

*“By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones.” Hebrews 11:22 KJV*



Not only did Joseph believe, but his faith continued to his posterity through commandment and example. He was second only to Pharaoh, but never forsook or denied his family. His command could be looked to for support and assurance by his children when their faith wavered. He commanded his bones be carried with them when they left Egypt. He saw their deliverance, and made preparations. There has been a decline in the assurance of modern believers. We have stopped leading others to Truth and are merely suggesting it, because we are not as sure of the facts as we ought be. We do not boldly declare the Truth by our obedience, but we go along to get along rather than upset the world's applecart! While it is true that the Spirit of God does the heart-work, it is the deeds of believers that lend credence to the proclaimed Gospel! If we act, talk, and play like the world, we have compromised faith, sabotaged Truth, and made ourselves liars! *“He that saith, ‘I know Him,’ and keepeth (obeyeth) not His commandments (Word), IS A LIAR, and the Truth is not in him.”* Jesus said before He ascended *“Ye shall be witnesses unto ME!”* Today's believers are witnesses to everything but! They fellowship around the same things the world does; weather, sports, news, health, and family. It is a rare occasion when an assembly of believers gathers after the preaching of God's Word to engage in conversation about what was preached. They can't wait to hear the latest gossip, get the latest recipe, discuss their latest ailment, or extol the virtues and faults of some sports or world event! They pride themselves in family and possessions and leave God at the church doorstep. It's no small wonder the world thinks us hypocrites! We have substituted religion for repentance, pleasure for profession, and sermons for service. I often hear it said, “If I could just get them to church where they could hear the Gospel!” What in the world happened to your mouth? Did it break? Are you so ignorant of Truth you dare not extol its virtue? And why? Have you not read, *“Thou shalt meditate therein DAY AND NIGHT?”* What is your excuse for disobedience? How else will family and friends hear Truth if not from you? If you don't know or believe it enough to firmly and stubbornly declare it, what good is it to you or anyone else? The martyrs died for refusing to partake with the world, yet today's believers sit and enjoy the same table! What ever happened to, *“Come out from among them and be ye separate!”* The early believers who were fed to Roman lions and burned for torches in the Coliseum had far more incentive than we to compromise their faith, but did they? Prosperity and plenty are Satan's best tools against the Church of God! Like the Laodicean Church, we think we are *“rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and [know] not that [we are] wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked! Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God!”*

True faith commands the deeds of men,  
Eradicating all their sin,  
It stands alone with fearless stance,  
And wavers not at any lance! -CGP

How can you say you know God if you teach your children by example that it is acceptable to play with the world? We live like it's OK to fraternize with evil, but say, “Don't live like evil!” Really? Birds of a feather flock together! If “being nice” includes overlooking or ignoring evil you are not “nice;” you are faithless and weak!

*“But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead? Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect? And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, ‘Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness:’ and he was called the Friend of God.” James 2:20-23 KJV*

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