

A Glorious Church without Spot or Wrinkle

Samuel H. Nodal

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?

Godliness is the Goal of the Glorious Church. We have been saved for the purpose of becoming like Jesus God's Only Son! 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? Don't be deceived my friend, the distinguishing mark of True Salvation is to Hear and Obey the Word of God! The only evidence of regeneration (new life from above), is the Born Again experience where you receive the Mind of Christ! If the mind of Christ is really in you, you will have direct fellowship with the Father through the Holy Spirit. If the Holy Spirit is not in you, you do not belong to Christ and your fellowship with the Father is a Fake.

But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. (Rom. 8:9,10)

But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him. He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked. (1 John 2:5,6)

That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, **that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.** (1 John 1:3)

God's Warning to the Carnal Church (the Popular Social Church)

Throughout the Bible God gives us warning after warning about taking our salvation very serious and most people just don't care or fear God's warnings. Many in the Church today think they're saved because they attend a Church, or walked to the front crying to accept Jesus. Others think they're saved because they repeated a prayer with some famous pastor.

And the biggest blasphemy of all is Church leaders seeking fame, prosperity, and Church growth while the innocent sheep are starving for a real Word from the Holy Spirit. These little immature sheep can't even discern that they are being deceived by leaders that are deceived themselves.

Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch. (Matt. 15:14)

There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death. (Prov. 16:25)

Remember God's Warning to the Ten Virgins. (Matthew 25:1-13)

Ten virgins were ready to meet the Lord, all were shouting praise the Lord, Glory to God, but; only Five were really ready to meet the King! This should shake us into examining ourselves to see if we really are in Christ!

Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates? (2 Cor. 13:5)

Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it. (Matt. 7:13,14)

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)

Do You Really Have the MIND of Christ? (IN CHRIST)

What Does that Mean?

You are now a New Creation Created in the image of Jesus Christ as far as your spirit (inner man) is concerned. Although your spirit is regenerated by the Blood of Jesus on the Cross your body is Not!

Your body is still effected by sin that is all around you on planet Earth. If you humble yourself and yield to the SPIRIT which is sent by Jesus Christ, God will give you victory (overcoming power) over the world, the flesh, and the devil which rule all wickedness here on Earth. If on the other hand you yield to the temptations of wickedness, the Holy Spirit cannot help you overcome because God cannot inhabit sin. God is Holy and sin cannot stand in His presence. God gave us a Free Will and His Love will not violate it. He will give you the desires of your Heart. While on Earth there will be a great battle between your spirit and your flesh! The winner gets your eternal Soul as a prize.

For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. (Rom. 8:5-9)

This I say then, **Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. 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.** (Gal. 5:16-25)

The Difference Between the Hearers and Doers in Church

The real Church talks little and does much. It is known by their action and not their talk. What good is it if you hear the Word all day long but don't put it into practice? Will that kind of faith please God?

Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble. But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead? Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect? And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God. Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only. (Jam. 2:19-24)

Therefore, ridding yourselves of all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls. But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not just hearers who deceive themselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. But one who has looked intently at the perfect law, the law of freedom, and has continued in it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an active doer, this person will be blessed in what he does. (Jam. 1:21-25) NASB

He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him. Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world? Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me. (John 14:21-24)

But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. (Matt. 4:4)

*So we see the real Church hungers for God's Word and desires to obey it with all their Heart, Soul, and Spirit. These are the real disciples that abide in His WORD 24/7 not just vacation there on Sundays. If Jesus totally obeyed the Father; how much more should we! **There is no such thing as a Disciple that constantly disobeys the Lord. Don't be a lying hypocritical pharisee!***

But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. (John 10:26-28)

And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?

