

The Church Holds Trials

Text:

Titus 2:1-12:

1 But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine:

2 That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience.

3 The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things;

4 That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children,

5 To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the Word of God be not blasphemed.

6 Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded.

7 In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity,

8 Sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you.

9 Exhort servants to be obedient unto their own masters, and to please them well in all things; not answering again;

10 Not purloining, but shewing all good fidelity; that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things.

11 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,

12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;



In verse 2, it clearly states that men and women should be sound in faith, in charity, and in patience. How many times have we seen people called in by the Church Board that were tried, and often “disfellowshipped”, because they were not biblically sound in faith or belief. But brother, how many have we ever seen called in and tried before the Church because they were not sound in **love** or in



patience?

Now, according to this Scripture, you have just as much right to try them on the last two counts as on the first one. The only way to tell a true Christian is by the fruit of the Spirit in the everyday life he lives; and that is the only test of fellowship.

The only way to tell a true Christian is by the fruit of the Spirit in the everyday life he lives.

I don't care how many works of grace you claim to have!
The only way to tell what you have is by the life you live.

What you are speaks so loud that the world can't hear what you say. They are looking at your walk, not listening to your talk. They are judging you by your actions, every day.

Don't believe you will deceive others by claiming to be what you are not — what you yourself have never known.



They will judge you by what they see. They are judging by your life alone.

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