

General Topics :: The Church of Wells Discerning - The Church of Wells Website

The Church of Wells Discerning - The Church of Wells Website - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2014/5/1 1:12

Saints,

The Church of wells is a group that has formed that has shown cultish behaviours and using godly preachers from SermonIndex to support their ministry. We have submitted a public statement I made on another thread on the Church of well s on SermonIndex to this website.

You can read part of the About page here:

This website exists in order to make a statement regarding the claims of association with biblical teachers ‘ both historical (John Knox, Thomas Brooks, Richard Baxter, John Bunyan, James Renwick, Matthew Henry, Jonathan Edwards, John Wesley, George Whitefield, David Brainerd, Charles Spurgeon, et al.) and more modern (Arthur W. Pink, A. W. Tozer , Rolfe Barnard, Leonard Ravenhill, Paul Washer, et al.) ‘ made by The Church of Wells in an effort to provide credibility for their ministry.

The Church of Wells uses portraits, links, articles, sermons, and other media from these godly men on its website in an attempt to build for themselves a credibility by association. The only credibility they have attained, however, is a false one. The historic figures to whom The Church of Wells appeals would never have associated themselves with the CoW’s teaching or practice; and some of those who are still living have even requested complete disassociation from the CoW, its ministry, and its website. Unfortunately, such requests have often been denied or ignored.

<http://www.thechurchofwells.org/discerning-the-church-of-wells/>

Here is a link to the public statements:

<http://www.thechurchofwells.org/statements-concerning-church-wells/>

Paul washer has repeated a few warnings on twitter about the group, this is unusual for him to do that and also for myself to speak out. I believe it is the mercy of God to these young Elders that God would get a hold of them and show them the error of their ways.

Re: The Church of Wells Discerning - The Church of Wells Website - posted by Heydave (), on: 2014/5/1 4:48

I'm sorry but I have a major problem with this website that calls out the CoW. As much as I think the CoW is in error, I also see the people behind the website in error.

Instead of genuinely reaching out to these young folk (who in their zeal have wandered into extremes) and try to understand where they are coming from, they are just pushing them further into a corner with an extreme reaction and disassociation, shouting 'cult'.

The other thing is, this website makes a big issue out of the fact that the CoW believes you can lose your salvation. So they are just pushing their 'Reformed' position and claiming that anyone who believes differently is heretical. There are many men of God (even featured on this site) who believe the scriptures warn repeatedly about the possibility of losing salvation if you do not continue in Christ. So are all of us who hold that position a 'cult' too??

The other big issue I have is that some 'preachers' who are loud in their condemnation of the CoW are the very ones who preach the strong messages that can so easily be taken to extremes by young zealous people. These 'preachers' should have been looking to reach out and take some responsibility for some of their hard line preaching that may have contributed to this situation, rather than just distancing themselves from them. I wonder if it is just self preservation for fear of being associated with a group that may end up doing something really stupid.

Re: The Church of Wells Discerning - The Church of Wells Website - posted by KingJimmy (), on: 2014/5/1 10:19

I saw Paul washer put out a statement on twitter a few weeks ago. I thought it was curious. What's their deal?

Re: - posted by havok20x, on: 2014/5/1 10:24

Heydave,

I live 20 minutes from the Church of Wells.

Brother Greg would be in the wrong if he were bad-mouthing them and maligning them; however, to point out error is not wrong.

Paul did it in Galatians in regards to Peter--he even told the exact circumstance and who was involved. Would you be telling Paul that he was wrong for pointing out Peter's error to the church in Galatia?

Obviously Brother Greg would like to see them restored to Orthodoxy and all the members of that Church to follow the Lord, our True Shepherd.

Heresy is a real issue and we have grown childish in our understanding of the word of God and how it is to be applied--to the point that we are almost incapable of discerning what is truth and what is heresy. There is a truth and it is right, which means everything that does not conform to the truth is a lie.

Re: - posted by Heydave (), on: 2014/5/1 11:36

havok20x,

I think you misunderstand what I am saying. I am not accusing Brother Greg of anything. What I disagree with is the CARM website and I don't think Greg is behind that.

I agree with you that error needs to be pointed out and I in no way endorse the Church of Wells. However as I understand it, it is not a matter of doctrine per se. It is more the fact of how they have interpreted and applied doctrine and a spiritual pride.

