**Adult Sunday School**

March 21, 2010

**A False Profession**

Ezekiel 33:31—*And they come unto thee as the people cometh, and they sit before thee as my people, and they hear thy words, but they will not do them: for with their mouth they shew much love, but their heart goeth after their covetousness.*

## Israel came to hear the Word of God and spoke

good words, but would not obey the Word of God.

### … ***As*** *the people cometh and …* ***as*** *my people,*

#### They come as they are accustomed to come on public days—Sabbath days etc. They come out of routine, habit and custom maintaining a form, and not out of a heart of love for God.

### They hear thy words, but they will not do them

Their diligence in gathering on the Sabbath and hearing the Word of the Lord gave the appearance of a zeal and a love for God and His Word, but “they will not do them”. They had no intention of obeying the Word of the Lord spoken by the prophet.

### They shew much love with their mouth but their heart goeth after their covetousness

#### With their words they show respect for the man of God and they profess a love and a zeal for the Lord, but they will not obey His Words or follow His precepts.

#### They love earthly things, the temporal pleasures of this physical world rather than the spiritual things of the life to come. They love themselves, their plans and their desires, the praise of men rather than the praise of God.

John 12:43—*For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.*

II Timothy 3:1-5 (No heart toward the Lord and spiritual things)

II Timothy 3:5—*Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.*

Our actions can appear good, but our heart and motives be wrong.

Our heart and motives may be right and sincere, but our actions can still be wrong.

## We can be guilty of A False Profession by:

### **An unwilling heart and hypocrisy (as seen in the text).**

### **Carelessness and neglect**

Having a right heart and desires, but lack diligence and zeal.

### **Professing Faith without love and good works evident**

You can be completely sincere and desire to serve God, but not know why your faith isn’t working.

Know this: Faith always works when properly and faithfully exercised. Faith will not work being alone. True Faith only exists when love and obedient works are evident.

#### **Love**

Galatians 5:6—*For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love.*

##### The LOVE of our Whole Being

Mark 12:30—*And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all…*

##### This is God’s love that He puts in your spirit.

* Do we have God’s love in our spirit?
* Measure your life by the Word of God,

2 Corinthians.13:5—*Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith …*

#### **Works**

James 2:17-18. Vs. 26…***faith without works is dead***…

2Thess. 1:11…***work of faith with power:***

### **Bearing a Wrong spirit**

#### We can be right, but bear a wrong spirit. We can even speak nothing but the truth, quote scripture and be blameless in our conduct, but bear a wrong spirit.

#### With a wrong spirit, we cannot produce fruit unto life—fruit that is acceptable with God.

#### A wrong spirit will always produce fruit unto death because it is not of God.

Galatians 6:8—*For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.*

Sowing to the flesh is following and obeying the desires of a corrupt nature - that is anything that a wrong spirit or wrong attitude produces.

Rules and laws are not sufficient to deal with our sin nature. The heart and spirit of a man must be dealt with. The Spirit of God must deal with our unseen motives and intentions and we must deal with it as well in cooperation with Him.

Every day we make choices when we act, in the thoughts we dwell on, in the words we speak. Will they be according to the flesh unto death or according to the Spirit unto life?

Operating according to the natural man will produce a destructive element every time. It cannot be otherwise. As we interact with others, we will hurt, damage and plant seeds that if God in His grace doesn’t intervene, will promote / produce death and destruction.

**Not only are we to walk in the Spirit, but we are to be holy** (take on the very nature, image and likeness of Christ).

Holiness = God-likeness

## A Genuine Profession can be Made out of a Genuine Experience with Christ.

### Not Mere Words, but Real Works

### John 13:17…happy are ye if ye do them.

### Not Mere Religion, but Real Love

### Mark 12:30…love the Lord thy God with all…

### Not Mere Dogma, but the Word of Life

### John 6:63…the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.