

Some Wickedly Act Independently of the Bishop

by Ignatius of Antioch

True Christianity requires not just being called one, but living according to the teachings of Christ.

Scripture: Matthew 7:21, Matthew 23:3, James 1:22, 1 John 3:18

Topics: "Christian Living", "Hypocrisy"

Description

Ignatius of Antioch emphasizes the importance of not just being called Christians, but living out the true essence of Christianity. He warns against mere lip service and hypocrisy, stressing the need for genuine actions that align with one's faith. Ignatius highlights the discrepancy between professing faith and living it out, pointing out that true blessedness comes from authentic Christian living and obedience to the teachings of Christ.

Transcript

It is fitting, then, not only to be called Christians, but to be so in reality. For it is not the being called so, but the being really so, that renders a man blessed. To those who indeed talk of the bishop, but do all things without him, will He who is the true and first Bishop, and the only High Priest by nature, declare, "Why call ye Me Lord, and do not the things which I say?"

For such persons seem to me not possessed of a good conscience, but to be simply dissemblers and hypocrites.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/ignatius-of-antioch/some-wickedly-act-independently-of-the-bishop/>

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