

(1st Corinthians 3:9-23)
“*What Went Wrong?*”

~ INTRO ~

ALRIGHT...

- As we continue learning how to “Apply Christianity”
 - Each one of us should be moving forward in the faith...
 - By taking responsibility to growing.

Three spiritual conditions in the New Testament:

- 1) The natural man
- 2) The carnal man
- 3) The spiritual man

~ STUDY ~

TODAY...

- Paul makes a courageous declaration of truth...
 - By reminding believers about the foundation of faith...
 - AND how we should live out our faith.

(1 Cor 3:9-23)

Two-ways to live out faith:

- Gold, silver, & precious stones (eternal qualities)
- Wood, hay, & stubble (temporal qualities)

IF YOU CAN RECEIVE IT...

- Paul exposes the Christian who shows up in heaven...
 - BUT didn't take his faith seriously.
- The person has a saved soul BUT lived a wasted life.

THEOLOGY:

- The foundation of faith is **NOT** built on...
 - Charisma
 - Strategy
 - Cultural relevance
 - The foundation of faith is found in **Christ alone!**

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HERE’S A SIMPLE QUESTION TO CONSIDER:

- *Is this ministry and the practices in it... built on Christ...*
 - *Or is it just Christianized success?*

IDEA #1 – WHAT TO DO

(Micah 6:8) NKJV

1st – GOD...

- Wants our internal motivation to be aimed at Him – it’s personal.
 - (Deut. 10:12-13) NKJV
 - *Fear God*
 - *Follow God*
 - *Love God*
 - *Keep God’s truth*

JESUS SAID...

- *Follow me* (20x)
- He didn’t just say “*believe in Me*”
 - He repeatedly said... “*Follow Me*”

WHICH MEANS...

- He’s NOT just talking about agreement...
 - Jesus is talking about a life of surrender & movement.

GOD WANTS YOUR...

- Complete AND instantaneous obedience.
 - Studying the Bible gives us knowledge about God...
 - But it’s only in obedience that we know Him.

IDEA #2 – WHAT NOT TO DO

(Isa. 58:3-5) NLT

LAST TIME

- We discovered five things that lead to spiritual failure:
 - 1) Spiritual laziness
 - 2) Failure to live out truth

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- 3) Living a life controlled by appetites that oppose the Spirit
- 4) Spiritual distractions
- 5) Staying on Milk – believers who avoid going deeper.

IN (Isa. 58:3-5) NLT

- God expressed that He takes no pleasure in an external show of religion.
 - He admonished His people for not taking seriously...
 - Both the access & opportunity He provides.
- You're NOT loved because you're good.
 - You're loved because God is good.

IDEA #3 – HOW TO DO IT

(2 Peter 1:5-10) NKJV

PETER IS WRITING ABOUT...

- The *Last Day Struggles* – the time we're living in right now.

HE WARNS...

- About bad teaching & moral compromise in the church.

(2 Peter 1:5) “*add to your faith*”

- He provides the building blocks to help us grow in the right way.

SEVEN AREAS TO CULTIVATE

- 1) *Virtue* = A deliberate pursuit of what reflects God's character.
- 2) *Knowledge* = This is knowing God's truth...
 - So it shapes the way you live.
- 3) *Self-control* = This is not just will-power...
 - It's a life governed by the Holy Spirit & not the flesh.
- 4) *Perseverance* = This is NOT “*hanging on*”...
 - It's remaining faithful when faith is hard.
- 5) *Godliness* = A deep respect & awe of God...

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➤ A living awareness that God is present.

6) *Brotherly kindness* = This is a love focused on church family.

7) *Love* = The expression of a transformed life...

➤ This is often known as Truth + Grace = *love*

~ IN CLOSING ~

THE SIMPLE TRUTH IS...

- Jesus died for your sin...

➤ And He invites you to trust & follow Him.

IF YOU WANT TO BE SURE YOU'RE GOING TO HEAVEN...

(Rom. 10:9)

“... *if you believe in your heart and confess Him as Lord, you will be saved.*”

- Saved from the penalty of sin.

- Saved from the guilt of moral failure.

- Saved from trying to fix yourself.

RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE...

- You can quietly pray:

Lord Jesus, I believe You died for my sins.

- *Please forgive me... And take control of my life.*