A BUNCH OF NUTS!



Is it any wonder when unsaved people of the world look at some Christians they view them as a "bunch of nuts"? I believe many unsaved people are asking questions such as:

"You want me to get saved? Saved from what? Saved to be like you? I don't see any difference between you and me! Saved? You say my life on earth will change? Well, I don't see any difference in my life now than yours is now. Are you trying to insult my intelligence by saying you are different from me? You eat food like I do. That's human. You breathe like me, that's living. You say when you got 'SAVED' your life changed? Tell me how. Better yet, show me how your life has changed."

I believe there are many people who would be saved if we Christians quit acting like "nuts". Oh, it is true that people get saved through the preaching of the Gospel (**Romans 1:16** For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."), but how can we get people to listen to the Gospel message if we are acting like a bunch of nuts?

Unsaved people want to know how "Christians" can help them stay out of Hell when they ("Christians") live like the devil here! Many unsaved people say the only difference they see in "Christians" and themselves is that they (unsaved) admit they do wrong, but "Christians" say they do what is right, but still do the same things that the unsaved do. As "Christians" we often pass it off as an excuse that the unsaved use when they say "If that person is a "Christian" and they are going to Heaven, I'm going too because I'm as good as they are". I believe that in many cases "Christians" have provided that excuse (if it is an excuse) by not living the CHRISTIAN life in front of this lost and dying world of unsaved people! We Christians are to be different:

2 Corinthians 6:17 "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you." ("Separate" = be different. Don't do what the unsaved, unregenerate people do. We are not to be a "separate", "different" people to be saved, but because we are saved.) Rather than seeing God's people living like the world, unsaved people need and want to see a difference in God's people!

I. OBSERVATIONS OBSERVED BY MANY UNSAVED INDIVIDUALS

A. WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE?

I believe there are some unsaved people who are asking the following questions and making observations about "Christians".

1. You attend your "*church*" I attend mine (the world). Your "*church*" pays people to entertain you (of course you actually pay with tithes and offerings and your presence). My "*church*", the world, lets me know "*up front*" that I am actually paying for the entertainment I get.

2. Your *"church"* leader tells funny stories to entertain. (I've been told nowhere in the Bible does your Christ tell funny stories to entertain people. In fact I've been told He spoke about Hell more than He did about Heaven. Oh, yeah! Christ sure was a **GREAT ENTERTAINER**!).

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3. One of my "*church*" leaders talks about Hell, admits he's a comedian, and makes me laugh. Does your church leader ever talk about Hell? Does your church leader just make you feel good by telling you not to worry about Hell? After all you *ARE* saved, going to Heaven, no matter what you do. All you have to do is feel good, be happy, and keep unity in your church, no matter if what you do is right or wrong!

4. Your *"church"* leader and my *"church"* leader are no different: they both make us feel good about the things we do. It doesn't make any difference what we do as long as *we follow the leader*. Neither leader wants us to be sad. Each of our leaders want us to be "JOYFUL": HAPPY, HAPPY!

5. So, the bottom line is this: I see no difference in you, me or our leaders. I get entertained at my *"church"* with worldly entertainment. You get entertained at your *"church"* with so called *"cleaned up"*, *"Christian"* hilarious side splitting funny stories, magicians, singers, dancers, and scantily clad women who pattern themselves after the entertainers I see in my *"church"* (the world).

6. The entertainers in your "*church*" charge for the entertainment they provide, and won't perform unless they are guaranteed a certain amount of money. Pardon me, but I've been told your Bible says the Gospel is free and not for sale. Oh! I forgot. I get it. The performer(s) are not there to preach the Gospel, they come to entertain! I understand: people have to make a living. (1 Corinthians 1:17 "For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.")

7. Didn't someone tell me the Bible says those who *preach the Gospel*, (not entertainers) are to live of the Gospel? (1 Corinthians 9:14 "Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel.") Wouldn't that mean the person who presents the Gospel is to be taken care of by God through your "church"? Does your Bible say that people who entertain in your "church" are to be paid or even present their entertaining methods on your "church" grounds? I remember reading somewhere that church property is a place dedicated to God for the purpose of worshipping God, not set apart for the worshipping of people who entertain! Does your Bible say anything about paying for entertainment in your "church"? In fact, does your Bible say you *are* to be entertained at all in your "church"? Is entertainment in the name of your "church" or in the name of God according to your Bible? Just as I thought. We *are* the same!

8. You must be a "*Christian Nut*" to pay for worldly entertainment in your church! Someone has said your Bible says you are to gather IN YOUR PLACE OF WORSHIP to WORSHIP GOD, AND NOT WORSHIP THE ENTERTAINER OR THE ENTERTAINMENT (John 4:24 "*God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.*"). After all, you must be "*a nut*", because the entertainment you get in your church can be had many times in my "*church*" for free!

9. I don't see a difference in my worldly entertainment and your so called "Christian entertainment". As a **CHRISTIAN** do you really believe there are such things as "Christian rock music", "Christian magic", "Christian dancers", "Christian adultery", "Christian homosexuality", "Christian worldly this and Christian worldly that", or "Christian anything goes as long as the word **CHRISTIAN** is used" and etc.? Wait, again. I almost forgot: you think by being like the world you can save the world (people like me).

