

Churching the Right Way

Revelation 6: 9

I saw underneath the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God, and because of their testimony that they had maintained...

I start with this passage to set the foundation of today's message because it gives you an insight of what you have to look forward to in the years or even days to come.

We see in John's vision Jesus (the Lamb) breaking open the fifth seal. This seal describes the force of the saint's prayers for God's vengeance.

I am sure by now you are trying to figure what people being martyred has to do with me today, especially with me going to church.

In today's society, many people called themselves Christians (followers) of Jesus Christ but act totally opposite of Jesus' teaching.

Churching the right way does not mean going to church, paying tithes and offering so God can bless me and give me my stuff. Nor being a good little person who racks up brownie points for all of my good deeds. As we read in Revelation 20:11, the dead both great and small, standing before the throne.

To be a follower of Christ Jesus, you must be a disciple. To be a disciple (student) you must know the teachings and the commandments of Jesus. Jesus said, you will know the signs of My coming. In Luke 21:17, and you will be hated by all because of My name.

I do not follow Facebook, but many people were telling me about the graphic pictures of gays and lesbians defacing the cross and celebrating feverishly over the announcement of the Supreme Court ruling.

Luke 17:26, 27

And just as it happened in the days of Noah, so it will be in the also in the days of the Son of Man: they were eating, they were drinking, they were marrying, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all.

Isn't it ironic that the symbol of the gay and lesbian movement is the "Rainbow".

You see, for me the Rainbow represents a promise to an unrepentant world it represents judgment.

Moving forward,

1. To do church right, you must have a relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.

Several times in the Bible Jesus said depart from Me workers of iniquity for I never know you. In Revelation 6:9 they overcame by their testimony of Jesus

- My relationship is God is more important than any relationship

- Vertical relationship, dictates all other relationships

- Relationships are time tested--the test exposes who people really are

2. To do church right, you must understand that you are required to grow spiritually.

Hebrews 5: 11

Concerning him (Melchizedek) we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. For though by this time you ought to be teachers, and you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food.

This letter to the Hebrews from whom we believe is Paul is a reminder that failure to appropriate the truth of the gospel produces stagnation in spiritual advancement and the inability to understand or assimilate additional teaching. This rejection resulted in a process of hardening.

Knowledge without obedience does not advance a person. In fact, by rejecting saving faith, the Hebrews were regressing in their understanding concerning the Messiah.

In other words, they were ever learning but unable to come to the knowledge of the truth and they were the ones who had the (First testaments or OT scriptures). It's just like having GPS and still going in the wrong direction, and you put in the address.

3. To do church right, you must avoid being deceived and deceiving yourself.

Hebrews 6:1-6

Fallen Away

The seriousness of this unfaithfulness is seen in the severe description of rejection within verse 6: they re-crucify Christ and treat Him contemptuously. Those who sinned against Christ in such a way had no hope of restoration or forgiveness. The reason is that they rejected Him with full knowledge and conscious experience. With full revelation they rejected the truth, concluding the opposite of the truth about Christ, and thus had no hope of being saved. They can never have more knowledge than they had when they reject it.

They concluded that Jesus should be crucified, and they stand with the enemies.

There is no possibility of these verses referring to losing salvation. Many scripture passages make unmistakably clear that salvation is eternal. Those who want to make this verse mean that believers can lose salvation will have to admit that it would then also say that one could never get it back again.

How do you represent Christ?

In conduct, character and conversation.

Doing church the right way means how you represent Christ Jesus even unto death.