

A True Christian Part 1

Who were the 120 and where were the rest?

1 Corinthians 15:3-6 (KJV)

3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; 4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures: 5 And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: 6 After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep.

24%

Jesus was not a radical, he was coming to the earth that was completely full of darkness, therefore he looked radical.

Jesus did not come to set up an earthly kingdom, he was coming for each individual heart.

Luke 17:20-21 (KJV)

20 And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: 21 Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.

Why does he love us so much? Why are we able to love him back?

What is truly at the heart of the Lord is not for us to be reformed, but for us to be conformed. He wants our natural expression to be his character.

Ephesians 2:8-10 (KJV)

8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

The real disciples were the 120 in the upper room who receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit. As time went on, religion became a part of society and those miracles, signs & wonders began to decrease. The true Christians became the minority and became the ones persecuted by "the church". The dark ages came in a great apostasy had unfolded.

Paul warned of it:

Acts 20:29-31 (KJV)

29 For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. 30 Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. 31 Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.

According to the Scriptures, a real Christian is one who has been fused with the Spirit of God.

1 Corinthians 6:17 (KJV)

17 But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.

Acts 2:38 (KJV)

38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

It sounds like there may be a lot more involved than what the average Christian thinks. The average Christian goes to church on holidays, once a month, or even weekly. But the other six days of the week, they live for themselves.

They don't live for him. This is not what we saw in the early church:

Acts 17:23-31 (KJV)

23 For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you. 24 God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; 25 Neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things; 26 And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation; 27 That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us: 28 For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring. 29 Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device. 30 And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: 31 Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

Jesus warned of these wolves:

Matthew 7:15-17 (KJV)

15 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. 16 Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? 17 Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.

Jesus warned of the unreal. They look real, talk real & act real. The difference is that they draw men on to themselves and not unto God. With close examination, their fruit is not of the Spirit of God.

Acts 20:30 (KJV) Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.

“Perverse things”, Gr. diastrephō - to distort, turn aside to oppose, plot against the saving purposes and plans of God to turn aside from the right path, to pervert, corrupt

Matthew 17:17 (KJV)

17 Then Jesus answered and said, O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him hither to me.

He’s talking to the generation that is not born again which is the same as being carnal.

“The very heart of the false prophets’ doctrine was that which deceived true disciples to turn away from their foundational beliefs and total commitment to the Lord.”

“Once that objective was achieved, they ever so slightly began to bring their confused prey into full orbit and under their complete religious control.”*

Though they lured their converts with false love and continued in surface piety, their covert intent were otherwise. Strict rule became a mainstay. Dissenting opinion was not allowed. New revelation? Prophecies, gifts? Garbage.*

1 Timothy 1:18-20

This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest war a good warfare; 19 Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck: 20 Of whom is Hymenaeus and Alexander; whom I have delivered unto Satan, that they may learn not to blaspheme.

Put away, Gr. apotheomai - thrust away; drive away; beat off; banish; to repel; reject; disdain.

How could these thrust away their faith and make shipwreck of it if such were not possible?

If one can make shipwreck of his faith, does he still have faith that will save the soul?

Shipwreck, Gr. Nauageo - shipwreck; crash, smash, or be ruined. Here; 2Cor. 11:25.

2 Corinthians 11:25 (KJV) 25 Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep;

Twenty Facts about Faith:

1. It can be shipwrecked (1Tim. 1:19).
2. Put away or thrust away (1Tim. 1:19)
3. Turned away from (Acts 13:8)
4. Made void (Rom. 4:14)

5. Exercised in vain (1Cor. 15:17)
 6. Held to or let go (1Tim. 1:19)
 7. Departed from (1Tim. 4:1)
 8. Denied (1Tim. 5:8; Rev. 2:13)
 9. Cast off (1Tim. 5:12)
 10. Erred from (1Tim. 6:10,21)
 11. Overthrown (2Tim. 2:18)
 12. Abandoned (2Tim. 3:8)
 13. Kept or lost (2Tim. 4:7)
 14. Found missing (Mk. 4:40; Lk. 8:25)
 15. Adequate or fail (Lk. 22:32)
 16. Made without effect (Rom. 3:3)
 17. Dead (Jas. 2:17,20,26)
 18. Obeyed or disobeyed (Acts 6:7)
 19. Built up or destroyed (Jude 1:20)
 20. Continued in or discontinued in (Acts 14:22; Col. 1:23; Heb. 10:39)
- Hymenaeus - A man who thrust away and made shipwreck of his faith, becoming a blasphemer (1Tim. 1:19-20) and a false teacher, overthrowing the faith of others (2Tim. 2:16-18).
 - Alexander - Another man who thrust away and made shipwreck of his faith (1Tim. 1:19-20) and who became an enemy of the gospel (2Tim. 4:14-15 Acts 19:33). Both of these men had faith and a good conscience before making shipwreck of them (1Tim. 1:19). Thus, we not only have reference to a possibility of such shipwreck, but also a record of examples.