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SEVEN THINGS to CONSIDER...when you LOOK into the MIRROR...

very man should <u>inwardly</u> examine himself before he dies, as to what sort of man he <u>really</u> is. For <u>his</u> Creator will hold him accountable in the day of Judgment.

Jesus said, "I am come A LIGHT into the world, that WHOSOEVER BE-LIEVETH ON ME should not abide in DARKNESS" (JOHN 12:46).

You may *fool others* through the pleasantness of your *outward appearance*. You may even *live* a clean, and moral life. But God knows *your intentions* buried deep *within* you.

God knows the "...**THOUGHTS** and INTENTS of the HEART" (HEBREWS 4:12). The "heart" is **NOT** the beating muscle in our chest, but the "center" of man that controls the body, its feelings, emotions and its thoughts, that is, the MIND.

"Every word of God is PURE" (PROVERBS 30:5). Do you believe this? Do you think that God Almighty would <u>allow</u> His enemies to **CONTAMINATE** <u>His</u> Word?

<u>No!</u> It is <u>impossible</u> for the devil to destroy the Word of God: "FOREVER, O Lord, THY WORD is SETTLED in heaven" (PSALM 119:89). The Word of God is FIXED, and CANNOT be changed... and "FOREVER" <u>means</u> FOREVER.

"...man shall...live by EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDETH OUT OF THE MOUTH OF GOD" (MATTHEW 4:4).

In the book of Proverbs (PROVERBS 6:16-19), there are listed **SEVEN** things that is an **ABOMINATION** unto the Lord, six of which He **HATES**.

As you <u>examine</u> these <u>things</u>, Look into the "<u>mirror</u>" of your own soul, and ask, "<u>Am I guilty of any one of these</u>?"

1. A Proud Look

The <u>very first sign</u> in the last days is a description of the **DECAY** taking place in man's <u>character</u>: "...<u>men shall be LOV-ERS of their OWN SELVES</u>" (2 T.M. 3:1-2). The word "<u>LOOK</u>" points to the **EYE**:

"The light of the body is the EYE: if therefore thine EYE be SINGLE [ON CHRIST], thy whole body shall be FULL OF LIGHT. BUT if thine EYE be evil, thy whole body shall be FULL OF DARKNESS. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, HOW GREAT IS THAT DARKNESS" (MATTHEW 6:22-23)!

PRIDE <u>brings</u> darkness, and there is <u>no</u> <u>greater darkness</u> than in someone who is <u>wrongly convinced</u> that they <u>possess</u> LIGHT: "WOE unto them that are WISE IN THEIR OWN EYES, and PRUDENT IN THEIR OWN SIGHT" (ISAIAH 5:21)!

Jesus IS the best example of humility (and what we ought to be) when he "...made himself of NO REPUTATION, and took upon him THE FORM OF A SERVANT...and being found in fashion as a man, he HUMBLED HIMSELF, and BECAME OBEDIENT unto death, even the death of the cross" (PHILIP. 2:5-11).

2. A Lying Tongue

Do you "<u>lie</u>" to your spouse, co-workers, friends, relatives, or even to <u>yourself</u>? Have you ever <u>excused</u> a "<u>lie</u>" as "<u>harmless</u>?"

God said, "The **GETTING** of treasures by a **LYING TONGUE** is a vanity tossed to and fro of them that **SEEK DEATH**" (PROVERBS 21:6).

Any kind of **LIE** is an <u>untruth</u>; a trick or <u>fraud</u>; an <u>imitation</u> that is **MEANT** to <u>deceive</u>; it's a **COUNTERFEIT**; it is any kind of **HYPOCRITICAL** action; a <u>deceptive</u> appearance.

But most <u>importantly</u>, God said that "...**ALL LIARS**, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone" (Rev. 21:8).

3. Hands that Shed Innocent Blood

Every day that goes by, someone <u>inno-cent</u> is killed around the world. In today's conflicts, many are <u>intentionally</u> murdered, <u>too many times</u> in the name of some <u>religion</u> or <u>cause</u>.

God said the feet of the wicked "...RUN to evil, and they MAKE HASTE to shed innocent blood: their thoughts are thoughts of INIQUITY; wasting and destruction are IN THEIR PATHS" (ISAIAH 59:7).

Is this a <u>reflection</u> of you <u>in the mirror</u>? Are you <u>someone</u> that was once **EN-TICED** to "...**LAY WAIT** for blood" to "...**LURK PRIVATELY** for the innocent without cause" (PROVERBS 1:10-16)?

4. An Heart that Deviseth Wicked Imaginations

The key word here is **DEVISETH**, *that is*, men who *fabricate* or *construct skill-fully*, *ingeniously* wicked imaginations that *deceive* other men.

There are many such <u>wicked imaginations</u> that are leading others into darkness such as <u>reincarnation</u>, <u>Jehovah Witnesses</u>, the <u>book of Mormon</u>, the <u>Koran</u>, <u>Jewish Traditions</u>, etc, false teachings that <u>lead many astray</u>.

The Word of God has foretold of such men who have "...crept in UNAWARES, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, UNGODLY MEN, turning the grace of our God into LASCIVIOUSNESS, and DENYING the ONLY Lord God, and OUR Lord Jesus Christ" (JUDE 1:4).

