

SINCERITY IS NOT ENOUGH

Proverbs 14:12

Introduction: Being interested, concerned, really sincere may and does work around people and their jobs, friendships, hobbies, personal interests, etc. However when dealing with God and Spiritual things, it takes more than just interest, concern, and a bit of sincerity. Jesus encountered a lot of "sincere" people but many of them just didn't have what it took to become a true follower, a Christian.

I. BEING SINCERE WILL NOT GET A PERSON INTO HEAVEN

1. A person, first of all, to get to heaven, must realize that he/she is a sinner and being sincere just does not do that.
- *Romans 3:20*
- *Romans 6:23*
2. One must hear and believe the Gospel, not just be sincere.
- *Romans 10:17*
3. One must be convicted of his/her sins and sincerity doesn't do that.
4. One must confess his/her sins, and being sincere is not confession.
5. One must repent of his/her sins, and that's just not what sincerity is.
6. One must forsake his/her sins and being sincere is not forsaking anything.

II. DOING SOME GOOD THINGS WILL NOT GET A PERSON INTO HEAVEN

1. The rich young ruler had lived a good, clean life, but Jesus said that wasn't enough.
2. Keeping all the commandments, if a person could, won't get a person into heaven either.
3. Being a member of a Church doesn't get one into heaven either.
4. Getting baptized, sprinkled, poured, etc., doesn't get one into heaven either.
5. Being "religious," keeping the "golden rule" won't get a person into heaven.
6. All these are good, may seem the right thing to do, but the end result is that none of them will get a person into heaven.

III. BEING SINCERE, DOING GOOD, RIGHT INTENTIONS IN THE END BRING DISASTER IF ONE HAS NOT GONE THE "RIGHT WAY."

1. Not having done the "right thing" and coming before God is being unprepared and therefore tragic.
2. People, having lived a good life, done good things, been sincere, truthful, etc, but not done the "right thing" expect to be accepted into heaven, but will be denied.
3. Eternal separation from God, Heaven, the eternal life in the presence of Jesus Christ with His Family will be the sentence of all those who have not done the "right thing."
4. All who have not done the "right thing" will collect the wages of sin because they have rejected the "right thing" that enables them to have eternal life in heaven.
5. All who don't go to heaven will go to Hell for all eternity.

IV. SO, WHAT IS THE "RIGHT WAY?"

1. It is God's Way! Not man's ideas or man's ways.
2. God's Word does not say "except ye be sincere..." - it does say, "*...except ye repent...*"
3. God's Word does not say, "except ye be baptized..." - but it does say "*...except ye be born again...*"
4. *Romans 10:9-10; John 14:6; John 3:3*
5. The "right way" is believing in the Lord Jesus Christ with one's whole being.

CONCLUSION:

1. God's way, the "right way" is through Jesus Christ
2. Salvation, eternal life in heaven is by God's GRACE through one's faith in Jesus Christ.
3. Listen to God, not to people or to Satan.