

Northside Church of Christ

“God is a Spirit; and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.”
John 4:24



Let's Be Sincere Followers Of Christ!

By Mike Riley

We've all met scoffers who thoughtlessly parrot the phrase, "The church is full of hypocrites!" But let's not be thoughtless in our response and dismiss such pronouncements without taking heed lest they be true.

Have we ever been like the Christian mother who glanced through her window, only to see a nosy, noisy neighbor approaching her door? Her young, impressionable children heard her as she growled, "Oh, no — not her again!" Whereupon she opened the door and insincerely exclaimed, "How very nice to see you!"

There's a saying that says, "A hypocrite will often pray on his knees on Sunday, and prey on his neighbors on Monday." The opponents of Christianity may not be so much against Christ as they are against the hypocrisy of His followers. Ironically, it hasn't occurred to them that no one was more opposed to hypocrisy than Jesus (cf. Matthew 6:2; Matthew 6:5; Matthew 6:16-18; Matthew 23:13-15; Matthew 23:23-29).

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SUNDAY MORNING

Triple E
Edify, Exhort,
Evangelize
When Shovels Break
8:30 AM

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

9:30 AM

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Worship Service
10:30 AM

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Bible Study - Acts
7:00 PM



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“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

2 Timothy 2:15

Northside Church of Christ
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Meridian, MS 39301

Place Stamp Here

Let's Not Be Simpletons!

By Mike Riley

In today's religious world, there are false teachers and teachings almost everywhere we look. If we are unfamiliar with God's word, we can easily be deceived by these false teachings (Romans 16:17-18; Ephesians 4:14; Titus 1:9-10).

For example, I noticed a religious article today, in which the false teaching of grace alone was being promoted (see second paragraph – note the statement, “not in accordance with the Word of God, which says that salvation is by grace alone”).

The author quoted from Acts 15:11, which states:

“But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved in the same manner as they.”

Note that the above verse does not in any way promote the idea of being saved by grace alone, for the word “alone” is not found in the text. However, note the phrase “saved in the same manner as they.” Who are the “they”?

The “they” refers to the Gentiles in Acts 15:7 who were saved in the account found in Acts 10:19-48. By what “manner” were they saved? By grace alone? No, by “grace” (Acts 15:11) through a “purifying” faith (Acts 15:9).

Paul tells us the same thing in Ephesians 2:8 – that we are saved by “grace through faith” — not by grace alone. The inspired James tells us what kind of faith we must have in order to properly access God's grace and be justified by God — a “working” obedient faith (James 2:24; cf. Gal. 5:6; Hebrews 5:8-9; 1 Peter 1:22).

Also note the active obedient faith of the heroes of faith listed in Hebrews 11 and Saul in Acts 9:6, who realized that he must “do” something in order to be saved (cf. Acts 9:10-18; Acts 22:1-16).

The Proverb writer [Solomon] tells us in Proverbs 14:15 AMP:

“The simpleton believes every word he hears, but the prudent man looks and considers well where he is going.”

Brethren and friends, let's not be simpletons when it comes to religious teachings that we receive from the printed page or through the medium of radio and television.

Let's study the Bible for ourselves in context [see no. 4] (2 Timothy 2:15 KJV), searching the Scriptures “daily” to see whether or not the religious teachings we are receiving are really from God's word (Acts 17:10-11; cf. 1 John 4:1-6).

By our lips and by the example our daily living produces, we sometimes teach a mixed message. In Matthew 23:1-15, Jesus described the hypocritical teachers of the law and warned His disciples, “Do not do according to their works; for they say, and do not do” (Matthew 23:3).

God forbid that some opponent of Christ would be influenced by any careless hypocrisy in our lives. As we live before others, let our prayer be “Lord, help us to be sincere followers of Thee, and sincere proclaimers of Thy Word” (cf. Joshua 24:14; 2 Corinthians 1:11-12; 2 Corinthians 2:14-17; Titus 2:6-8 KJV).

Announcements

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Prayer Requests This Week

- Pray for all those with ongoing health ailments

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Communion Preparation

- Sign up sheet for 2021 is in foyer

- September - Thrash

- October -

- November -

September Birthdays & Anniversary's

- Camden Cooper - 1st
- Boston Claire Rowell - 10th
- Beverly Isaacs - 14th
- Aubri Cooper - 15th
- John Isaacs - 18th
- Greg Powell - 23rd

Every Sunday Morning

@ 8:00 AM

on WTOK-TV



Sermon Notes

Men to Serve

Announcements/Opening Prayer - Larry Montgomery
 Scripture Reading - James 1:12 - 15
 Lead Singing - Mark Potts
 Head of Lord's Table - Shay Cooper
 Assist on Lord's Table - Camden Cooper
 Scripture Reading - Matthew 27:26 - 31
 Closing Prayer - Don Potts

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