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"EXAMINE yourselves, whether ye be IN the faith; PROVE your OWN SELVES..."

5. Feet that be Swift in Running to Mischief

We live in a world where **VIOLENCE** is a <u>superstar</u>. Moviea or other forms of entertainment are no "<u>fun</u>" without some form of <u>violence</u>.

Just before the FLOOD, the earth "...was CORRUPT before God, and ...FILLED WITH VIOLENCE...for ALL FLESH had CORRUPTED HIS WAY upon the earth" (GENESIS 6:11-13).

It is **IN** our **NATURE** as <u>human beings</u> to "<u>corrupt our way</u>." That is why we need a Saviour. "... As it is written, There is **NONE RIGHTEOUS**, no, **NOT ONE**" (ROMANS 3:10).

This <u>truth</u> is very difficult for <u>man</u> to <u>accept</u>, but it's **TRUE**: as the <u>sinner</u>, so also is the <u>Christian</u>: "...**THERE IS NOT A JUST MAN** upon earth, that **DOETH GOOD**, and **SINNETH NOT**" (ECCLES. 7:20).

6. A False Witness that Speaketh Lies

To <u>claim to be a witness</u>, but in reality, are not one, is to be a **FALSE** witness, and the world is filled with them.

The word "<u>lies</u>" here means to make a person <u>believe</u> what is <u>not true</u> like the <u>false doctrine</u> of the "<u>religious</u>" group that protests at <u>military funerals</u>.

The Word of God **WARNS** the believer of this evil work: "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the **LATTER TIMES** some shall **DEPART FROM THE FAITH**,

- **1.** giving heed to **SEDUCING SPIRITS**
- 2. giving heed to DOCTRINES OF DEVILS

3. SPEAKING LIES IN HYPOCRISY

4. having their **CONSCIENCE SEARED WITH A HOT IRON**

- **5. FORBIDDING** to marry
- **6. COMMANDING** to abstain from meats" (1 TIM. 4:1-3).

7. He that Soweth Discord Among Brethren

This is the <u>last</u> of the <u>things</u> mentioned, and it is an **ABOMINATION** to the Lord.

The word "<u>soweth</u>" means to <u>scatter</u>, to <u>plant</u> for <u>growing</u>. What is being <u>sown</u> is **DISCORD**, which means a <u>disagree</u>-<u>ment</u>, <u>dissension</u>, a <u>conflict</u> or <u>quarrel</u>.

Every Christian <u>denomination</u> is a **RE-SULT** of <u>sowing discord</u> among brethren. The first <u>splinter group</u> called "...they of the circumcision" (TITUS 1:10) broke away from the **TRUE** <u>invisible</u> church, to form what is known today as the <u>Catholic Church</u>:

"They WENT OUT from us, but they were NOT OF US; for if they had BEEN OF US, they would NO DOUBT have CONTINUED WITH US: but they went out, that THEY might be MADE MANIFEST that THEY WERE NOT ALL OF US" (1 JOHN 2:19).

All <u>other</u> denominations were born from this <u>super church</u>, "...the **MYSTERY OF INIQUITY**" (2 THES. 2:7).

The **TIME** is <u>at hand</u>! It is the **MIDNIGHT** <u>hour</u> and the **CRY** <u>has been made</u>:
"...Behold, the **BRIDEGROOM COMETH**;
go ye out **TO MEET HIM**" (MATTHEW 25:6).
Are you prepared to <u>meet</u> Him? Do you have **OIL** in your **LAMPS**?

There are thousands of <u>ministers of the</u> <u>gospel</u>, thousands of <u>dedicated members</u>

of local churches, and thousands upon thousands of "independents" that believe they are readu for the Lord's return.

However, remember the words of Jesus when he spoke to the Pharisees "...which TRUSTED in THEMSELVES that they were RIGHTEOUS" (LUKE 18:9), "...Ye are they which JUSTIFY yourselves BEFORE MEN; but God KNOWETH your hearts: for that which is HIGHLY ESTEEMED AMONG MEN is ABOMINATION in the sight of God" (LUKE 16:14-15).

How many do you know that are "HIGHLY ESTEEMED AMONG MEN?" The Word of God declares the "HIGHLY ESTEEMED AMONG MEN" to be an ABOMINATION, stronglu disliked in the sight of God.

And yet, they have millions of followers who look into the mirror of God's Holy Word and declare to the HIGHLY ESTEEMED, "...See not...Prophesy not unto us RIGHT THINGS, speak unto us SMOOTH THINGS, prophesy DECEITS: Get you out of THE WAY, turn aside out of THE PATH, cause the HOLY ONE OF ISRAEL [THE MESSIAH] to CEASE from before us" (ISAIAH 30:10-11).

They have made their choice. <u>What about you</u>? Have you <u>looked into the mirror</u>, and allowed God to <u>show</u> you <u>that you really are a sinner</u>, and <u>what you need to do?</u>

"And the publican, STANDING AFAR OFF, WOULD NOT lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, GOD BE MERCIFUL TO ME A SINNER.

I tell you, THIS MAN went down to his house JUSTIFIED...for every one that EXALTETH HIMSELF shall be ABASED; and he that HUMBLETH HIMSELF shall be EXALTED" (LUKE 18:9-14).

"Go, and do thou likewise" (LUKE 10:37).