My issue is that there is a degree of hypocrisy in ones who have preached very strong messages that appear to have influenced this group, now are quick to condemn them for taking it to an extreme they never intended. There should be some accountability for what we preach and it is easy to over emphasise a point to the degree some may take it too literally.

Here's something from the website that I think is way off beam.

In establishing that they think that the CoW believes in salvation by works they say:

"Anyone who seeks in any way to be made right with God by keeping the law, which includes loving God (Deut. 6:5) and loving your neighbor (Lev. 19:18), is cursed."

So according to the CARM website loving God and loving your neighbour are works of the law. In this regard they are diametrically opposed to the teaching of Christ, who stated that these are the greatest commandments and are expected to be the fruit of true Christians. This is typical of the over emphasised reformed teaching of salvation by faith alone. They cannot see that you cannot separate faith and works produced by faith. That's why Luther did not like the book of James, he didn't understand it.

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2014/5/1 11:37

Does anyone have a list or know which specific beliefs held by this group are considered to be heretical? I know nothing about them and it is not clear from the linked website what strange things they believe.

Re: - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2014/5/1 11:54

Brothers,

I agree that I usually do not endorse or am happy with any type of discernment website that just maligns, slanders and speaks ill of Christians who have some questionable practices. To me the Church of Wells is not as much a doctrinal problem as a social and manipulative controlling problem.

They have caused much hurt to people in the Name of Christ and have separated many godly families that I personally know of. To me that they teach you can lose your salvation is a part of the problem. I do believe one can lose their salvation but they teach it in such a harsh, strong way that they have people literally scared and therefore it is easy to control them. They end up making it seem if anyone leaves the church they will lose their salvation and walk away from the truth.

Once they have people in Wells with them they start to control all aspects of their life. People are never allowed to go on their own to make decisions for themselves, they must always be with others in the Church for most things. A lot of the money everyone makes is controlled by the Church, which can be fine for a Christian community but they use it to control people for their ends.

It is just 100% clear to me that they have caused MUCH hurt to MANY godly Christians that I know and are 100% in the public eye making quite strong mistakes with certain things they are doing. Groups like this will hasten persecution on other groups of true believers that are following the Lord whole-heartily.

Again, this is one of the first times I have made a public stance like this with a statement. Paul Washer's heartcry group helped to assemble the website. They have hurt many godly families in the open air preaching community also therefore brother Paul knows many who have been HURT also by this.

If I am wrong in this brethren please clearly help me to see why. I do have a heart for these young men to repent and change their ways. They have rejected correction from many godly Elders and godly Preachers such as Keith Daniel who they admired GREATLY and he corrected them, so they rejected him.

I did have the 2 main elders travel with me so I could try and help them by just being with them for 2 weeks because back then I already sensed they were over-zealous and needed balance. So I tried to passively help them by bringing them with me to Ireland and Wales. Sadly at the end of the trip they corrected me and in a sense dis-fellowshipped me.

Re: - posted by Heydave (), on: 2014/5/1 12:18

Hi Greg,

Thanks for the clarification. I agree with most of what you have written and you know these people, I don't. I suppose I just don't like the tone of that website.

Regarding the CoW, in these types of set ups it is normally one particular individual leader that is the main controlling influence. I have my feelings as to which one that is based on things I have viewed about them and I expect you may also have thoughts on this. It would be good to pray that the Lord breaks the hold this one has and opens the eyes of the others to see what the reality is.

Re: - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2014/5/1 12:29

Quote:
-----I have my feelings as to which one that is based on things I have viewed about them and I expect you may also have thoughts on this. It would be good to pray that the Lord breaks the hold this one has and opens the eyes of the others to see what the reality is.

Sean Morris.

Do pray for Him and that the Lord would unveil his heart and eyes to see the wrong way he is on. May God have abundant great mercy.

Re: - posted by mattf12486, on: 2014/5/1 14:03

My 2 friends have been captured and are still bound by the church of wells teaching. My friend Taylor has never responded to any of my texts or emails ever since I rebuked him for his error and pleaded with him to reconsider. My brother has been in contact with Taylor but reasoning from the scriptures with him is virtually impossible. He's "perfected" his faith and is not able to receive from anyone other than the church of wells. Everyone who disagrees with COW is "walking in darkness" and won't "come to the light."

