A Christian?

Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

What, or who, is a Christian? Who is acceptable unto God? There are many kinds of religions in our world. People practice what their particular faith teaches, as he, or she, believes. God is not the author of confusion, the devil, with man's help, has brought that to the lives of men. Christianity is the only true faith, as it was ordained by God and not by man. Still, is everything that is called "Christian" really Christian?

So many so-called "faiths" have little, if any, resemblance to Christianity, even though they are referred to as Christian. How do we know what being a Christian is? Simple, look at Jesus, the Christ, the Son of God. Christian means Christ-like. He is our example and is the only one that we are to follow. Don't put your trust in any man, for the best is still a man, and will fail. Jesus is the one who died for us and is the only one who can wash away our sins.

If we are Christians then we will walk through this life like Jesus did. He made it a point to do the father's will. **John 12:49-50**, "For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me

a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. ⁵⁰And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak." There are those who take it upon themselves to change what God has said, even when they say that they are doing his will. This is not the example of Jesus, he spoke what God had commanded him to say. This is what any true servant of God will do.

One of the commandments that the devil hates is baptism. Why? It is not that big of a deal, some may say. That is just what Satan wants people to think. Since baptism is part of what Jesus said to do to become a Christian, then if Satan can convince people to neglect it, he has won a battle right there. Satan doesn't mind it when people act religious just as long as they don't obey the Lord. Look at the many groups in our world who kill, hate and serve the devil while claiming that they are working for God.

Some churches (?), teach that you don't even have to go to church and support the work of the Lord. They say that as long as you say that you believe that it is enough. I will say that going to church, by itself, it not going to save anyone, but a child of God will be in church. We go

to praise the Lord and to be taught the Word of God. Jesus felt it necessary to be in God's house to worship and so should we. Luke 4:16.

One of the most difficult doctrines, that men have made, to understand is that a person can live in sin and still be acceptable to God. To call a person a Christian while he is living as wicked as any child of the devil is mocking everything that Jesus did. While a Christian may sin in a moment of weakness, he will not continue in sin. He desires to be pleasing to the Lord and will repent of sin. Those who sin and it doesn't bother them in any way are only fooling themselves. They are Christian in name only and hurt the cause of Christ in this world.

Look at the way some churches treat others that are different. Some will turn their back and ignore you if you say that you go to a church that is different from the one that they go to.

I've had it happen to me more than once through the years. One preacher told me once that I should not encourage "Those People" to come to worship with us. I told him that the doors were open and as Jesus said, "And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." -- Rev. 22:17.

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