

Commentary 1

10/15/2024



What if I Died Today?

Then I said, I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nought, and in vain: yet surely my judgement is with the Lord, and my work with my God. (Isaiah 49:4)

With all the suffering and sacrifices that our Lord, Jesus Christ experienced on our behalves to save our souls from eternal death and damnation, it is extremely heartbreaking and angering that nowadays in the church it seems as though many have made up their own rules and scriptures as to what is right or wrong, what is good or evil, what is true or false, and so on. Just imagine Jesus feeling like all that He did for us was in vain especially, considering how we now behave in the church and the world, and how we mistreat each other.

Many claim to be apostles, prophets, pastors, and teachers yet, many of these are simply ambitious, political tyrants that don't like, know, or obey the Word of God (the Scriptures of the Holy Bible), they don't possess any Christ-like character, and they don't possess any (genuine) love toward God's people or anyone. Many unjustifiably exalt themselves and demand that people obey them, and they expect to be followed as they lead people away from God, lead people into idolatry (sex, money, position, fame, influence, power, etc.), and lead people to hell and eternal damnation. Some behave as gigolos while they devour widows' houses, and others exploit the spiritual gifts of others for their own advantage and gain.

Furthermore, our Praise and Worship in the church should honor and glorify God, express His awesomeness and worthiness as the Almighty God, and express our reverence, love, devotion, adoration and thankfulness unto Him for being Who He is, and for His goodness and blessings toward us. However, in some church environments the praise and worship has become fleshly, seductive, and

worldly, releasing seducing spirits of covetousness, greed, lust, wantonness, and debauchery upon the congregation. God is speaking regarding the worldly, feigned worship—He is not involved, and He is not pleased.

In addition to **2 Peter Chapter 2 (especially, 2:12, 14-19)**, all of the above mentioned practices are mentioned throughout the Bible, which the Lord, God has condemned and promised to punish if they are not repented of. Also, we should not take for granted that we are living in New Testament times of mercy and allow ourselves to believe that we can behave as we choose, pending repentance. According to **Revelation 2:21, 9:20-21, 16:9,11**, as well as several other Scriptures, although the Lord gives adequate time and space for us to repent, some never repent—they refuse to repent, the Lord knows who they are, and He will deal with them accordingly in His timing.

In light of all of this error, as Christians and people of God, there is an important question that we should seriously consider and daily ask ourselves:

**If I died today and immediately stood in judgement before God,
what would He say to me? What would I say to Him?**

Would the Lord welcome me as His good and faithful servant as mentioned in **Matthew 25:21**? Or would He tell me to depart from Him, He never knew me, because I was a false worshipper, I was wicked, and I worked iniquity, as mentioned in **Matthew 7:23**?

As indicated in **Matthew 7:21-23** and all throughout the Bible, the Lord is not impressed with gifts or works. Gifts are free, most people don't appreciate gifts, and often gifts are mistreated, misused, or neglected. In addition, works draw attention to one's self, and as the Bible states, by grace we are saved through our faith, not of works, lest anyone should boast. (**Ephesians 2:8-9**)

However, everyone's actions and works will be judged by God for whether they were genuine or false, were good or evil, or were done in righteousness or wickedness, and everyone will receive their due rewards or punishments. Yet, especially in today's time, we must be wise as serpents (**Matthew 10:16**), and be sure to obey and follow the truth of God's Word. We must be wise enough to not follow individuals simply because they are famous and popular, carry exalted titles, and who are leading others to hell and eternal damnation by their misdeeds and false teachings. The entire **Epistle of 1John**

is an excellent source for providing direct and straight-forward evidence of who is serving God, and who is not, and who genuinely possesses the Spirit of God within him, and who does not. Therefore, we should consider the following Scriptures:

... that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth. (1 John 5-6)

And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him. (1 John 2:3-5)

He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now.

He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him. (1 John 2:9-10)

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, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father but is of the world. (1 John 2:15-16)

If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that everyone that doeth righteousness is born of him. (1 John 2:29)

In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.

For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.

Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous. (1 John 3:10-12)

We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.

Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him. (1 John 3:14-15)

... let us not love in word, nether in tongue; but in deed and in truth. (1 John 3:18)

Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God; because many false prophets are gone out into the world. (1 John 4:1)

They are of the world: therefore speak they of the world, and the world heareth them.

We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error. (1 John 4:5-6)

He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love. (1 John 4:8)

Throughout the New Testament, Jesus and the apostles Paul, Peter, and John warned us to not be ignorant of the Word of God (the lessons and instructions of the Old and New Testaments), the Gospel program, and specifically to not be ignorant of the devil's devices in using men and (false) leaders and

ministers, who attempt to seduce us, deceive us, and ultimately destroy us—destroy God’s people (**Jude 4; 1 Timothy 4:1-2**).

Such live and operate contrary to the righteousness that is revealed in the **Epistle 1 John**, and as revealed in other books of the Bible they call evil good and good evil (**Isaiah 5:20**), they repay good with evil and love with hatred (**Psalms 109:5**), they strive to prevent and hinder the Lord’s true people and ministers from going forth in God and doing what He commanded them to do, they strive to be worshipped and served, they are rebellious and stubborn and attempt to shut the mouths of God’s true prophets and ministers (**Isaiah 30:9-11**), from speaking truth, and would rather hear flattery and deceit. Like Saul and Cain, because of their works are wicked and evil, they hate and seek to destroy the innocent (**Psalms 37:32**), and they seek out false prophets with familiar spirits and spirits of divination, who gain them money by their fortune telling and soothsaying (**Acts 16:16**). God’s people are instructed to have no part with such individuals, and unless they repent, they are destined for eternal damnation.

But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

Any many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.

And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you whose judgement now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not. (2 Peter 1-3)

Finally, in working out the eternal salvation of our souls, as Christians and people of God, who truly desire to serve the Lord in righteousness according to His commandments to us, again, we should seriously consider and daily ask ourselves,

**If I died today and immediately stood in judgement before God,
what would He say to me? What would I say to Him?**