Rhino Christians!

Prepared by Nathan L Morrison for Sunday December 30th, 2018

Text: Hebrews 10:35-39

# Intro

1. Becoming Christians, we take on the name of Christ, and are to “put on the Lord.”
2. Gal. 3:27; Rom. 13:14: Once baptized into Christ, need to be clothed with Christ!
3. I Pet. 2:21; I Jn. 1:6-7: Once a child of God, must “walk in the light,” that is to walk in the steps of the Savior, Who is our perfect example (Guide)!
4. To “walk in the steps of the Savior,” is to be “led in paths of light!” *(From Hymn, Stepping In The Light, 1890, by Eliza E. Hewitt, 1851-1920)*

# Knowledge of God’s Word

## Jesus knew the word of God!

* 1. *Lk. 2:41-52:* Jesus, at 12 yrs. Old, amazed the religious teachers in the Temple.

## *Mt. 4:1-10:* The Battle of Lions: Lion of Judah *(Rev. 5:5)* vs. The Roaring Lion *(I Pet. 5:8):*

* 1. 4:3: **Temptation** – He was hungry (*Vs. 2*) and told to turn the stones to bread.
  2. 4:4: **Answer** – “It is written, ‘Man shall not live on bread alone…’”
  3. 4:5-6: **Temptation** – Throw Himself down and let the angels minister to Him.
  4. 4:7: **Answer** – “It is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’”
  5. 4:8-9: **Temptation** – Gain worldly kingdoms by falling down and worshipping Satan.
  6. 4:10: **Answer** – “It is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God…only.'"
  7. Christ answered each one with scripture; He was knowledgeable in God’s word!
  8. The scary part is Satan knows the Scriptures too, but will twist them.

## We must know the Scriptures well to battle Satan and the twists his false teachers spin as truth.

* 1. II Tim. 2:15: (KJV) “Study to show yourself approved to God…” (Ps. 119:105)
  2. Titus 2:9-10:We are to “adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in every respect.”

## To overcome temptations *(I Cor. 10:13)* we must know God’s word and draw from its strength!

* 1. Humility

## Humility = Subjection

* 1. Jesus spoke of the Father’s will to be done, and not His own.
     1. Mt. 26:39, 42: He prayed, “…not My will, but Yours be done.”
  2. He was submissive, and from His subjection and humility, He had authority.
     1. Jn. 6:38-40: Jesus came to earth to do His Father’s will.
     2. Phil. 2:5-11: His humility led to obedience, which led to His exaltation.

## Saints must be humble!

## I Pet. 5:5: Clothe yourselves with humility! God opposes the proud!

## Col. 1:18: Christ is the Head of the church *(Eph. 5:22-33).*

## Without humility:

## Men won’t submit to God’s authority as Head of the church, which leads to all the denominations of the world.

* + 1. Husbands won’t love their wives as Christ loved the church; women won’t be in subjection to their husbands, all leading to the high divorce rate in the world.

## Christ is our example *(Jn. 13:16: The slave is not greater than the master).*

## We are to seek after God’s will above our own! *(Mt. 6:33)*

* 1. Loved Others

## Christ had a compassionate heart

* 1. Mt. 20:30-34: Moved by compassion to give sight to two blind men.
  2. *Jn. 11:30-44*: Moved by compassion to weep and grieve for Lazarus.
  3. *Jn. 3:16*: God so loved the world He sent His only Son to die for the sins of the world.

## Saints are to have the love & compassion of Christ (Col. 3:12-15):

* 1. Jn. 13:34-35: By our love we are to be known as His followers.
  2. Jn. 15:12-13: “Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.”

## The world is to know us by our love & forgiveness for each other!

* 1. Corrected Error

## Jesus was angry but did not sin (Eph. 4:26-27): Righteous Anger = Righteous Actions

* 1. Jn. 2:13-17: Jesus cleansed the Temple of the moneychangers and sellers of doves.
     1. He fashioned a whip (scourge) from cords and whipped them out the Temple.
     2. *Not the picture often associated with Jesus!*
  2. *Mt. 15:1-11:* Jesus corrected the Pharisees *often.* (Mt. 23)
     1. Vs. 12: Disciples told Him He offended the Pharisees.
     2. Vss. 13-14: His answer: they were blind guides to the blind.

## Saints must confront error!

* 1. *Jn. 8:31-59:* Jesus told the Pharisees their father is the devil.
  2. *Mt. 23:* The whole chapter is full of “Woes” to the Pharisees, and they are accused of murdering the prophets and leading the nation of Israel astray.
  3. II Tim. 2:24-26: We are to oppose and correct error, so we might bring the erring to God.

## We are not just to study, but accurately handle the word of truth in correcting error! *(II Tim. 2:15)*

* 1. Endurance

1. Endurance. Thick-skinned. He wasn’t offended at personal insults *(Mt. 27:11-44;* Heb. 12:1-3).
2. Saints need to be “Rhino Christians!” *(II Tim. 3:12:Persecutions will happen to the godly)*
   1. Rhinos: Big ears, sharp hearing.
      1. Saints: Quick to hear, slow to speak – Js. 1:19-20
   2. Rhinos: Protective of young and family.
      1. Saints: Love others, put others first – Jn. 13:34-35
   3. Rhinos: Long horn for offense & defense. Not hollow as cows’ are.
      1. Saints: Offense & defense = the Sword of the Spirit, word of God – Eph. 6:17
   4. Rhinos: Thick-skinned.
3. Saints: Need to have endurance – Heb. 10:35-39; Js. 1:2-4; 5:7-11
4. Saints: Faith as a shield – Eph. 6:16; Heb. 10:35-39; I Jn. 5:4
5. We need to have the many traits of Jesus and of rhinos! We must endure, knowing the Lord rewards those who remain faithful!

### Conclusion

1. Saints must not only “put on Christ” in baptism (just the beginning), but must continually “walk in the light” by “walking in the steps of the Savior” *(Hymn, Stepping In The Light, 1890, by Eliza E. Hewitt, 1851-1920)*
2. I Jn. 1:6-7: We must follow Jesus to be “led in paths of light!”
3. Are you walking in the steps of the Savior?
4. If not a child of God, Repent & be baptized, obey the gospel and walk in the light!
5. If you are a child of God and not living right, repent and walk in the steps of the Savior!!
6. Whatever your requests, let them be made known ***NOW*** while we stand and sing!