(Galatians 5:1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage [sin].

Galatians 5:13 For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh [to sin], but by love serve one another.

Galatians 6:8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

Galatians 5:19-21 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, 20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, 21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.)

10. I have a question: How can you say your life is different from mine when you act and do the same things I do? I've got it: we must have the same leaders and worship the same god. I know you say you worship a different God, but it appears to me we are actually the same when it comes to worship. We both look to the world for a good time, act the same, live our lives to the fullest, fellowshipping with the world, and each other (**2 Corinthians 6:14** *"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?"*).

11. You say you are different from me because you have asked Christ to save you. I don't see any difference in us, except, I think you are a "*nut*".

B. END OF OBSERVATIONS LISTED HERE, BUT THERE ARE MANY MORE.

I believe the preceding observations are being made by many unsaved people. I also believe **many Christians** are questioning the Christian standards found in the Bible (KJV). Biblical standards are being ignored or just plain stated as being "outdated" by many so called "Bible believing local churches". When a standard of the Bible is called a preference instead of "thus saith the Lord" then I can say with all authority of the Word of God that the person or church making such a statement is in danger of what Christ says: **Revelation 22:18** "For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book:" I believe this passage is not only speaking about adding to the Book of Revelation, I believe the verse is also speaking of the entire Word of God: the Bible. (Matthew 5:18)

Matthew 5:18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

Dr. Henry Morris says this about Matthew 5:18:

The "jot" and "tittle" refer to the smallest letter and a mark which distinguished two letters in the Hebrew words of the Old Testament. Not only the words, but even the letters of scripture are divinely inspired.

KJV Defenders Study Bible, by Dr. Henry Morris, Ph.D.

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As Christians we are not to discount any, I repeat *ANY*, of the Word of God!! We are not to change the Word of God to fit our lifestyle! The Word of God (all Scripture) is to be used to change our lifestyle from lifestyles of the unsaved. **WE are changed** from the lifestyle of the world by getting saved and by studying the Word of God (**Romans 12:2** *And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*").

Christians are not to fall for statements proclaiming that since we live in different times "we have to use different means to reach the sinner" or that "we have to use different methods and programs to keep the Christian satisfied"!! The preaching of the Word of God is still what is used by the Holy Spirit to save the lost!!!! If a "Christian" has to be entertained to stay satisfied or interested in the things of God, then I as a Christian can say to THAT "Christian": "you had better check up on who or what you are believing in for salvation" (Galatians 5:24 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.).

Paul told the Corinthian believers they used to act like the unsaved Corinthians because at one time they too were unsaved, but now because they were saved, they were no longer to be as the unsaved Corinthians (1 Corinthians 6:11 "And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.")

We who are saved, like those Corinthian believers, are to realize that *we ARE* different from the unsaved. We are no better than the unsaved, but we are better off because we have trusted Christ as our Savior and are on our way to Heaven!

BECAUSE WE ARE SAVED, WE DO NOT HAVE TO BE SEEN AS A BUNCH OF NUTS!!



(SEE THE NEXT PAGE: MAKE SURE OF HEAVEN.)

MAKE SURE OF HEAVEN

Question: Who is a sinner? **Answer: ALL** Romans 3:23 **"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;"**

Question: Why are people sinners? **Answer: BECAUSE OF ONE MAN: ADAM** Romans 5:12 "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:"

Question: What happens because of sin? **Answer: DEATH** Romans 6:23a **"For the wages of sin is death;...."**

Question: If all people are sinners, and the wage (payoff) for sin is death (both physical and spiritual), does that mean no one will go to Heaven? Answer: NO, CHRIST PAID FOR OUR SIN Romans 5:8 "But God Commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

Question: What is eternal life? **Answer: A GIFT** Romans 6:23b "....but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Question: So, what does all this mean? Answer: It means that all people in this world are sinners. No one can go to Heaven on their own because everyone is a sinner. No one is good enough (without Christ) to go to Heaven. Because no one is good enough to go to Heaven, (everyone is a sinner), God sent His Son, Jesus, who died so that we could have eternal life. Christ not only died, He rose from the grave, alive!

Question: Exactly what would you have to do in order to make sure of Heaven? **Answer: CALL: PRAY, ASK JESUS TO SAVE YOU:** Romans 10:13 **"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."**

Accept the fact that you are a sinner. Accept the fact that you cannot save yourself. Accept the fact that Jesus died and rose from the dead (He's alive) for you.

PRAY: "Lord, I know I'm a sinner. I know I wouldn't go to Heaven if I died right now. Please forgive me of my sins, and come into my heart. I am praying this prayer, believing in my heart, taking You at Your Word (the Bible) that by asking You to come into my heart, I am now ready for Heaven. Thank You, Lord, for saving me!"

REMEMBER: Romans 10:13 "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord, shall be saved."

If you have decided to ask Jesus into your heart or if you have not decided at this time, please allow me to send you more information about going to Heaven. Write to me at the address below or go to our website: WWW.LRWM.ORG.

Because of Christ,

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