

The Dangers of Counterfeit Christianity

Acts 8:5-8

God's Word says, don't be ignorant of.....

One of the chief tools satan uses in his battle for the souls of is religion.

It's interesting that the 1st temptation in the Bible, in the Garden of Eden, was a religious temptation. It wasn't a temptation to be.....

For satan told Eve, eat this fruit and you God. The devil is.....

In Acts 8 there was a great revival in Samaria.

In verse 8 it says, "there was great joy in the city."

There is ALWAYS joy when Jesus is present, there's always.....

Now notice verse 9, underscore the word "but"

Always remember this: When God opens up the windows of Heaven to _____ us,

satan always opens up the doors of hell to _____ us.

Key thought:

Where there's _____ operation there will always be _____ opposition. v9-13

Mark this down: If you're striving to live for Jesus, if a church is striving to be.....

There was great joy in.....

I want us to notice 3 things this morning about the "Dangers of C.C."

I. Don't be _____ by religion.

There was power in what Simon the sorcerer was doing and **MANY** people were dazzled by it. v9-10 underscore the word "All." Here was a man who was using sorcery, which is just another word for witchcraft..... The devil will use whatever he can to..... John 10:10

Now if you know anything about Bible prophecy, you know that after the Rapture of the church, the antichrist, satan's 666 will.....

2nd Thessalonians 2:9 *Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,*

Lying wonders means miracles that deceive.

During the Great Tribulation demons will be unleashed on the earth leading.....

Revelation 16:14 *For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.*

Demonic spirits leading kings and the rulers.....

How do you explain today all the filth and corruption and murders and violence and the hatred toward Christianity and the hatred.....

satan knows his time is short and he's unleashing.....

Don't be dazzled by the power..... Remember in the book of Exodus when Moses.....

II. Don't be _____ by religion.

Now while Phillip is preaching Jesus, Simon is deceiving people..... Now notice v12-21

Mark it down, Simon was an believer ! He was NOT a true believer.

Simon wasn't believing in the Lord Jesus Christ, he saw the power that was in Phillip's life and he wanted to have that power.

Key thought: Not all belief is saving belief.

James 2:19 says "the demons believe and tremble."

Not everyone who says they believe in Jesus are saved.

Please turn to John 2: In John 2 many people were following Jesus, not because they truly believed in Jesus but.....

They were "Miracle Mongers." Notice John 2:_____

Jesus knew that most of those people who were following Him were NOT true believers.

There may be some here this morning at Cornerstone or you're watching online and you say Pastor.....

Many people know the _____ of salvation, they can quote scripture, they know the Roman Road of Salvation but they've NEVER met the _____ of salvation, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Go back to Acts 8 and look at v____. Peter told Simon the sorcerer his God.

Millions of people today have a head knowledge but yet they've never had a heart experience, a personal.....

Billy Graham said the greatest mission field in the world.....

Simon the sorcerer was.....

III. Don't be _____ by religion. Matthew 7

Christianity is not a _____ it's a _____ in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Religion is spelled _____ ! It's all about works.

Christianity is spelled _____ !

It's all about the cross and what Jesus has done for us !

Titus 3:5 *Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us.....*

It'll be a great day in America when America stops _____ religion and starts _____ salvation in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Example: Criswell Bible College.....

At one of the doors they knocked on, a woman came to the door.....

Romans 10:9 *That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe IN THINE HEART that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.*