



Are You A Christian?

Am I?*

I saw a very large company professing the name of Christ,
But God did not recognize them as His.

He had no pleasure in them.

*Satan seemed to assume a religious character, and was very willing that the people
should think they were Christians.*

He was even anxious that they should believe in Jesus, His crucifixion, and His resurrection.

Satan and his angels, fully believe all this themselves,

And tremble.

But

if this faith does not provoke to good works,

and lead those who profess it to imitate the self denying life of Christ,

Satan is not disturbed;

for they ,merely assume the Christian name,
while their hearts are still carnal,
and he can use them in his service even better than if they made no profession.

Hiding their deformity under the name of Christian, they pass along with their unsanctified natures, and their evil passions unsubdued.

This gives occasion for the unbeliever to reproach Christ with their imperfections, and cause those who do possess pure and undefiled religion to be brought into disrepute.

The ministers preach smooth things

To suit carnal professors.

They dare not preach Jesus and the cutting truths of the Bible; for if they should, these carnal professors would not remain in the church.

But as many of them are wealthy, they must be retained, although they are no more fit to be there than Satan and his angels.

This is just as Satan would have it.

The religion of Jesus is made to appear popular and honorable in the eyes of the world. The people are told that those who profess religion will be more honored by the world.

Such teachings differ very widely from the teaching of Christ.

His doctrine and the world could not be at peace..

Those who followed Him had to renounce the world.

These smooth things originated with Satan and his angels. They formed the plan, and nominal professors carried it out. *Pleasing fables were taught, and readily received, and hypocrites and open sinners united with the church.*

If the truth had been preached in its purity, it would soon have shut out this class.

But *there was no difference between the professed followers of Christ and the world.*

I saw that if the false covering had been torn off from the members of the churches, there would have been revealed such iniquity, vileness, and corruption, that the most diffident child of God

would have had no hesitancy in calling these professed Christians by their right name, children of their father, the devil; for his works they did.

**Jesus and all the heavenly host
looked with disgust upon the scene;
yet God had a message for the church
that was sacred and important.**

**If received,
it would make a thorough reformation in the church,
revive the living testimony
that would purge out hypocrites and sinners,
and bring the church again into favor with God.**

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