

True Virgins Proved by Self-Denial

by Clement of Rome

True believers are identified by their self-denial and holy power, demonstrated through their actions and good works.

Scripture: Matthew 7:20, Galatians 5:24, Colossians 3:2, 2 Timothy 3:5, James 2:17

Topics: "True Sanctity", "Faith And Works"

Description

Clement of Rome emphasizes the importance of genuine faith and works, stating that simply being called a believer or a virgin is not enough to enter the kingdom of heaven. He warns against empty worship and urges believers to examine their hearts and actions. Clement stresses the need for true sanctity, which involves crucifying the flesh, avoiding worldly temptations, and focusing on heavenly pursuits.

Transcript

For virgins are a beautiful pattern to believers, and to those who shall believe. The name alone, indeed, without works, does not introduce into the kingdom of heaven; but, if a man be truly a believer, such an one can be saved. For, if a person be only called a believer in name, while he is not such in works, he cannot possibly be a believer. Let no one, therefore, lead you astray with the empty words of error. For, merely because a person is called a virgin, if he be destitute of works excellent and comely, and suitable to virginity, he cannot possibly be saved. For our Lord called such virginity as that foolish, as He said in the Gospel; and because it had neither oil nor light, it was left outside of the kingdom of heaven, and was shut out from the joy of the bridegroom, and was reckoned with His enemies. For such persons as these have the appearance only of the fear of God, but the power of it they deny. For they think with themselves that they are something, while they are nothing, and are deceived.

But let every one constantly try his works, and know himself; for empty worship does he offer, whosoever he be that makes profession of virginity and sanctity, and denies its power. For virginity of such a kind is impure, and disowned by all good works. For every tree whatsoever is known from its fruits. See that you understand what I say: God will give you understanding. For whosoever engages before God to preserve sanctity must be girded with all the holy power of God.

And, if with true fear he crucify his body, he for the sake of the fear of God excuses himself from that word in which the Scripture has said: Be fruitful, and multiply, and shuns all the display, and care, and sensuality, and fascination of this world, and its revelries and its drunkenness, and all its luxury and ease, and withdraws from the entire life of this world, and from its snares, and nets, and hindrances; and, while

you walk upon the earth, be zealous that your work and your business be in heaven.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/clement-of-rome/true-virgins-proved-by-self-denial/>

Grow in Your Walk with Christ

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

www.sermonindex.net