My brother believes that the COW theology is based upon hebrews 10:26 and you are kept in a state of constant fear of your salvation. My brother told me that when he spoke with Taylor that he stated the doctrine of eternal security is heretical and doesn't allow you to properly "fear God." This church has slipped into satanic teaching and only the Lord can set them free.

Re: , on: 2014/5/1 14:16

HeyDave said:

Quote:

-----"I suppose I just don't like the tone of that website."

I respect and trust brother Greg implicitly in his concerns and discernment so my comment has nothing to do with brother Greg.

But I tend to agree with HeyDave...the tone, the very concept of going to such public lengths with an "anti" website just doesn't feel right.

Perhaps Gamaliel the Pharisee got it right when he said, "We should keep away from these men for now. We should leave them alone. I can guarantee that if the plan they put into action is of human origin, it will fail...."

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2014/5/1 14:22

Quote:

"My brother told me that when he spoke with Taylor that he stated the doctrine of eternal security is heretical and doesn't allow you to properly "fear God." This church has slipped into satanic teaching and only the Lord can set them free."

Ok from what I have read the group seems very cultish. And I certainly don't agree that the doctrine of eternal security is heretical BUT NOR do I think it is heretical to believe that a person can lose their salvation. That is not a "satanic" teaching.

This is an area where reasonable and spirit filled minds of believers may disagree.

Apart from their mind control and weird antics are there other strange doctrinal points that the CoW believes?

Re: - posted by Oracio (), on: 2014/5/1 14:24

brother HeyDave, I understand and am in agreement in part with your concerns here. I will try to share my two cents on some of your concerns. It is in a spirit of grace that I want to reply to your sincere concerns brother because I think it's important. You wrote:

Quote:

-----this website makes a big issue out of the fact that the CoW believes you can lose your salvation. So they are just pushing their 'Reformed' position and claiming that anyone who believes differently is heretical. There are many men of God (even featured on this site) who believe the scriptures warn repeatedly about the possibility of losing salvation if you do not continue in Christ. So are all of us who hold that position a 'cult' too??

I am in agreement with you on that brother. I believe it was unwise for the creators of that site and others to make such a

big deal of belief in the loss of salvation. That is not an essential issue. But I also agree with brother Greg that this group takes that view to an extreme.

Some have asked what exactly is heretical about their teachings and/or practices. For the most part what most have been aware of is their cultish practices of separating godly families. That is crystal clear based on all the testimonies of many who've been involved and hurt.

Regarding their teachings, I find a number of serious errors. I'll point out two which I believe are very serious. The first has to do with their extreme view of the loss of salvation. They believe one can lose their salvation by committing any known, or what they term "willful" sins, even if it's something like telling a lie. You can clearly hear this teaching in this video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p0Mvdg3kUMc>

The second error has to do with their view of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. They believe that one can have the Holy Spirit indwelling them and still be lost and on their way to hell if they sin. You can hear that teaching in that same video also. To be honest I've never heard of any groups believing or teaching such a thing. With just those two errors in their teaching, and given their cultish practices, I believe they have been led astray and are outside of historic orthodox Christianity.

You wrote

Quote:
-----I'm sorry but I have a major problem with this website that calls out the CoW. As much as I think the CoW is in error, I also see the people behind the website in error.

Instead of genuinely reaching out to these young folk (who in their zeal have wandered into extremes) and try to understand where they are coming from, they are just pushing them further into a corner with an extreme reaction and disassociation, shouting 'cult'.

my brother, we do not know for sure whether or not the producers of that site tried reaching out to the CoW in accordance with biblical procedures first before creating that site. Also, even if they didn't approach them privately first, being that this group's teachings and practices are evidently heretical and cultish, I'm not sure they wouldn't be justified in creating that site for awareness. For example, I don't believe it's necessary for us to consult the Mormons or JW's before publicly denouncing their teachings.

You wrote:

Quote:
-----The other big issue I have is that some 'preachers' who are loud in their condemnation of the CoW are the very ones who preach the strong messages that can so easily be taken to extremes by young zealous people. These 'preachers' should have been looking to reach out and take some responsibility for some of their hard line preaching that may have contributed to this situation, rather than just distancing themselves from them. I wonder if it is just self preservation for fear of being associated with a group that may end up doing something really stupid.

