

CHRISTIAN – IN NAME ONLY? - ACTS 11:25-30

Barnabas was not a fair-weather friend. (Proverbs 17:17) A friend loves at all times, And a brother is born for adversity.

(Proverbs 18:24) A man who has friends must himself be friendly, But there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother. Jesus is that friend!

(v.26b) Greek word kaisarianos – meaning: a slave or soldier of the divine Caesar.

Christianos (Christian) signified - a “slave” or “soldier” belonging to the divine Christ.

Biblical definition Christian: (John 1:12-13) But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

Apostasy – abandonment, (renunciation) of the true Christian faith.

25% of *surveyed* self-identified Christians, “don’t buy the Biblical description of God.” – Pew Research Poll - 2018

The devil’s “M.O.” - “*Has God indeed said...?*” (Genesis 3:1b)

Question our faith, *according to our feelings*, rather than questioning our feelings according to our faith!

Jesus - “...when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?” (Luke 18:8b)

(2 Thessalonians 2:3) Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition,

Paul warned: (1 Timothy 4:1, 2) Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron,

Building blocks: Jude 20-23.

1) **Praying.** (v.20b) “*In the Holy Spirit.*”

Philippians 2:5-8 – The mind of Christ:

(A) **No reputation**

(B) **Bondservant**

(C) **Humility**

(D) **Obedience**

2) **Keeping.** (v.21a) (Revelation 2:4-5a) “Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love. Remember therefore from where you have fallen...” Hebrews 12:1,2

3) **Looking.** (v.21b)

(1 John 3:3) And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

4) Evangelism. (v.22, 23). Apostasy is the enemy of evangelism!

Praying, keeping, looking, and evangelizing, provides a “**woke**” environment within the church!

Romans 13:11-14.

Hebrews 10:22, 23.

Acts 11:27-30 - we *find* an example of true Christianity, in action!

(Matthew 5:14-16) "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

CONCLUSION: (Romans 1:16) For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.