(Luke 6:46)

And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reprov'd. But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God. (John 3:19-21)

The Heart of a True Believer verses the Heart of the False Church

Examine me, O LORD, and prove me; try my reins and my heart. For thy lovingkindness is before mine eyes: and I have walked in thy truth. I have not sat with vain persons, neither will I go in with dissemblers. I have hated the congregation of evil doers; and will not sit with the wicked. I will wash mine hands in innocency: so will I compass thine altar, O LORD: That I may publish with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all thy wondrous works. LORD, I have loved the habitation of thy house, and the place where thine honour dwelleth. Gather not my soul with sinners, nor my life with bloody men: In whose hands is mischief, and their right hand is full of bribes. But as for me, I will walk in mine integrity: redeem me, and be merciful unto me. (Psa. 26:2-11)

But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant. And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted. But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in. Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation. 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.

Woe unto you, ye blind guides, which say, Whosoever shall swear by the temple, it is nothing; but whosoever shall swear by the gold of the temple, he is a debtor! Ye fools and blind: for whether is greater, the gold, or the temple that sanctifieth the gold? (Matt. 23:11-17)

He answered and said unto them, **Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do. And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.** (Mark 7:6-9)

Let's Study in Detail God's Warning found in Matthew 7:13-27

Notice God gives everyone a choice between two things; Life or Death, Blessings or Curses; and you will spend eternity in that choice! There are Only Two Choices, Heaven or Hell! There are 2 Gates, 2 Roads, 2 Trees, 2 Wills, 2 Foundations and God requires us to make a choice! Which choice do you think the Glorious Church will make!

And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD. (Josh. 24:15)

I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live: (Deut. 30:19)

Millions today believe in Jesus or at least say His name but lack a True relationship with Him. They have a superficial believe that does not bring them Into Christ. The word Christian only comes up three times in the New Testament, whereas the being "in Christ" comes up over 200 times. The Apostle Paul uses it more than 160 times alone. Many in the Church have a self serving kind of belief that lacks character, depth, and repentance, not having a full knowledge of what it means to be In Christ. Matthew 7:22,23 is clear; Jesus said;

“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. 7:22,23)

The false Church will try to get in by self merit and good works excluding a relationship with Jesus. This will be impossible because of our sin. In Christ alone is Sin Forgiven!

But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away. (Is. 64:6)

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God: (Rom. 3:23)

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. (Eph. 2:8,9)

For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God’s righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth. (Rom. 10:2-4)

*No Church sells tickets to Hell, all religions sell tickets to Heaven **but Only One will get you there!** The one that points to the Straight and Narrow Road. Hell is full of people that admired Jesus, went to Church, were baptized, etc; but never went in through the Straight and Narrow Gate. This is God’s commandment not a suggestion!*

And he taught, saying unto them, **Is it not written, My house shall be called of all nations the house of prayer? but ye have made it a den of thieves.**

(Mark 11:17)

Compare the False Broad Gate to the Real Narrow Straight Gate

The Narrow Straight Gate is a hard sell and difficult to find! It requires self denial and Holy living. Christ must be first in your life and everything and everyone second to Him.

Then said one unto him, Lord, are there few that be saved? And he said unto them, Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able. (Luke 13:23,24)

The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in the field, which a man found and hid again; and from joy over it he goes and sells everything that he has, and buys that field. “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking fine pearls, and upon finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold everything that he had and bought it. (Matt. 13:44-46) NASB

If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple. And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it? Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him, Saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish. (Luke 14:26-30)

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. (Matt. 6:33)

The Broad False Gate is easy to find and large crowds are on it. You'll have plenty of fellowship along the way. You can come in with all your sinful baggage, sinful friends and family, wayward Church folk, it doesn't matter what you bring in, all are welcome. You don't have to repent, you can come in with pride and arrogance no accountability everything is permitted. Any conduct will do, homosexuality, sexual perversion, lying, cheating, etc... we are one big happy family. After all God is Love! The false church may quote verse 21 “he who does the will of my Father” but they are empty words coming from an empty heart. No real repentance, no real sacrifice, not caring of how they relate to Christ. Many call themselves Christians while being totally deceived by satan. God calls them swines.

While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.

For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire. (2 Pet. 2:19-22)

Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.
(Matt. 7:6)