Brother, I think regarding this I will have to respectfully disagree. I believe the CoW should take full responsibility for their errors. The brothers whom you are referring to may very well be completely innocent in this matter. They may very well have simply been faithful to their calling. And it's possible that CoW has wrongfully taken things to an extreme for whatever reason.

I've seen this kind of thing happen with the ministry of Ray Comfort and the revival of open air preaching which the Lord has used him to help bring about. Many have taken Ray's teaching on the need for preaching the Law to bring the knowledge of sin to an extreme. And some have started open air preaching groups that are hateful and heretical. They attribute their beginnings to Ray's ministry, but they have gone to unbiblical extremes. And it's not Ray's fault.

Respectfully,
Oracio

Re: - posted by mattf12486, on: 2014/5/1 14:24

The problem is that the COW is actively recruiting people to go there and are masquerading as a sound "biblical church." Many people have already privately reached out to them but to no avail. This website is needed in order to warn the unsuspecting/undiscerning of the dangerous leaven that is within the teachings of the COW.

Re: - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2014/5/1 14:31

Quote:
-----Perhaps Gamaliel the Pharisee got it right when he said, "We should keep away from these men for now. We should leave them alone. I can guarantee that if the plan they put into action is of human origin, it will fail...."

Also the problem is if you young daughter or other child were involved in the group and turned your child against you in the name of the Bible and Scripture. I know of many families personally in this situation with them and they are very godly Christians, but not godly enough because they are not in Wells learning the teachings from these 3 young elders.

Quote:
-----The problem is that the COW is actively recruiting people to go there and are masquerading as a sound "biblical church."

I agree with that also brother, they have been connecting with brethren even on SI and other places that have true sold out believers.

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2014/5/1 14:46

It is incredible how people get sucked into such nonsense. Almost like a street gang.

Re: - posted by mattf12486, on: 2014/5/1 14:46

I believe the idea that one can lose their salvation is a horrible error and the way the church of wells uses this to manipulate others is indeed satanic.

Re: - posted by Oracio (), on: 2014/5/1 14:58

I wrote

Quote:
-----The second error has to do with their view of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. They believe that one can have the Holy Spirit indwelling them and still be lost and on their way to hell if they sin.

Thought I should clarify a bit on that. They believe you can be lost and on your way to hell and at the same time be indwelt by the Holy Spirit. They consider Christians who are in such a supposed state to be in darkness.

Re: , on: 2014/5/1 15:39

Quote:
-----Also the problem is if you young daughter or other child were involved in the group and turned your child against you in the name of the Bible and Scripture. I know of many families personally in this situation with them and they are very godly Christians, but not godly enough because they are not in Wells learning the teachings from these 3 young elders.

I hear you brother Greg and I would be just as upset if these allegations are true as they are made out to be. But that's

not really how the website comes across...perhaps there should be more plainly stated detail about the dangerous way they are holding people "hostage" and dividing them against their families. I think some of the things you have said on this thread would be very beneficial to be repeated on that website? At the moment the website tone comes across along the lines that certain people are upset that their names are being associated. Yet when you explain on this forum the real issues at stake it changes the whole tone. I hope that makes sense?

Re: - posted by havok20x, on: 2014/5/1 15:40

Brothers, let's reason together about this:

The book of Jude and also 2 Peter chapter 2, the book of Galatians, the book of Colossians, the book of 1 Corinthians, the book of Luke (and by extension Acts), the book of 1 John, Revelation 2-3 and several other chapters or verses of the New Testament were written to do a few specific things:

- 1) to Solidify the truth
- 2) Call out and correct error
- 3) Show how the truth differs from the error
- 4) What to expect from the promoters of error
- 5) What the believers' response should be toward them

I know the website is not scripture. That is obvious. But to have a website that calls them out is not wrong. It just isn't. And I don't think the spirit of the website is to create an anti-website. It is a warning to believers. A good one too, because it balances a warning and a desire for restoration. Now I think theologically, there could be a lot more on that website, but I think we are trying to reign in that church not pick it apart (at least at this moment). It is clear that the founders do not desire to jump to excommunication and total rejection. They are reaching out.

