#### **But Now Ye Say, We See**

Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

John 9:41, "Jesus said unto them, If ye were blind, ye should have no sin: but now ye say, We see; therefore your sin remaineth." Jesus spoke these words to the Pharisees who thought that they were the people closest to God. The Pharisee prided himself on his knowledge of scriptures, offerings to God, and observance of the law - at least his interpretation of it. **Isaiah 65:5** is said to be the creed of the Pharisee. Jesus told them that they didn't see spiritually as good as they thought.

Isn't it odd how they could tithe even herbs and other things, but had no trouble paying men to bear false witness against someone? They could hate, plot a man's death, lie and sin in other ways, but worry about looking good in the eyes of man. Keeping God's law in not just done with ceremony, but by walking in truth, faith, and love of God. The Pharisees of the time were concerned with form and ritual and not so much in the true meaning of the word

of God. Claiming to be holy, indeed they thought themselves to be the holiest of men, they said one thing and did something else. That is why Jesus called them hypocrites on more that one occa-

How about the religious people of today? Some are like the Pharisees in a way. There are those who talk about their love of God, but do not want to walk with the Lord. Talking about the bible is good, but if that is all that is done, what good does it do? We should read and study it, so that we'll know how to live it. To try to look religious in the eyes of men will not get us any closer to the Lord. Such a lifestyle will have the opposite effect by making a person nothing more than a modern day Pharisee. Remember that this is what the Pharisees were noted for.

By saying, "We see," they were saying that they could see, and know, the will of God and how to live for him. They were to be teachers of the law and to help others, but instead of helping to lead others in the way of God they caused them to go astray. Matthew 23:15, "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he

is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves." Jesus went on to tell them how they perverted God's law.

So many today claim to be leaders, teachers, and preachers of God's Word, but teach man's doctrines. I have heard some mock the things of God while saying that they were the true teachers of the gospel. Everything from the Lord's Supper, church attendance, baptism, to resisting sin has been ridiculed by these "teachers." They say that they see, but clearly if anyone contradicts what the Lord has said, he is wrong, for God is the authority.

So much of the bible tells believers to resist sin, to take heed to what God has said, and to "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God." Yet some dare to say that a person can live in sin and still go to heaven. While a Christian might sin in a weak moment he will not live in sin. Anyone who would teach such an ungodly doctrine is going against God, and we know how that will turn out. A Christian who is serious about living for the Lord doesn't want to sin and when he does he will be sorry and will repent. If we're serious, God will forgive and bless us, but if we can sin and not feel remorse and shame, we'll face God in judgment. Be against sin - our God is.

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