

## FAITHFULNESS

The world is full of people who are Christian in Name only. The word "Christian" means, "Follower of Jesus Christ".

When you study the lives of the Apostles after Pentecost, you will see that they were "Christians"! They were sold out, giving their lives totally to the work of God. I know that we are living in different times, but we cannot use that as an excuse for sloppy commitment. From the time that God Called Abraham up until now God has called His people to come out and be separate. 2nd Corinthians 6:17 says "come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing and I will receive you." On the surface this doesn't sound to demanding, but it would have been impossible for Paul to have listed everything that is unclean to the Christian, here. But a close study of what God considers unclean for His people has absolutely nothing to do with what they touch physically, and nothing to do with what they eat. But it has everything to do with their level of commitment. The Apostle Paul was very clear in Galatians 3:7 that New Testament believers are children of Abraham by faith. This whole thing of God establishing His Kingdom, began in Genesis 12:1 with the call of Abraham to come out, and Abraham's subsequent obedience. You will find that one of the first things that Abraham did after arriving in the land that God called him to, was build an alter and make a sacrifice. Only 2 chapters later Abraham had an encounter with Melchizedek, king of Salem (Jerusalem before Israel took the land over 500 years later) and priest of the most high God. And Abraham gave him tithe of all. When God gave the Law to Moses, He included tithing as a part of faithfulness. Leviticus 27:30 says "And all the tithe of the land, weather of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD'S; It is holy unto the LORD." This has become the test of people's faithfulness. If you can't be faithful in tithe, you have failed 1st grade. You'll never be able to move on in your walk with God. For one thing your own conscience will condemn you, because the word of God condemns you. Malachi 3:8 asks the Question "will a man rob God? Yet ye have robed me. But ye say, wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse; for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. Some people have a hard time with this, and there is only one reason that you have a hard time with tithing. LACK OF FAITH! That's the reason that tithing is elementary to your walk with God. If you don't pass this test, you don't pass go. The First 10% of your income is unclean to you, get it out of your possession as soon as possible, it belongs to God! Curse or blessings, it's your choice.