The ONLY concern and reservation I have is this:

We know that the Church of Wells thrives on being rejected. If we do not play this right they will merely say to their members: "See! We are being persecuted and only true Christians get persecuted" and they will justify even more their hardness of heart and rejection of everyone.

Re: - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2014/5/1 15:43

Quote:

-----I hope that makes sense?

Yes dear brother, I agree that is my concern, sure it is not good they are using godly preachers to have authority over others, but that is just one way and problem that they use to be able to teach their doctrines to control people with their very narrowed thinking.

I made your suggestion to the website brother.

Re: , on: 2014/5/1 16:11

Quote:

-----"See! We are being persecuted and only true Christians get persecuted" and they will justify even more their hardness of heart and rejection of everyone.

Good point...perhaps giving them any sort of attention is not a good idea then? If rebuking a fool does not bring him to re

penance (if anything makes him worse)...could this inflame the situation even more? And another thing, I read somewhere that they were talking about "fiery persecution" and getting ready to die? Praying that the website people will move forward with extreme caution...

As brother Greg said, let's pray for these people and all affected...the battle is against spiritual forces, not flesh and blood.

Re: - posted by havok20x, on: 2014/5/1 16:22

Here is what proverbs has to say about instruction to foolish people:

Proverbs 14:7

Go from the presence of a foolish man, When you do not perceive in him the lips of knowledge.

Proverbs 17:10

Rebuke is more effective for a wise man Than a hundred blows on a fool.

Proverbs 23:9

Do not speak in the hearing of a fool, For he will despise the wisdom of your words.

Proverbs 26:4-5

Do not answer a fool according to his folly, Lest you also be like him. Answer a fool according to his folly, Lest he be wise in his own eyes.

Proverbs 29:9

If a wise man contends with a foolish man, Whether the fool rages or laughs, there is no peace.

Re: - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2014/5/1 16:44

Quote:

-----the problem is if you young daughter or other child were involved in the group and turned your child against you in the name of the Bible and Scripture.

This is precisely the point. I have two small children, and my wife and I seek to bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. I know a younger sister in CoW who is married to one of the elders, and I know that her father (one of the most godliest men I have ever known) raised her the same way I am raising my children. They are estranged now, as far as I know, cut off and separated - and not by her father's choice. This obviously hits very close to home for me.

Cultistic brainwashing is real, and it can happen to anyone. It can take our children. It is not relegated to Jehovah's Witnesses and Mormons and Islam; it is a present danger right here as well under the umbrella of so-called Christian evangelicalism. Fractured families are left in the wake; a needless loss of a baby's life; utter alienation of anything unlike them and accusations of heresy publicized against several time-honored and Holy Spirit-authenticated men of God.

I am vocally against them because I care for the sister I mentioned, as well as her family. If something like this can take a daughter away from a man like her dad, it can happen to anyone of us here on SermonIndex who seek to raise their children in the paths of righteousness. Satan can come as an angel of light as much as he can come as a drug dealer. It all depends on the scenario. The Word of God, in the wrong hands, can be a murderous straight razor.

Re: - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2014/5/2 22:36

Paul, I know of whom you speak...I am a friend on FB of this young mother and her husband. I have wondered many times what I should do about this: do I defriend them? His posts are OK, nothing unbiblical about them. Surely there are others here who are friends with them or were. How does one deal with it? I am at a loss - maybe the Holy Spirit is telling me to do nothing at the moment? hmmmmm

In any case I feel so sad for this young woman's family....I know they must be hurting dreadfully...and I have a problem believing this young mom is content...or, maybe I do not know her well? My imagination can run wild..

Re: - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2014/5/3 9:39

I'm friends with her on FB too, Sandra. I will not defriend or even block her, even though I'm pretty sure most all the posting activity is done by her husband. To defriend her would be like giving up on her, like turning my back. When I think of her I always think of her father and put myself in his shoes. I would not want someone to turn their back on or defriend my daughter if she found herself in a similar situation. I do not believe in shunning, no matter what the crime. Jesus never shuns or unfriends, so we ought to never either. She needs prayer, compassion, patience, hope - nothing is beyond the Lord.

In fact, she is probably reading this, and she needs to know that we love her and are praying for her. Her husband is her head and we must leave it at that. We must give God the time and season to work, if He intends to alter the situation through our prayers. This goes for everyone who has lost friends, loved ones and children to this group.

