

## Examine Me – 12/31/23

**TEXT- 1 Corinthians 11:28** *But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup.*

**Psalms 26:2** *Examine me, O LORD, and prove me; try my reins and my heart.*

**INTRO** – At times we should examine our lives.

- Are you making progress in our Christian walk?
  - Are there weights that beset you?
  - Have you become lethargic?
  - Have you lost your joy?
  - Are you struggling with trials?
  - Are there strongholds in your life?
- What should you examine?

**Look at every aspect of your life. The conclusion every Christian should reach is how much of God's intervention is needed every day.**

### I. Examine Your Salvation

**2 Corinthians 13:5** *Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?*

- A. You must be saved to have the power of the Holy spirit**
- B. Do you have a testimony that is biblical?**
- C. Do you recall the circumstances of your salvation decision?**
- D. Do you periodically doubt your salvation?**
- E. Do you understand the gospel?**

**When did you first understand that you were a lost sinner and understood the gospel?**

### II. Examine Your Works

**Psalms 139:23-24** *Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.*

**A. We all tend to think more highly of ourselves than we should.**

**John 15:5** *I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.*

**Romans 12:3** *For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.*

**B. The importance of the ministry of the Holy Spirit**

**Rom 7:18** *For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing for to will is present with me but how to perform that which is good I find not*

### **C. Our works are but rags**

**Isaiah 64:6** *But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.*

**1 Timothy 1:15** *This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.*

### **D. Our besetting sins**

**Hebrews 12:1** *Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,*

**1 Corinthians 3:11-16** *For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12 Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; 13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. 14 If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. 15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire. 16 Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?*

### III. Examine Your Motives

**Why do you do what you do?**

**A. Do you seek acclaim?**

**Matthew 23:5-7** *But all their works they do for to be seen of men: they make broad their phylacteries, and enlarge the borders of their garments, And love the uppermost rooms at feasts, and the chief seats in the synagogues, 7 And greetings in the markets, and to be called of men, Rabbi, Rabbi.*

**My mother did not think of herself. At one time she felt she was the worst sinner in the world. She did not think she was attractive or popular. But the opposite was true. She felt unworthy in many ways. She liked the song "Unworthy."**

**Tom Malone was one of the greatest preachers of my time yet he never believed it himself.**

**B. Why do you give?**

**Matthew 6:1** *Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven.*

**C. Why do you pray?**

**Matthew 6:5** *And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.*

**D. Why do you serve?**

**Matthew 23:5** *But all their works they do for to be seen of men: they make broad their phylacteries, and enlarge the borders of their garments,*

**Are you looking for recognition? A pat on the back? Your name called from the pulpit? A trophy or award?**

**Sarah had many trophies and one day she packed them all up and threw them away.**

**We don't really know who the great Christians are!**

- There may be a preacher at a country crossroad who never missed the marked and remained faithful though many years of trial.
- It may be the janitor or a widow who saved every penny to help a youth or support a missionary.
- One who tirelessly sought the Lord and prayed for the souls of men.
- Someone who labored in the shadows but was never recognized.

**CONCL – Look in the mirror! 1 Corinthians 13:12** *For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.*

The mirror is unforgiveness. It does not consider our feelings or our sensitivity. It always reveals the truth.

Are we open to the truth?