

A Glorious Church without Spot or Wrinkle

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That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

(Eph. 5:27)

What Does This Mean?

Well, let's break it down. A Glorious Church means it is full of Light and that there is no darkness or carnality in it. Not having spot or wrinkle means it understands and obeys the Word of the Lord. And, holy and without blemish means it has separated itself from the world for the purposes and work of God.

Two End Time Churches will Exist Side by Side Before the Coming of the Lord

*At the end of time just before the Rapture of the Church, there will be two different Christian Churches in the world side by side. One is Real (Philadelphia) and the other is Fake (Laodecia). God will require everyone to make a choice, we will not be able to sit in the middle between the two! You will love one and hate the other. Lets compare the two Churches, but, before we do, lets examine God's warning in choosing the Wrong Church. **GOD'S WARNING:***

Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. (Matt. 7:21-23)

There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death. (Prov. 16:25) *Dead Churches No Holy Spirit!*

Now **the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron:**

(1 Tim. 4:1,2)

Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: (*The Holy Spirit*)
from such turn away.

For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts, Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. (2 Tim. 3:5-7)

Like a gold ring in a pig's snout is a beautiful woman who shows no discretion. (Prov. 11:22)

In the same way, you wives must accept the authority of your husbands. Then, even if some refuse to obey the Good News, your godly lives will speak to them without any words. They will be won over by observing your pure and reverent lives. **Don't be concerned about the outward beauty of fancy hairstyles, expensive jewelry, or beautiful clothes. You should clothe yourselves instead with the beauty that comes from within, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is so precious to God. This is how the holy women of old made themselves beautiful. They put their trust in God and accepted the authority of their husbands.** (1 Pet. 3:1-5) NLT

A wife of noble character is her husband's crown, but a disgraceful wife is like decay in his bones. (Prov. 12:4)

Who can find a virtuous and capable wife? She is more precious than rubies.

Her husband can trust her, and she will greatly enrich his life. She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life. She finds wool and flax and busily spins it. She is like a merchant's ship, bringing her food from afar. She gets up before dawn to prepare breakfast for her household and plan the day's work for her servant girls. She goes to inspect a field and buys it; with her earnings she plants a vineyard. She is energetic and strong, a hard worker. She makes sure her dealings are profitable; her lamp burns late into the night. Her hands are busy spinning thread, her fingers twisting fiber. She extends a helping hand to the poor and opens her arms to the needy. She has no fear of winter for her household, for everyone has warm clothes. She makes her own bedspreads. She dresses in fine linen and purple gowns. Her husband is well known at the city gates, where he sits with the other civic leaders. She makes belted linen garments and sashes to sell to the merchants. She is clothed with strength and dignity, and she laughs without fear of the future. When she speaks, her words are wise, and she gives instructions with kindness. She carefully watches everything in her household and suffers nothing from laziness.

Her children stand and bless her. Her husband praises her: “There are many virtuous and capable women in the world, but you surpass them all!” Charm is deceptive, and beauty does not last; but a woman who fears the LORD will be greatly praised. Reward her for all she has done. Let her deeds publicly declare her praise. (Prov. 31:10-31) NLB

Church in Philadelphia

I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name. Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee. Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth. Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

(Rev. 3:8-11)

Behold, **I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.**

Notice no one will be able to stop their ministry because God Himself will protect it. Although it is small and has little strength (popularity) it will impact the whole world with the Name of Jesus and His Word!

Behold, **I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.**

Notice God will cause the false Church ruled by satan to bow down at the feet of the True Church, God will reveal the hypocrisy of the false Church to the whole world and show His Love toward the True Believers!

Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

This is talking about the Rapture of the Church. God will soon remove His Church from the Earth in the blink of an eye (1 Cor. 15:52): and then He will turn the Earth over to the devil. Not only will the devil destroy most of mankind, but God will unleash His great wrath upon the Earth and the false Church where people will be so troubled they want to die but will not be able too.

Church in Laodicea

I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

(Rev. 3:15-20)

thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.

Notice this false Church is trying to trick God sitting on both sides of the fence. We cannot serve God and the devil at the same time, we must make a choice!

And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, **choose you this day whom ye will serve**; (Josh. 24:15)

Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils. (1 Cor. 10:21)

Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

*The false Church is full of pride and arrogance. They are self willed and rebellious against the Holy Spirit. **Thinking themselves to be wise they became fools** (stupid)! (Rom. 1:22)*

Jesus is pleading with them to humble themselves and come back to Him so He can heal their blindness caused by satan (2 Cor. 4:4), and give them a heavenly Righteous garment in order to meet the Father in the riches of heaven.