Re: - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2014/5/3 11:33

Quote:

-----In fact, she is probably reading this, and she needs to know that we love her and are praying for her. Her husband is her head and we must leave it at that. We must give God the time and season to work, if He intends to alter the situation through our prayers. This goes for everyone who has lost friends, loved ones and children to this group.

Amen brother. I have prayed many times for this sister, it breaks my heart to even think of it. God knows.

Re: - posted by mama27, on: 2014/5/3 12:54

I am praying as well.....

Re: - posted by Yeshuasboy (), on: 2014/5/3 23:43

Here's ABC Nightline anchor Dan Harris trying to get some questions answered by a few members. The spirit I see here is "sketchy" to me; for one fruit I don't see is humility in where all the other virtues spring from. Where is the transparency of these "believers"? I don't see it. I've met many unbelievers that are far more transparent than those 2 that Dan Harris tried to interview; and any religious professor that isn't transparent is a religious professor that I walk away from. At the same time, if not for the grace of God, I'd be worse than the whole church of Wells combined together. I find this frightening indeed.

Here's the short 10 min ABC Nightline vid on YouTube: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZGBhxF_XpZI

Re: - posted by Yeshuasboy (), on: 2014/5/4 0:38

I just wanted to mention that the devil is a religious spirit.

Also, pride is so "custom" to the western way of thinking, and so inbred in the human heart, and so hardly discernable, that one can have "all" knowledge of Scripture, but if the axe isn't taken to the root of pride in one's heart, woe be unto the "religious" him or her.

I'm going to listen again to Sean's testimony that was sent to me a few years back from a woman (I will not mention her name) that I had the privilege of writing to for some "Godly Books". And I do recall her saying that "Keith Daniel", at that time, endorsed this man's ministry. In saying that, I have, and still have the utmost respect for Keith Daniel, and that of this woman, and her family. They have both been a great blessing to me; but I don't respect them for what they have done

for me, but what they have done for the cause of Christ, by their constant watching over their own hearts, and praying that God keep them low in their own eyes. At the same time, it is God that works and wills in them according to His good pleasure, and no man or woman can boast, for all our righteousness is of filthy rags in the sight of God; and it is one thing to know this doctrinally, but quite another to know it from experience. For the Lord disciplines every child He loves.

The apostle Paul was mightily used of God, but he was also fearful of the Lord. God's eyes are everywhere, and sees in the dark as well as in the light, yea, into the very corners of the hearts of men and women. He knows each soul better than they know themselves. Paul, as well as the other apostles and prophets got the Word through revelation, and wrote it down; we, on the other hand, mostly, first off, receive it in Word, and then if it pleases the sovereign Lord to grant it, by revelation later, hence, the parable of the seed and the sower, etc, etc.

It is so easy to fall into pride beloved. Oh, take EVERY thought captive to the obedience of Christ, but how few heed the exhortation! Pride is a sin that is easy to discern in others rather than ourselves; but it is always there, lying dormant, waiting to erupt like a sleeping volcano of fire. Hence many Scriptures, but this one stands out to me constantly (paraphrasing), "Unless you become like this little child, you will in no way enter into the kingdom of heaven", said Christ (to that effect)... and truly, I think many agree with that, because it is written in the Scriptures; but if they really believed the words of Christ, like that solemn verse, it would scare the "wits" out of them, and send them to their faces all the days of their lives, to and beyond the time, the love of God is shed abroad in their hearts.

Anyway, I'm off to listen to Sean's testimony, for it has been a few years since I have done so. It is good to be like the apostles and say, "Lord, is it I", when we read Paul's other exhortation - "Examine yourselves to see if you be in the faith". God knows the beginning from the end, I do not; but, those whom are faithful UNTIL THE END shall be saved; therefore, It does not say, "Those that are faithful for a while, or a long while, shall be saved"... And we know that the word "saved" is so flippantly used in western christendom, that many that say they are saved, are not, and don't even have a clue what it means, because mostly do not fear the Lord, nor fear their own hearts, but rather get caught up in many other distractions, and forget to daily walk in the fear of the Lord, and forget that without Him they can do nothing.

God help us to be honest with our own present condition. Fruit grows in the good ground of sincerity and truth, after much plowing and watering, and God alone making it increase.... and increasing for His Glory alone, not our own glory.