*Tuesday, August 2, 2011*

**Grace Works**

2 Corinthians 11:13-15 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. (14) And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. (15) Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works. (KJV)

I have found an easy way to find out who really is of God and those that would be considered not so much, or not exactly. The end of verse 15 is a dead giveaway, because these people who profess to know God were no longer operating according to grace, but according to their works or what they thought would work. You know these folks that do their alms before men will tell you how many souls they claim that they are winning for Jesus when in the end the Lord was doing just fine without their input.

Matthew 7:21-23 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. (22) Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? (23) And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. (KJV)

A lot of people claim to be doing a lot of works; however, in the end it is not going to work as far as getting access to their eternal reward. Obviously what started out as a plan of grace turned out to be a disgrace when they decided to take over thinking that they were impressing God. I personally get tired of hearing people tell me about their works, and I am only interested in hearing what they are allowing the Lord to work in and through them instead.

Ephesians 2:8-10 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: (9) Not of works, lest any man should boast. (10) For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. (KJV)

So grace and the plan of salvation is a gift from God which we can only access through faith. It has nothing to do with our works anymore, so that should eliminate boasting. Just the other night, once again, I hear the account of the thief on the cross and how he was saved by grace, there was nothing left for him to do. Then in the next breath the same person was seeking donations for a baptismal pool they wanted erected at their so called church. Dunking people in water is just that, watered down Old Testament works that no longer work Church! I compare that doctrine to peeing in the wind, you might get a warm feeling and wet but it won’t get you any closer to the Lord.

Romans 13:11-12 And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. (12) The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. (KJV)

Let’s get out of those old wretched worn out rags of self righteousness that you have been wearing out in the past, and let’s put on a new set of armor that will enlighten you to the things above. We are in an age of grace Church; which when I see so many turn back to works they take God out of the equation and it ends up in disgrace instead.

Romans 10:1-4 Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. (2) For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. (3) For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. (4) For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth. (KJV)

Again, you can really tell those that are truly of God because they believe that God’s Son did a complete work for His people, and that the sacrifice that He presented was acceptable. Once you truly believe in Christ it is then that you will put an end to a bunch of silly worn out religious rituals and move on to the maturity in Christ that our Lord was dying to give His people.