And when the king came in to see the guests, **he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment**: And he saith unto him, **Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment**? And he was speechless. Then said the king to the servants, **Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth**. For many are called, but few are chosen. (Matt. 22:11-14)

I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

Notice in this Church (the false one) Jesus is outside of His Church, knocking trying to get someone to let Him in!

How Can We Tell the Difference Between the False and the Real Church

By the type of Fruit they produce. A Good tree can never produce Bad fruit, and a Bad tree can never produce Good Fruit!

“A good tree can’t produce bad fruit, and a bad tree can’t produce good fruit.

A tree is identified by its fruit. Figs are never gathered from thornbushes, and grapes are not picked from bramble bushes. A good person produces good things from the treasury of a good heart, and an evil person produces evil things from the treasury of an evil heart. **What you say flows from what is in your heart.**

(Luke 6:43-45) NLT

The Fruit of the SPIRIT

But **the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.**

And they that are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. **Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.** (Gal. 5:22-26)

The Fruit of the Flesh

For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are evident:

sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, **that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.** (Gal. 5:17-21) ESV

Godliness is the Goal of the Glorious Church

We have been saved for the purpose of becoming Godly! Do you really think God saved you and Crucified His Son on a bloody Cross so you can betray Him and live for the devil? If you do, your a bigger fool than I thought you were!

If you explain these things to the brothers and sisters, Timothy, **you will be a worthy servant of Christ Jesus,** one who is nourished by the message of faith and the good teaching you have followed. **Do not waste time arguing over godless ideas and old wives' tales.** Instead, **train yourself to be godly.** “Physical training is good, **but training for godliness is much better, promising benefits in this life and in the life to come.**” (1 Tim. 4:6-8) NLT

So if you ignore the least commandment and teach others to do the same, you will be called the least in the Kingdom of Heaven. But anyone who obeys God's laws and teaches them will be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven.

(Matt. 5:19) NLT

What Godliness is NOT; (thank you Tony Evans)

Most of the Church is religious in nature, having a form of Godliness but denying the power (The Holy Spirit).

Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. (2 Tim. 3:5)

The word Form means a shadow a silhouette or outline; when you see a shadow you see their form or outline but not the real substance. You can look Godly but there be no substance behind it. Your appearance might appear Godly but there's no reality behind it. The key word in the above scripture is POWER. You can tell it's fake when there is no power behind it. True Godliness has power connected to it. It's like someone putting on a superman uniform but can't fly. They have a form of power, the attire of power, but they'd better not jump off any tall buildings. They cannot back up their form or attire with the power they claim to have. This form of Godliness is called religion.

Religion gives the impression that they have something from God that is real. You can look religious, wear religious cloths, you can use religious vocabulary (christianize), you can carry a religious book (the Bible), you can hang out with religious people, etc... But there be NO Power within you! Many have been in Church for years and not been changed by the power of God. They have never felt the power of God flow in them and through them. Going to Church will not give you the power to become Godly, like living in a garage will not turn you into a car. For people that attend a religious dead Church, it's like going to their favorite donut shop. They want to hear a sweet word that is comfortable only to discover they have not been changed spiritually, they were filled with worthless sugar and not with meat and potato (mana from the Throne). Then they wonder why their spiritual life and health is so bad.

If anyone teaches a different doctrine and does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that accords with godliness, he is puffed up with conceit and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy craving for controversy and for quarrels about words, which produce envy, dissension, slander, evil suspicions, and constant friction among people who are depraved in mind and deprived of the truth, **imagining that godliness is a means of gain. But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world.** (1 Tim. 6:3-7)

ESV

Godliness means reverence toward God. Godliness is defined as a lifestyle consistently reflecting the character of God. Godliness is a way of living that is pleasing to God. Godliness submits and conforms to the Word of God and His Spirit. You can't be Godly and disagree with God. If you disagree with God you have just judged God and become your own God.

Thou shalt have no other gods before me. (Ex. 20:3)

For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God: (Ex. 34:14)

This means, if God and I disagree I'm wrong, when my friends disagree with God they're wrong, when my family disagrees with God they're wrong, when the rich and famous disagree with God they're wrong, etc...

Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man's foes shall be they of his own household. He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it. (Matt. 10:34-39)

I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. (Gal. 2:20)

Godliness is God's presence living in me, affecting my external actions and behavior. Religious people only visit God when it is convenient or worth while. They only have visiting hours on Sunday, Monday through Saturday they shut the door on God. A Godly person lives for God 24/7. Godliness is Holiness, Holiness means, set apart from the world for God's use only.

For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring. (Acts 17:28)

The Enemy of Godliness is Worldliness

Worldliness means you leave God out! You don't have to be a criminal to be worldly, if you leave God out of the equation you are worldly. God must be at the center of your every decision. You cannot serve God and the world, you must make a choice. You will love one and hate the other!

Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever. (1 John 2:15-17)