

AN INFALLIBLY SAFE WAY

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **2John v9-11**. From Roy H. Enoch (03/28/1993).
- B. It is responsible to use caution and make things sure.
 - 1. When we pay a bill, we want a receipt.
 - 2. When we buy property, we want a deed or abstract.
 - 3. We want insurance, and have medical check-ups.
 - 4. We want our cars to be reliable so we have them serviced.
 - 5. We want security for physical property and our family's welfare.
- C. We should be even more cautious with our spiritual welfare.
 - 1. Peter urges us to give "all diligence" (2Pet. 1:5-11).
 - 2. Yet many base their religious conviction on human tradition (Mk. 7:7; 1Cor. 4:6).
 - 3. Some do as they please, or according to how they feel.
 - a. Paul knew that pleasing men world not please God (Gal. 1:10).
 - b. Jesus also taught that what men esteemed, God abhorred (Lk. 16:15).
- D. There is an infallibly safe way in religion.
 - 1. It is to follow no authority but the Bible.
 - 2. It is to accept no name but Christ's
 - 3. It is to have no religious organization but the Lord's church.
 - 4. Have no worship but that authorized in the New Testament.

IT IS INFALLIBLY SAFE TO...

I. ...ACCEPT NO AUTHORITY BUT THE BIBLE.

- A. David gives a beautiful description of God's word in Psalms 19:7-11.
- B. The inspired word completely equips the man of God (2Tim. 3:16).
- C. We can have unity by accepting only the word of God.
 - 1. Jesus prayed to the Father for the apostles and those who would believe through their word (Jn. 17:20,21).
 - 2. Divisions are caused by wearing human names and writing human creeds and disciplines (1Cor. 3:3).
- D. If we do not stay in the doctrine of Christ, we lose God (2Jn. 9).

II. ...WEAR NO NAME BUT CHRIST'S.

- A. We have salvation in only one name (Ac. 4:12; 11:26; 1Pet. 4:16).
- B. Human names show a rejection of Christ.
 - 1. As the bride of Christ, we should wear His name.
 - 2. Human names show that our allegiance is not with Christ.
- C. There are many reasons for wearing the name to Christ (Christian).
 - 1. We are to wear His name because He saves us. Acts 4:12.
 - 2. He was crucified for us (1Cor. 1:13).
 - 3. We are baptized "in His name" or by His authority.
 - 4. We are to glorify God in this name (1Pet. 4:16).

III. ...HAVE NO RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION BUT THE LORD'S CHURCH.

- A. Jesus said He would build His church.
 - 1. It would be His.
 - 2. He would build one church.
- B. Jesus purchased His church with His blood (Ac. 20:28).
- C. Jesus saves the one body which is His church (Eph. 5:23).

- D. The church is the "pillar and ground of truth."
 - 1. "pillar" means the support of truth.
 - 2. "ground" means the foundation upon the pillar rests.
 - 3. Both together support the truth of God.
- E. The church makes known the truth. Eph. 3:10

IV. ...WORSHIP ONLY AS DIRECTED IN THE NEW TESTAMENT.

- A. Jesus said the true worshipper worships "in spirit and in truth."
 - 1. In spirit, with the right attitude, sincere.
 - 2. In truth, according to the word of God.
- B. "Worship" refers to acts of reverence or devotion.
 - 1. Acts 2:42 refers to several that the early church continued in:
 - a. "The apostles doctrine" or teaching.
 - b. "Fellowship" refers to sharing and participating together.
 - c. "Breaking bread" means eating, and in worship refers to the Lord's Supper.
 - d. "Prayer" is our thanking God for blessings and asking for other petitions.
 - 2. Singing is commanded in Col. 3:16,17; Eph. 5:19.
 - 3. "Pure and undefiled religion" is to take care of the needy (Jas. 1:27).

CONCLUSION.

- A. If we believe in taking due caution in material things, and with the care of our families, how much more in spiritual things.
- B. The only way to be certain that we are right is to follow God's word.
- C. Let us study it diligently and follow it carefully.