

Can You Handle The Truth?

The TRUTH shall make you FREE!

Truth Edition One!

Are You Being Maintained or Entertained?

◆ *Maintain – keep up; carry on; to hold or keep in any particular state; to sustain; to continue*

◆ *Entertain – To amuse; to please; to divert; to turn aside*

Let not then your good be evil spoken of: for the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

Romans 14:16-17

When our Lord and Savior Jesus began his ministry he proclaimed repentance because the kingdom of God was at hand and for us to also come and follow him (Matthew 4:17; Mark 1:14-15). In our day and time when we confess with our mouth and believe in our heart that God raised Jesus from the dead then our salvation begins and we suppose to follow the Lord Christ Jesus and not man (Romans 10:9). Even the Apostle Paul stated to God's people, "Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ" (1 Corinthians 11:1). This is to say get to know Christ Jesus for yourself so that man cannot toss you to and fro with every wind of doctrine (Ephesians 4:14). A very important part of our salvation package with Christ Jesus is to be taught the word of God. Few of us attend the ministry that the Lord sent us to and many of us attend the ministry that our flesh is attracted to. Remember that the word of God says, "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it" (Matthew 7:13-14). Because many of us haven't really made a choice between the Lord and the world we will attend a "House of God" that has a little bit of both (The Lord and The World). If we didn't know, this is actually entertaining our flesh instead of maintaining our souls. If the word of God that we hear is pleasing to our flesh whereas we are using the word of God just to be blessed and not to come out of sin also then we are being entertained. Remember the word of God says, "For do I now persuade men or God? or do I seek to please men? For if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ" (Galatians 1:10). If the songs we hear and sing have a tendency to make our flesh get our groove on are we not being entertained? Remember the word of God says, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord" (Colossians 3:16). If the life we live outside of the "House of God" reflects the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life (1 John 2:15-17) more than our life reflects trying to apprehend that which has apprehended us (Philippians 3:12-15) then we can conclude that it is because our flesh has been entertained at the "House of God" instead of maintained. This is not to say that the ministry we attend should be dead because remember Jesus himself said, **"The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10).** Therefore the ministry we attend should help us maintain our salvation whether it be by the word of God or through songs. We should know that God is not a man that he should lie (Numbers 23:19). We should know that without faith it is impossible to please him (Hebrews 11:6). We should know not to yield our members to unrighteousness (Romans 6:16). We should know to flee youthful lust and flee fornication (2 Tim 2:22; 1 Cor 6:15-20).

*We should know that it is not what goeth into the mouth that defileth that man but what comes out of the mouth (Matthew 15:1-20). We should know that we have to come out from among them and be ye separate (2 Corinthians 6:17). We should know that we have to cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit (2 Corinthians 7:1). We should know that we cannot continue in sin that grace may abound (Romans 6:1-2). We should know that the wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23). We should know that whatsoever a man soweth that he shall also reap (Galatians 6:7-8). We should know that it is better to marry than to burn (1 Corinthians 7:9). We should know that marriage is honorable in all and the bed undefiled (Hebrews 13:4). We should know how to possess our vessel in sanctification and honor (1 Thessalonians 4:4). We should know not to be soon shaken in mind or to be troubled by spirit, word, or letter (2 Thess 2:1-4), and we should know that every man is tempted when he is drawn away of his own lust and enticed (James 1:12-15). But the most important thing for us to know in order to maintain our salvation is that we should know how to LOVE the Lord our God with all our heart, soul and mind and also to LOVE our neighbor as ourselves (Matthew 23:37-40). Therefore we all need to take the time to examine ourselves on a daily basis and see if the NEW LIFE we are living in Christ Jesus have more of the LORD WAYS and less of the world ways or if our NEW LIFE in Christ Jesus have more of the WORLD WAYS and less of the Lord ways and then we will know whether we are being MAINTAINED or ENTERTAINED. Please remember Jesus said, **"If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and YE SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH, and THE TRUTH SHALL MAKE YOU FREE"** (John 8:31-32).*

*Inspired by the Holy Ghost
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All scriptures are taken from the King James Version*