

Renounce all—Jesus is THE ONLY Way

Recently I met someone who claimed to be a Christian, but their devotion was to Islam. Everything they said and all their actions pointed to Islam. I was deeply troubled but this and I doubt whether that person is truly born again. One thing I believe that has been not fully addressed or taught is renouncing all for Jesus. Some people claim to be born again but have yet to renounce all other beliefs and gods.

We aren't truly born again if we have not renounced all. It is either Jesus or other beliefs but not a combination of the two.

We aren't fully committed to the Lord if we are still holding on to other faiths or belief systems. True discipleship requires a complete denunciation of all else for the one true and living God, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Acts 4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

1. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life.

- a) John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.
- b) Jesus did not say He was a way, a truth and a life. No! He claimed to be the Way, the Truth and the Life.
- c) This leaves no room for other means of salvation. This statement leaves no alternatives. Any religion that doesn't acknowledge Jesus as the ONLY way of salvation is in error and false.

- d) The word the is a definite article. Jesus is not just the way... FULL STOP. He is also the truth and the life. If Jesus is not the LORD of your life, you have missed the truth. Jesus = Truth.
- e) Notice also that it says, "NO man comes to the Father except through Jesus." If Jesus is not the Lord of your life, you have missed God. I don't care if you say you "believe in God." If you reject Jesus, you have rejected the True Life. Jesus = Life. No Jesus, no life. No Jesus, no Father.

2. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ

- a) Acts 16:31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.
- b) The way we get saved or born again is not believing all these beliefs but believing on Jesus alone. Believing in everything else plus Jesus is not salvation. True salvation is exclusively by faith in the name of Jesus.

3. Repent

Repentance means to think differently to change our mind and the way we think from the world unto God thereby bringing forth fruit unto repentance.

Repentance starts with a change of thinking which produces a change of actions. Sometimes we tend to think that someone has not repented because he or she has not acted differently. Repentance starts with a change of thinking. If there is a change of thinking we can rest assured, there will be a change of actions.

- a) Acts 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.
- b) Acts 3:19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;
 - i) Most people who claim to be born again have no understanding that they need to forsake all for Jesus. Many are still holding on to Islam or other faiths.

- ii) When someone is born again, there ought to be a change—a change in the way they think. This is repentance. We need to repent from all other beliefs and solely put our faith in Jesus.
- iii) True salvation must include repentance.

4. Fear of men

- a) Proverbs 29:25 The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the Lord shall be safe.
- b) 1 Samuel 13:11 And Samuel said, What hast thou done? And Saul said, Because I saw that the people were scattered from me, and that thou camest not within the days appointed, and that the Philistines gathered themselves together at Michmash;
 - i) King Saul made most of his mistakes because of fear of men.
 - ii) Some people have not renounced all because of a fear of men (family and friends). Until we give up all other gods and religious faiths, we have not totally submitted to the Lord nor believed on Him alone.
 - iii) We should never make decisions that hurt our relationship with God in order to appease men. We need to make our relationship with the Lord THE priority.
 - iv) I know someone who claims to be born again but holds on to Islam with both hands. I truly doubt they were in truth born again.

5. Please God, not men

- a) Galatians 1:10 For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.
 - i) Our hearts should be set to please God, not men. Renouncing all and solely believing on Jesus is pleasing to God.
 - ii) We can't be totally devoted to the Lord if our heart is to please men.

b) Hebrews 11:6 But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

i) Faith in Jesus alone is what pleases God.

Rich Kanyali