

ZEALOUSLY RELIGIOUS BUT WITHOUT CHRIST



15 Monsuru Bisiriyu Street, Off Ago Palace Way
Okota, Lagos.

INTRODUCTION

Many people are pleased with their beliefs and feel secured that they are on the right path. They are confused when the pure and unadulterated gospel is preached to them. Rather than obeying God's commandments, they submit to human doctrines and the creeds of men.

GOD'S DESIRE

It is God's good pleasure, that all people be saved. But it is only those who obey the gospel of Christ and do the will of God the Father, that shall be saved [Matt. 7:21]. God has a standard, all people and nations must comply with it. And that standard is CHRIST, the Author of the New Testament, even the giver of eternal life. Jesus is the mediator between God and man [1 Tim. 2:5]. Christ is the Way, the Truth and Life; no one can go to God the Father, except through Him [John 14:6].

THE COMMANDMENTS OF MEN

Jesus says: "These people honour Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. But in vain do they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men" [Matt. 15:8-9]. Christ our Lord stresses plainly the reason for vain worship. When we practice that which men authorize, our worship is vain.

ABIDING IN CHRIST

Our Lord Jesus in John 17:17, had prayed for the unity of all believers that would come to God through Him, to be sanctified or set apart by the truth. But 2 John 1:9 states that: "Whoever goes ahead and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God. He, who abides in the teaching of Christ, has both the Father and the Son". Abiding in Christ and His doctrine means: living within the laws, rules, regulations and practices of the New Testament, the last will of God to all mankind. To have

fellowship with God and His Son, we must abide in the doctrine of Christ [Heb. 1:1-2; Heb. 8:13; Gal. 3:21-25].

PRACTICES OF MEN

A. The observing and celebrating of Christmas, Easter, Good Friday, Holy Michael Day, Ash Wednesday, Lent, Palm Sunday, Harvest, Feast of Tabernacle, etc. From careful observation of the New Testament commands and practices laid down by Christ, through the apostles, the first century Christians never observed such days and feast [Acts 2:41-47].

B. The sprinkling of water on a candidate for baptism, is not an example or standard for the salvation of men, rather, a candidate for baptism must be buried in plenty of water for the forgiveness and washing away of his or her sins [Acts 2:36-38, Acts 8:37-39].

C. Clergy titles: God is the only one who is addressed as "Reverend" in Psalms 111:9, and He is the only Spiritual Father every Christian worships through Jesus Christ. Titles such as reverend father, reverend sister, cardinal, pope, general overseer, senior pastor, senior apostle, founder, etc. are not for Christians. They are just one of the marks of division and denominationalism [1 Cor.1:10].

D. Paying of tithes was a commandment given to the Israelites as a nation by God through Moses. In Malachi 3:8-10, the Jews were reminded of the one – tenth portion due to God for the up keep of the Levites who were priest to God, daily ministering to God in the temple. The Levites had no physical inheritance, for God was their own inheritance. Today, Christians do not pay tithes, for Christ had nailed the Old Law and its ordinances to the cross [Col. 2:14]. Christians give above one – tenth today, as it is known as the Collection of the Saints [1 Cor. 16:1-2].

THE FIVE STEPS TO SALVATION

1. Hear the gospel [Rom. 10:17]
2. Believe the gospel [Rom. 10:9]
3. Repent of your sins [Rom. 2:4, Luke 13:3]
4. Confess Jesus Christ as the Son of God [Acts 8:37, Matt. 10:32]
5. Be baptized into Christ [Gal. 3:27]

Save yourself from this wicked generation and be reconciled to God [Acts 2:40].

For more help, locate any church of Christ nearest to you.

Contact: **0703 011 6441** or **0803 407 7149**.

Tune in to the programme on air:

“Let the Bible Speak”

on Wazobia Max TV @ 8am to 8:30am every Saturday morning.

Weekly Activities

Sunday Worship: 8:45am - 12:00pm
Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30pm - 7:30pm
Friday Prayer Meeting: 6:30pm - 7:30pm