Why aren't pastors talking about this?

I may have discovered why Pastors are not teaching about the implications of the Greek Present Tense. For several years, I have been writing about the implications of soteriological passages that include present tense verbs. From the responses I have received, I get the impression that most people who read my articles about this decide to disregard the things I am saying. I might be wrong, but it seems as if they are concluding that the things I am saying must be incorrect because they don't hear their pastors and other church leaders talking about them.

For those who have not yet read any of my articles about this, I often point out that Koine Greek present tense verb forms, in their **default**¹ meaning, are conveying action that is not only happening at this moment, but action that continues without ceasing. This aspect is crucial to a proper understanding of what N.T. authors wanted you to know. For example, in John 3:16, John wanted you to know that, "God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, what whosoever <u>believes and continues to believe</u> into Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (Click this link to see an article that conveys this Greek Grammar concept.)

I am quick to point out that this is not merely my opinion, or the opinion of some commentator. It is based upon this Koine Greek grammar fact. In spite of this, it seems like most people that read my articles about this completely disregard them as if I am making them up out of thin air. I wonder if they are doing the necessary research to prove me right or wrong. Are they asking their pastors about this?

As I said above, I suspect that they disregard my articles about this because they don't hear pastors and church leaders talking about these things. This has been causing me to wonder why they don't talk about them. Are they simply ignorant about them? Or, God forbid, do they know about them but refuse to teach about them so that they don't rock the boat? Do they turn a blind eye to them because they seem to conflict with their long-held traditions?

Today, while doing some research on the internet, I may have discovered why many pastors are not talking about these things. It is quite possible, they were taught things about the Greek present tense that are blatantly untrue. I have been aware that during the last 50 years or so, some so called scholars have been telling an opposing story about the Greek present tense. Because I assumed that this was a fringe movement without credibility, I did not give it much thought. But today, I discovered a website that promotes this new teaching about the Greek present tense.

Having read this article, I think I now know the reason for this Johnny-Come-Lately teaching about the Greek present tense. The people behind this article blatantly promote the widespread heresy that I call "Easy Believism." They teach that people like me are the heretics because we teach "Lordship Salvation." I hope your message is the same is mine. Those who come to Jesus, must bow to Him as Lord (take His yoke upon them).

I remember when I first became a Christian, another new believer told me that a person can be assured of heaven now if he receives Jesus as Savior. He will go to heaven even if he does not receive Jesus as Lord. Even as a new believer, this seemed heretical to me. 50 years of subsequent Bible study confirmed my hunch.

As recently as 20 years ago, I was astounded while communicating with a man that held a high position in the world's largest "Christian" mission agency. He wrote a lengthy discipleship training course that their missionaries use to teach unbelievers about the gospel. Upon reviewing it, I found it said nothing about the cost of discipleship, the need to endure to the end, or even the Lordship of Jesus. I asked him why he did not use any of Jesus' words to teach these things. He said, "Those ideas teach a works-based salvation." He went on to say that we are now in the "age of grace" and the teachings of Jesus no longer apply since those words were spoken during the "age of law." This blew up my mind. This was the largest "Christian" mission agency in the world and they were promoting blatant heresy. I mourn often about this. (I hope you mourn also.)

It makes perfect sense that once this heresy took hold, they would seek to undermine trusted Greek grammars in order to support their easy-believism heresy. After all, if the Greek present tense in its unaffected form convey action that continues without ceasing, their core teaching is obviously false. So, out comes this "new" understanding of Greek present tense as a means to discredit the long held to Greek Grammar books that portray customary Greek present tense as continuous action.

Before I started reading up on this distortion, I suspected that pastors were probably just ignorant of Greek Grammar present tense rules. Now, I realize that it is also possible that they were simply taught a distorted understanding of these things that is being pushed by the "easy believism movement." Most Bible colleges and seminaries have been teaching many false doctrines for decades. This may be just another one of many distortions that they are teaching. If your pastor does not teach about these things, you might want to ask him why not. Perhaps he has unknowingly been misled by his seminary or Bible college.

Note: If you are curious to read some distortions being promoted by the easybelievism camp: Here is a link to an article that was written by a "Non-Lordship Salvation" proponent. They will stoop to anything to support their position, even if it means teaching errors about Greek Grammar.

¹ By default, I mean in their unaffected meaning. The present tense aspect can be affected by other factors which can reduce the "continuous" present tense aspect.