

Pastor Christian Matheny Series Title: Easter at Cedar Lake Sermon Title: Substance Over Style

Introductory Scripture: 2 Timothy 3:1-5 (NLT) You should know this, Timothy, that in the last days there will be very difficult times. For people will love only themselves and their money. They will be boastful and proud, scoffing at God, disobedient to their parents, and ungrateful. They will consider nothing sacred. They will be unloving and unforgiving; they will slander others and have no self-control. They will be cruel and hate what is good. They will betray their friends, be reckless, be puffed up with pride, and love pleasure rather than God. They will act religious, but they will reject the power that could make them godly. Stay away from people like that!

1 Samuel 16:6-7 (NLT) When they arrived, Samuel took one look at Eliab and thought, "Surely this is the Lord's anointed!" But the Lord said to Samuel, "Don't judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him. The Lord doesn't see things the way you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

- Style is a microwave.
- Substance is a crockpot.

Proverbs 9:1–2 (NLT) Wisdom has built her house; she has carved its seven columns. She has prepared a great banquet, mixed the wines, and set the table.

• Style impresses others.

Jeremiah 2:13 (NLT) For my people have done two evil things: They have abandoned me— the fountain of living water. And they have dug for themselves cracked cisterns that can hold no water at all.

• Substance pleases God.

Psalms 19:14 (NLT) May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

- Style is temporary.
- Substance is eternal.