

# TRUE SPIRITUALITY

For further wisdom and insight concerning this subject, read: Joshua 1:8; Psalm 1:1-3; Matthew 7:24-27; James 1:22-25; I John 2:3-6, 15-17; 3:4-10

## The Inner-city Church Planting Mission

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LORD JESUS CHRIST and  
*HIS Word for the inner-city*

PRINTED IN USA

What is true spirituality? How does one attain it? Is it available to anyone, or just a chosen few? Difficult questions perhaps. But one thing is clear, true spirituality is something GOD wants everyone to have.

True spirituality of course begins with a “spiritual” birth. It’s what JESUS CHRIST HIMself termed as being “born again,” for HE said, **“Except a man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of GOD”** (John 3:3). But how does one become born again? The Apostle Paul answers that question very clearly in Ephesians 2:8-9. There he tells us, **“For by grace are ye saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of GOD, not of works, lest any man should boast.”** Notice he does not say it comes by water baptism, speaking in tongues, being slain in the spirit, (whatever that means), asking JESUS into your heart, turning or repenting from sin, giving your life to JESUS, joining a church, being born into a CHRISTian family, or trying to “clean up” your life. No, all of these would be considered **“works,”** which, Paul says above, no man can be saved by. In fact, the same Apostle Paul warns us in Galatians 1:8-9, that if anyone preaches another Gospel which is not by faith alone, (i.e., a gospel of works), he is to **“be accursed”** or literally, condemned to hell! Yes, for someone to be born again, and thus have eternal life and the assurance of heaven, all they must do is put their faith in JESUS CHRIST’s shed blood on the cross.

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But what about after salvation? What does GOD expect of HIS children then? How does the true child of GOD go on to attain this true spirituality that the FATHER so greatly desires of him?

Many so-called churches and pastors would have us to believe that it comes through speaking in tongues, water or spirit baptism, being “slain in the spirit” running up and down the church aisles, to be free of all bodily sickness, being able to heal people, praising the LORD, soul-winning, seeing visions, dreaming dreams, giving “new prophecies,” praying for long periods of time, giving to the poor, being wealthy, etc., etc. But don’t be misled by this outward emotionalism. Though these things are not necessarily evil in themselves, the CHRISTian that has or does these things is not necessarily spiritual. In fact, isn’t it sad that the lives of so many of these “CHRISTians,” that so vehemently preach this outward emotionalism, are so full of sin! What hypocrisy! This is why JESUS HIMself warns us that many unbelievers would be able to do these so-called “*wonderful works*,” (Read Matthew 7:21-23). That is why HE warns us to “*Beware of false prophets*,” and that we would know by their “*fruits*” or lives, whether they were really from GOD or not (Read Matthew 7:15-20). So don’t believe everyone that comes along who says they are a CHRISTian. And don’t be so quick to attend a church that has the word “CHRISTian” in its title.

So what is true spirituality? I believe GOD in HIS Word explains this very clearly and simply when HE says in I Peter 1:15-16, “*But as HE (GOD) who has called you (all true CHRISTians), is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of life, because it is written, Be ye holy, for I (GOD) am holy.*”

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But how does one become “*holy in all manner of life*,” and thus attain this true spirituality? Again, the Scriptures are clear in telling us. JESUS tells us in John 15:3, “*Now ye are clean through the Word which I have spoken unto you.*” JESUS later prays in John 17:17 that GOD the FATHER would, “*Sanctify*, (or set apart for holy use), *them* (true believers), *through* (HIS) *truth...*” which HE later states is HIS Word. Holiness, and thus true spirituality, comes through the Word of GOD. Not just reading it, but more importantly, reading and obeying it! Four times in John chapter 14, JESUS equates loving, (or believing in), HIM with obeying HIM! This is what being a true CHRISTian is all about! This is true spirituality! Again, isn’t it sad, that so many true children of GOD are running after this externalism and outward emotionalism of tongue speaking, visions, dreams, “new prophecies,” so-called “healings,” “water and spirit baptism, soul winning, the wealth of this world, so-called “praising the LORD,” and even serving the LORD, but yet when it comes to reading the Book that GOD has given to them concerning “*all manner of life*” and conduct, and obeying that Book, they don’t seem to have the time! I can assure you, this does not please GOD! Indeed, it is because of this very neglect, that so many of these true CHRISTians are like what the Apostle Paul describes in Ephesians 4:14.

So, if you have truly been born again, and are a true child of GOD, please start living a holy life. And remember, you will only know what GOD commands, if you read HIS Word every day. Then you will indeed know and experience, just what true spirituality really is!

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