

RADIO, Monday morning, November 5, 1934

Monday Morning (Radio) Nov. 5, 1934

Pastor W. H. Offiler

This morning there has been a word of scripture passing through my mind like this -- "And the Disciples were called Christians first in Antioch." And I got to thinking about that blessed fact and to wonder somewhat about the word CHRISTIAN. The word CHRISTIAN is a blending of two words -- "CHRIST" and "IAN" which means MAN -- a Christ man; a man that has been anointed with the Christ Spirit. One who has left the fellowship of the world and has cast his lot with Christ Jesus, the Lord. What MILLIONS in ages past have done that thing, and thank God, we do not only have to speak in the past tense of that wonderful truth, but MILLIONS today have, and I believe millions more will.

I want to state for you, this morning, seven marks of a real christian -- one who believes in the Lord Jesus Christ:

1. A Christian is a man who is born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptibility, and you know that that means -- by the Word of God which liveth and abideth forever. That is the incorruptible nature of God imparted to your mortal nature and mine, enabling us to become partakers of the immortal nature of the Godhead. I Peter 1:23

2. A Christian is one who does not seek his salvation through works. "Not of works lest any man should boast." Eph. 2:9 "Unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works." Rom. 4:6 Isn't it a blessed thing we do not have to work eight hours a day for our salvation. Christ paid it through His blood by the grace of God.

3. A Christian is a man who shows by his works he has salvation through Jesus...."Who gave Himself for us and redeemed us from all iniquity." Titus 2:14 Isn't that a beautiful scripture? We don't attain salvation through works but when salvation comes to us our works will show it.

4. A Christian is a man who builds on a sure foundation. "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." I Cor. 3:11 What a marvelous thing it is to get that foundation under our feet. JESUS -- your hope -- holds all things by the Word of His power. That is the reason He is called the FOUNDATION STONE. His Atonement becomes the Foundation on which we build our hope and faith of cleansing and spirit filling and hope of the coming of the Lord.

5. A Christian confesses Christ among his fellow men. Rom. 10:10 "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." When God does something for us, the first desire of our heart is to tell someone else and confess before the world the glories of God.

6. A Christian serves Jesus and waits for His coming. He has turned to God from idols, to serve a Living God and to wait for His Son from Heaven, Whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come. I Thess. 1:9,10.

7. A Christian is one who carries the message of God to others. "Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us, we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God." II Cor. 5:20

My Brethren, more wonderful and glorious message never did fall from the lips of any man than that which prays men, in the humilities of Christ, to be reconciled to God. He has given us that prepared body of the Atonement by which our sin may be washed away and the barriers removed between us and God. This is always the glorious hope of the child of God. It is this word of encouragement that we send to you this morning and as an Ambassador of Christ we beseech our friends "Be ye reconciled to God." Get all condemnation out of the way and let the Spirit of the Lord rule our hearts and bring eternal peace.

May God richly bless all our congregation in Radioland today and fill them with the power of His glorious Spirit, in Jesus' Name, Amen.

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Stenographic notes of
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Pastor W. H. Offiler

I want to call your attention to SEVEN words found in your bible that cover seven different aspects of receiving the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The first word is LOOK. You remember when the Israelites were bitten by the fiery serpents because of their murmuring and sin. Num. 21:6-9 God commanded Moses to make a serpent of brass and set it on a pole and invite the people to LOOK on the serpent, and it came to pass that looking, they were made every whit whole and received the Glory of God in their lives. This is receiving the Gospel with our EYES. We can look and behold and see the wonderful grace of God. When we remember Jesus hung on the cross, the great anti-typical fulfillment of that serpent on the pole was revealed to the world, and I say all it takes before God to settle eternal salvation is to LOOK and receive.

Then I want you to notice the word HEAR. HEAR the Word of the Lord. How often are we invited by the Prophets to hear the word. In Jesus' message to the Church in Rev. 2:7 He said, "HE that hath an EAR, let him HEAR what the Spirit saith unto the Churches." It is a wonderful thing to have our ears open to the sound of the Gospel and the visitations of Jesus Christ. This is receiving the Gospel with our EARS.

Also we are invited to TAKE of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and this is receiving the Gospel with our hands. We take the Word of God -- the great examples of our Lord Jesus Christ, and as we take it, it becomes a part of us in the name of the Lord.

The next word is TASTE. In Psalm 34:8 the bible invites us to "O TASTE and see that the Lord is good." Receiving salvation with the mouth - "O TASTE AND SEE". To accept an invitation like this and know the Word of God is in our mouth as it was in the mouth of John on Patmos -- "AS SWEET AS HONEY." And so the Word of God comes to you and to me this morning as sweet as the honeycomb. There is no name we would rather take on our lips than that of the blessed Christ who gave Himself for us. Psalm 119:103 "HOW SWEET ARE THY WORDS TO MY TASTE."

The next word is COME. This is receiving the Gospel with our feet. Isa. 52:7 "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings." It is a wonderful thing to COME as Jesus invites. Matt. 11:28 "COME UNTO ME, ALL YE THAT LABOUR AND ARE HEAVY LADEN AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST."

Next is the word TRUST. Receiving the Gospel by faith: receiving it with our hearts. We TRUST in the Lord and we love to talk with Him as He answers the heart cry of His people.

Then the next word is CHOOSE. Receiving God with the will, the heart, the mind, the spirit. The whole make-up of you and me who CHOOSE rather to suffer affliction with the people of God rather than dwell in the tents of wickedness, enjoying the pleasure of sin for a season.

LOOKING, HEARING, TAKING, TASTING, COMING, TRUSTING, CHOOSING -- receiving with our whole Being and willing heart the glorious salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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