

Church of Christ

...Heart to Heart...

Jesus said these words to a crowd of people, “And why do you not even on your own initiative judge what is right?” (Luke 12:57) They had no initiative! When you read carefully the text, the people had little to no drive within themselves to see what was really important and determine things in their lives, except weather forecasting.

What about us? Are we lazy and complacent? It’s all around us and in the church! People live without questions. No probing. No longing to understand. Just live each day with a complacent attitude. Life for many is nothing more than living for a paycheck and a weekend (or activities)! Have we become that shallow and complacent? People are lining up, walking off the end of a cliff to eternity, with little insight or desire.

Complacency shows up in our relationship to God, especially when brethren come together for worship. Many sit complacent, no inner initiative to realize their purpose of being there. No desire to pray or sing. Just sit, look at the back of someone’s head and follow formality. Walk in, endure (or sleep) and walk out! For some, their personal guilt is appeased because they have attended. Have we ever had initiative to ask ourselves, “Does God *need* my attendance?” With a complacent attitude, are we doing God, the Almighty, a favor? Maybe we should be asking, “Do we *need* God’s attendance?”

People seem to have little initiative to understand their purpose in life. Couples get married with excitement and have babies; they grow, become educated, follow suit on marriage, find a job, have their own children, retire and die without ever asking what is our purpose in life? If we ask about our purpose, we have little initiative to dig for the answers. What is our purpose for being here? Why are we part of Christ? We either don’t know or don’t want to know! *People are completely hypnotized by routine.*

You will hear some say, “Slow down and smell the roses!” Others say, “We are so busy!” Even this is complacency! We’re busy going nowhere or slowing down accomplishing little. Doesn’t anyone want to know why we are here? Why are people, sitting home lonely? Why do so many have broken hearts? Why are marriages breaking up? Why is it husbands and wives aren’t close anymore? Why are my children the way they are? Why do I attend the worship of the saints? How serious are we about seeking? We keep doing the same old, mundane things, wallowing in complacency, with little interest in seeking God (Rom. 3:11)!

Complacency is killing us! People have little zeal (Rom. 12:11/Titus 2:14), wanting to reach out with a real purpose in life, searching for the truth. As I write this article, some will read it, agree and then head back into the world of complacency for another week. And Jesus is still asking, “*Why do you not even on your own initiative judge what is right?*” Think about it!!!

Brent