

## Don't claim it, make sure

**Those who take the Christian walk for granted, set themselves up for disastrous outcomes** - Matt 7:21-23 - 21 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but **only he who does** the will of my Father who is in heaven. 22 **Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?'** 23 Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. **Away from me, you EVILDOERS!**'

**We are not just to assume our salvation, we must make certain of it** - 2 Peter 1:10-11 - 10 Therefore, my brothers, be **all the more eager** to make your **calling and election SURE**. For if you do these things, you will never fall, 11 and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

**God ensures us of who will not inherit the Kingdom of Christ** - Eph 5:5-7 - 5 For of **THIS YOU CAN BE SURE:** No immoral, impure or greedy person — such a man is an idolater — has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. 6 **Let no one deceive you with empty words,** for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient. 7 Therefore do not be partners with them.

**The pattern of man has been to claim wisdom in God while in reality they became fools** -Rom 1:21-23 - 21 For although they **knew God**, they **neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him**, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools 23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles.

**Our LIVES will define what we are** - Titus 1:15-16 - 15 To the pure, all things are pure, but to those who are corrupted and do not believe, nothing is pure. In fact, both their minds and consciences are corrupted. 16 They **claim to know God**, but **by their actions** they deny him. They are detestable, disobedient and unfit for doing anything good.

**We are commanded to Live by Faith, in order to Sure our Faith** -James 2:14-24 - 14 What good is it, my brothers, if a man **claims to have faith** but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? 15 Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. 16 If one of you says to him, "Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? 17 In the same way, **faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.** 18 But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds." Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do. 19 You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that — and shudder. 20 You foolish man, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless? 21 Was not our ancestor Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? 22 You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and **HIS FAITH WAS MADE COMPLETE BY WHAT HE DID.** 23 And the scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness," and he was called God's friend. 24 You see that a person is justified by what he does and not by faith alone.

**If we initially claim to be righteous, and don't recognize we are sinners we are living in denial** - 1 John 1:8-10 - 8 If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives.

**If we say we are Christians, but LIVE as sinners we are living a lie** - 1 John 1:6-7 -6 If we claim to have fellowship with him **yet walk** in the darkness, **WE LIE AND DO NOT LIVE BY THE TRUTH.** 7 But if we walk in the light, AS HE is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

**Our proof of our relationship with Christ will be our obedience to Him...or not** - 1 John 2:3-6 - 3 **We know that we have come to know him IF WE** obey his commands. 4 The man who says, "I know him," but **does not do** what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him. 5 But if anyone obeys his word, God's love is truly made complete in him. THIS IS HOW WE KNOW WE ARE IN HIM: 6 Whoever claims to live in him **MUST WALK AS JESUS DID.**

**More proof to show we are Christians are If we are living with a God-based love for our brothers & sisters...or not-** 1 John 2:9-11- 9 Anyone who claims to be in the light but **hates his brother** is still in the darkness. 10 Whoever loves his brother lives in the light, and there is nothing in him to make him stumble. 11 But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks around in the darkness; he does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded him.

**It is unfortunate, that man has allowed ignorance when it comes to Grace to create fear that hinders works of Faith.** - 1 John 3:7-8 - 7 Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. He **WHO DOES** what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. 8 He who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.

**The simple answer to ensure our Christian life is to receive God's Word and live them** - Matt 7:24 "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and **PUTS THEM INTO PRACTICE** is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

**\*In true form, let us not just talk the talk, let us walk the walk!!**