Like All The Nations Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

<u>1 Samuel 8:19-20</u>, "Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, Nay; but we will have a king over us; That we also may be like all the nations; and that our king may judge us, and go out before us, and fight our battles."

Like all the other nations - how sad that the chosen people of God wanted to be like everyone else. The people of Israel were to be God's witnesses to the other nations. An example of a nation living for the one true God. Yet, instead of them leading others to trust in the living God, they wanted to be like those nations that lived in idolatry and sin.

The people of today who have confessed Jesus as Lord and Savior are called to be the witness to the lost souls of our world. The sinners usually won't go to church and hear God's word, but they do see and hear the Christian as they go about in public each day. We that are saved need to realize that we have an opportunity to introduce someone to Christ, or if we exhibit a bad example we may push someone away from

the salvation of Jesus.

The saved are different from the natural man and woman. Christians may look the same, but within is the Spirit of God, making a new creature inside the old body. Unless a person resists the Spirit, he will lead him to walk with God each day. Old sins are forgiven and we are to fight against the sins of the flesh. Temptations will be there each and every day and only by being aware of them and asking God to help us can we overcome them.

People sometimes think it strange when the Christian doesn't go along with some event, or some sinful joke, or activity. Especially when they know that he did in the past. What they fail to realize is that it was in the past, not a current event or way of life. You may say, "Well I saw a Christian say, or do, something that was wrong." Yes, you may have, and if you did it was sad that it happened. We would like to be perfect, but remember that we are still in the body of flesh.

We get angry, and feel all the emotions that everyone else does.

If a Christian errs and commits a sin he will go to the Lord in prayer and ask for forgiveness. There is sorrow when we fail as any sincere child of God can and will tell you. Those who you saw make a mistake in their walk with God, did they keep on, or did he act like sin was no big deal?

The true child of God will do his best to be Christ like in his daily life and is very sorry if he comes short of God's will. The hypocrite has the name of being a Christian but lives in sin and has no remorse for his sin.

Jesus said that no man can serve two masters and how true that is. The hypocrite is trying to do what Jesus said can't be done. He wants to go to heaven and yet he wants to indulge in the things of this world. Trying to fit in he desires to be like everyone else and a part of the crowd. Peer pressure doesn't just affect the young, older people still don't like to be thought of as an outsider, or an oddball. Yet, as Israel found out, trying to be like the world comes at a high price.

It's hard at times to be the only one who doesn't go along with something that others want to do. I know that very well, just like many of you.

In <u>2 Corinthians 6:16-18</u> we are told, "And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you. And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty."





