Am I A Christian Inside and Out?

Greg Kline · Matthew 23:1–28

INTRODUCTION

- That was the problem with the Pharisees. It was not a lack of understanding. It was not a lack of information.
- But the truth is, with Jesus and God, the outside, while it does matter, Jesus can see the inside.
- Are we truly Christians throughout our life? Or just in the finer points that people can see?

1 Am I Consistent in Accepting a Biblical Worldview?

Genesis 1:1; Genesis 1:26–27; Matthew 19:3–9

- In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.
- We are liars if we don't accept what Genesis chapter 1 and verse 1 says that in the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
- Stick with God or oppose him. There is no middle ground. But please, stick with God.
- Whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality and marries another, commits adultery.
- If we're going to be consistent in our Christianity, that requires zagging where most of the world has zigged.
- If we're going to be a Christian inside and out, we have to accept what the Bible says, whether the world agrees or not.

2 Am I Consistent in My Speech?

Ephesians 4:29–32; James 3:5–12

- Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouth, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.
- Be kind to one another, tender hearted, forgiving one another, as God and Christ forgave you.
- From the same mouth come blessing and cursing, my brothers. These things ought not to be so.
- We can say I love God, but if we hate our brother, if we curse God's created beings, we're a liar.
- It's not just don't say bad words. It's not just don't slander others. Be uplifting, be tenderhearted, forgiving one another, be merciful.

3 Am I Consistent in the Activities I Participate In?

1 Peter 4:1–6; Proverbs 20:1

- What is the goal of the Christian? It is first and foremost and only to please God.
- They are surprised when you do not join them in the same flood of debauchery. And they malign you.
- When I go and I drink, others see me. My influence is diminished.
- I am not going to ask, can I, but is it pleasing to God?

- We as Christians are to live the rest of the time in the flesh, not for our fleshly passions, but for what? The will of God.

4 Am I Consistent in Living Out My Faith?

Hebrews 3:12–14; Hebrews 6; Hebrews 10

- Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God.
- You can only fall away from God if you're first with God.
- The Bible teaches we must be pleasing to God from the beginning of our walk with Him to the end of our days.
- Do we live out what it means to be once saved, always saved?
- We're either pressing forward to that upward call, or we're falling backwards.
- There is one pathway that is pleasing to God. That is the narrow way.

> THE CHALLENGE
>
> **Are you pleasing God in your life? Examine it right now. Have you done what God's asked of you?**

MY NOTES