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Christians, SANCTIFY YOURSELVES!

anctify [TO MAKE CLEAN] YOUR-SELVES...and be ye HOLY [SACRED; BELONGING TO GOD]: for I am the Lord your God. And ye shall KEEP MY STATUES [TO ATTEND TO], and DO them: I am the Lord which SANCTIFY YOU" (LEVITICUS 20:7).

God brought <u>the children of Israel</u> out of the bondage of Egypt, setting them <u>APART FOR HIMSELF!</u> He gave them His laws with the command to "<u>SANCTIFY YOURSELVES</u>," or, <u>MAKE YOURSELVES</u> CLEAN!

Soon, God will be sending His Son to deliver us from "...the HOUR OF TEMPTATION" (Rev. 3:10), just as He PROMISED! We want to PREPARE OURSELVES to "...BE YE...READY" (MATT. 24:44)! Will you be READY? Have you been MADE CLEAN through the shed blood of Jesus Christ?

God commanded the children of Israel to "DEPART FROM EVIL, and DO GOOD; SEEK [TO STRIVE AFTER] PEACE, and PURSUE [TO RUN AFTER] IT" (PSALM 34:14). But they failed. So God sent His Son into the world in the likeness of sinful flesh, to DO what man COULD NOT do!

Today, God commands <u>US</u> to "Love your **ENEMIES**, bless them that **CURSE YOU**, do good to them that **HATE YOU**, and pray for them which **DESPITEFULLY USE YOU**, and **PERSECUTE YOU**" (MATT. 5:44). Still, <u>Christians fail miserably</u> in obeying this.

That's why Jesus prayed to his Father in Heaven: "While I was WITH THEM in the world, I KEPT THEM [TO GUARD FROM LOSS OR INJURY BY KEEPING THE EYE UPON] in Thy name: THOSE that Thou GAVEST ME I have KEPT [TO WATCH; TO BE ON GUARD; TO PRESERVE], and NONE OF THEM IS LOST, but the SON OF PERDITION; that the scripture might be fulfilled...

"I PRAY...that Thou shouldest KEEP THEM [TO GUARD FROM LOSS OR INJURY BY KEEPING THE EYE UPON] from the evil...SANCTIFY THEM THROUGH THY TRUTH: THY WORD IS TRUTH" (JOHN 17:12 & 15).

When the Lord comes as a **THIEF IN THE NIGHT** for **HIS** church, will he "...**FIND YOU**

SLEEPING" (MARK 13:36)? Or, will you be a "...FAITHFUL AND WISE STEWARD...whom his Lord when he COMETH shall FIND SO DO-ING" (LUKE 12:42-43)?

We must <u>EXAMINE OURSELVES</u> in "....the PERFECT LAW OF LIBERTY [THE WORD OF GOD], and CONTINUETH therein, he being NOT A FORGETFUL HEARER, but a <u>DOER OF THE WORK</u>..." (JAMES 1:25).



It is our duty, <u>as a faithful servant</u>, to be a <u>SHINING</u> <u>LIGHT</u> in this world. We <u>MUST</u> "PUT ON THE WHOLE ARMOUR OF GOD [NOT JUST PART OF IT], that [WE] may be able to STAND AGAINST the WILES [THE TRICKERY] of the devil" (EPHES. 6:11).

<u>We are</u> "...IN CHRIST;" <u>we are</u> "...a NEW CREATURE: old things ARE passed away; behold, ALL THINGS are become NEW" (2 COR. 5:17). <u>We are</u> "...SANCTIFIED IN CHRIST JESUS, called to be SAINTS" (1 COR. 1:2).

We MUST SET OURSELVES APART from this world! "NO MAN that warreth ENTANGLETH HIMSELF with the affairs of THIS LIFE; that he may PLEASE HIM who hath CHOSEN HIM to be a soldier" (2 TIM. 2:4).

<u>We MUST</u>..."Flee fornication...KNOW YE NOT that YOUR BODY is the temple of the HOLY GHOST which is IN YOU, which YE HAVE of God, and YE ARE NOT YOUR OWN?

"For YE ARE BOUGHT with a price: therefore GLORIFY GOD IN YOUR BODY, and in your

spirit, which [BOTH] are God's" (1 COR. 6:18-20).

We are "...the CALLED according to HIS PUR-POSE" (ROMANS 8:28), and not <u>OUR OWN!</u> We should continuously pray, "Create in me a CLEAN HEART [WHERE OUR FEELINGS, OUR WILL, OUR INTELLECT IS], O God; and RENEW A RIGHT SPIRIT within me" (PSALM 51:10).

Jesus Christ, the <u>Bridegroom</u>, is coming out of his chamber, and <u>ALL THE VIRGINS</u> [PROFESSING CHRISTIANS] are awake, and <u>TRIMMING</u> <u>THEIR LAMPS</u> (MATT. 25:6-10).

"Ye are the LIGHT OF THE WORLD" (MATT. 5:14), but "...IF...the LIGHT that is IN THEE be DARKNESS, HOW GREAT IS THAT DARKNESS" (MATT. 6:23). <u>Do YOU HAVE OIL</u> [THE HOLY GHOST] <u>IN YOUR LAMP?</u>

In the world, there are MANY VERSIONS of <u>Christianity!</u> MANY are "<u>RUNNING A RACE!</u>" But, "KNOW YE NOT that THEY which run in a race RUN ALL, but ONE RECEIVETH THE PRIZE" (1COR. 9:24)? <u>EXAMINE</u> your <u>Christianity</u>, and see if it conforms to the Word of God!

KNOWING that "...STRAIT is the gate, and NAR-ROW is the way, which leadeth unto life, and FEW THERE BE that find it" (MATT.7:14), and KNOWING that we should "STRIVE TO ENTER IN at the strait gate: for MANY...will SEEK TO ENTER IN, and shall not be able" (LUKE 13:24)......

WHAT should we be doing? We should SANCTIFY OURSELVES, that is, "EXAMINE [OURSELVES], whether [WE] BE IN THE FAITH; PROVE YOUR OWN SELVES" (2 COR. 13:5); "ABSTAIN from ALL APPEARANCE of evil" (1 THES. 5:22);

"...MAKE NOT PROVISION for the flesh, to fulfil the LUSTS THEREOF" (ROMANS 13:14); and "...GIVE DILIGENCE to make YOUR CALLING and ELECTION SURE" (2 PETER 1:10).

If we <u>PROVE OURSELVES</u> spiritually, our Lord will say, "WELL DONE, thou GOOD and FAITHFUL SERVANT; thou hast been FAITHFUL over a FEW things, I will MAKE THEE RULER over MANY THINGS: ENTER THOU into the JOY of thy Lord" (MATT. 25:21 & 23).