



The Voice Of Truth

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"Is Christ Magnified In Your Life?"

By Jimmy Pettigrew

What do you do to a thing when you magnify it? The unthinking answer is, "You make it larger." But, a magnifying glass doesn't make the print larger. It improves your vision so that you see it more clearly and distinctly. Paul states that Christ would be magnified in his body. "According to my earnest expectation and hope, that in nothing shall I be put to shame, but (that) with all boldness, as always, (so) now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether by life, or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." (**Philippians 1:20-21**). Paul would be Christ's magnifying glass for the whole world! Christ would be magnified by Paul's life. The world would see Christ more clearly and distinctly. Paul would be Christ's magnifying glass for the whole world! Paul became more and more like Christ, and the world could see Christ living and walking in Paul's life.

Is Christ magnified in your life? The world is to see Christ revealed in His followers. He

declared, "As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world... Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven" (**Matthew 5:14-16**). This is what is meant to magnify Christ! "That ye may become blameless and harmless, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom ye are seen as lights in the world, holding forth the word of life . . ." (**Philippians 2:15-16**).

The manner of life of the Christian will be either a real asset or a significant liability to the cause of Christ. The conduct of the Christian should "adorn" the doctrine of God (**Titus 2:10**). "Adorn" means to beautify. The life of a faithful Christian reveals the beauty of God's will and way. "For ye were once darkness, but are now light in the Lord: walk as children of light: (for the fruit of the light is in all goodness and righteousness and

truth), proving what is well-pleasing unto the Lord" (**Ephesians 5:8-10**).

The manner of life of the immoral or the indifferent member of the church is a stumbling block to others (**Romans 14:13**). The life of the faithful, dedicated Christian magnifies the Christ (**Philippians 1:20**). Christians are the epistles which the world reads before being introduced to those within the Bible. "Ye are our epistle, written in our hearts, known and read (all men; being made manifest that ye are an epistle of Christ, ministered by us . . ." (**2 Corinthians 3:2-3**). By such epistles Christ is magnified to a skeptical world.

Do you magnify His obedient spirit (**Hebrews 5:8-9; John 14:15**)? Do you magnify His spirit of self-denial (**2 Corinthians 8:9; Luke 9:23**)? Would you preach that worship is incidental, Bible study is insignificant, giving is unimportant (**John 4:23; Hebrews 10:25; I Corinthians 16:1-2**)? What do you preach with your life? What kind of example of Christian living do you show?

You are the only gospel some people will read; the only sermon some will hear; and the only epistle some will accept! Jesus Christ should be magnified in the life of the Christians!

"WHICH CHURCH SHOULD I ATTEND?"

One Where His Name Is Glorified

Acts 4:12- No other name whereby we might be saved.

Acts 1 1:26 - God gave the name Christian

1 Peter 4:16- We can glorify God in this name.

One Where His Teachings on Salvation Are Followed

John 14:6 - Only He is the way to heaven.

Hebrews 5:9 - All must obey Him to be saved.

John 8:24 - He said we must believe on Him.

Luke 13:3 - He said we must repent.

Matthew 10:32-33 - He said we must confess Him.

Mark 16:16 - He said we must be baptized to be saved.

One Where His Will Is Followed In Worship

John 4:24 - Worship must be sincere and proper actions.

Acts 20:7 - Lord's supper on the first day of the week.

Colossians 3:16 - Singing praises to God.

Acts 2:42 - Prayer and teaching.

1 Corinthians 16:1-2- Giving of our means on the first day of the week.

YOU SHOULD ATTEND THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

"The churches of Christ salute you." (**Romans 16:16**)

THE SIN OF DOING NOTHING

He made no mistakes and took no wrong roads;

He never humbled the ball;

He never went down beneath the load.

He lost no hard fights in defense of the right;

He never bled with his back to the wall.

He never fell faint in his climb to the light;

He simply did nothing at all.

So death came nigh, for life slipped away,

And he feared for the Judgment Hall.

When they asked him why, he said with sigh:

"I simply did nothing at all."

So, God will pardon your blunders, my friend,

And regard with pity your fall.

But the one big sin that surely means Hell,

Is simply to do nothing at all.

--Author unknown--