

Revelation 3:1-22

I Will Confess His Name Before the Father

1. Are you spiritually alive? Do people see God in you, your actions, and your words?

If you believe in Jesus as your Lord *and have asked Him to take control of your life*, you are saved. Satan cannot take that away. But..... if he cannot steal your salvation, he wants to make you miserable and ineffective. Are you joyful and being used by God, or are you negative, complaining, and just walking through the motions?

2. Do you know the word of God and obey the word of God? God cares about this and rewards it. We are saved by faith, but God loves when His children live for him.

3. Do you get impatient when times are difficult, or do you trust in the Lord?

4. Are you lukewarm for God? Do you love God with your whole heart, or do you love God and the world?

Luke 8:4-15 *And when a great crowd was gathering and people from town after town came to him, he said in a parable, 5 "A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell along the path and was trampled underfoot, and the birds of the air devoured it. 6 And some fell on the rock, and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. 7 And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it. 8 And some fell into good soil and grew and yielded a hundredfold." As he said these things, he called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear." 9 And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, 10 he said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God, but for others they are in parables, so that 'seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.' 11 Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. 12 The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. 13 And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall away. 14 And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. 15 As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.*

Vs 1-6 God sees this church and its members and others think the church is alive and active, but God sees that the people are dead.

God wants our zeal and worship for Him to be passionate. He does not want us warm for Him.

The seed and the sower- It is possible to believe in Jesus, but to not know Him as Lord or to not have a relationship with Him. Satan knows and believes in Jesus, but he does not submit to him.

Have you known someone who said they believe in Jesus, but they do not care about God, godly things, God's word, or prayer? This person may believe in Jesus, but not be saved.

If Jesus is your Lord, God will flow through you and you will have faith till the end.

Jesus will advocate for us if we repent and believe in Him and make Him Master of our lives! God the Father sees us through the blood of Jesus who paid for our sin debt. If we don't have Jesus, we are responsible for our sin to a just God.

Vs 7-13 God opens the door to heaven to the believer in Jesus. God closes the door to heaven for the non-believer. Once we die or Jesus comes back, we are either going to be in heaven or hell.

Some denominations pray for people after they die. Once we die, we will only be in heaven if Jesus is our Lord. Once someone is saved, they can never be taken from God's hand.

John 10:27-28 *My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. 28 I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand.*

Romans 10:9-13 *if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. 11 For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. 13 For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."*

Do you know Jesus as your Lord? Do you keep the word of God? Will you deny Jesus' name in a crowd or when persecuted or at work?

There are many religious people in this world who believe in a god but will not go to heaven.

God and His people will rule the world for eternity. God and His people win.

For those with a real faith and love for Jesus, we will be given a new Jerusalem, a new heaven, a new earth, and an eternal kingdom. If someone sells out for worldly gain and for self, their kingdom will be what they can achieve now, but it will all be lost for eternity.

Vs 14-22 **Do you truly love Jesus, or do you love yourself and/or the world? Do you sometimes love Jesus?**

Matthew 7:21-27 *Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. 22 On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' 23 And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness. 24 "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. 26 And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. 27 And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.*

It is possible for us to feel rich in our worldly possessions and prideful in all that we have and yet still be spiritually bankrupt. We are all sinners in need of a Savior. Do you know you need Jesus? Do you want Jesus?

To truly be rich is to know Jesus, love Him, and live for Him. That is what makes us rich now and for all eternity.

Hebrews 12:4-11 *God disciplines those He loves to help them grow and to make their character more like His. 5 And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? "My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. 6 For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives." 7 It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? 8 If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. 9 Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? 10 For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to*

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them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. 11 For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

Sometimes we go through difficult times, so that we can cry out to God, cling to God, and grow in our walk and dependence on God. If this is true, it is good that we are going through this hard season.

When God leads you, do you follow? Do you walk through His open doors and listen to Him?

Church! Be passionate for the Lord. Live Jesus and speak Jesus. Trust in the Lord! Be open to the Lord and His leading in your life!

Gather ~ Praise ~ Pray ~ Grow ~ Serve