville, Georgia. The note is pretty old, handwritten by me on a 3"x5" card. So it must have made an impression on me as a young man. Decades later I now submit it for your consideration.*

**"How many Christian soldiers have been wounded in battle with nothing more serious than hurt feelings, have treated the wound as a fatality and so, have become 'missing in action' when they are greatly needed in the trenches?! Are you among those 'missing'?"**

Having preached the gospel now for forty-five years, I can spot a "trend" pretty easily. In the last ten years or so I have noticed in the Lord's church, among the Lord's people, the exaggerated emphasis on **"hurt feelings."** Now I understand that nobody likes to have their feelings hurt, and none of us should deliberately go about trying to hurt someone's feelings. **BUT "HURT FEELINGS" ARE NOT THE STANDARD OF AUTHORITY!!** But they are being used as just that by many of my brethren. The idea being perpetrated is that if something you teach or preach hurts my feelings, then it is wrong. This concept knowingly, or unknowingly, comes from our present society's magnification of **subjectivism** (the idea that each one of us can determine his own standard of right and wrong). This philosophy has led to **narcissism** (love of self), and is harming both our country and the Lord's church.

Gospel preachers and teachers are to *"speak the truth in love"* (Ephesians 4:15), and be *"gentle ... just as a nursing mother"* (1 Thessalonians 2:7), but some have taken any absence of this as an excuse for rejecting the truth of God on any given subject.

Dear brother or sister, if you read this and see yourself in this article, then please do not go away disgusted and hurt, but realize that you have become a **victim** of our society's **subjectivism**. Return back to the New Testament standard of **"faith"** (objective), Romans 1:17, and do not be carried away by the winds of false doctrine! Ephesians 4:14

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