

“Con-Job” (4)

“Then once more you shall see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve him.” (Malachi 3:18)

The Saddest Con-Job

Luke 13:24-27 – (24) “Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. (25) When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, ‘Lord, open to us,’ then he will answer you, ‘I do not know where you come from.’ (26) Then you will begin to say, ‘We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.’ (27) But he will say, ‘I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!’”

Matthew 7:21-23 – (21) “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. (22) On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ (23) And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’”

Revelation 3:1-3 – (1) “And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: ‘The words of him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. ‘I know your works. You have the reputation of being alive, but you are dead. (2) Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God. (3) Remember, then, what you received and heard. Keep it, and repent. If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you.’”

The Self-Conned

Psalms 50:16-21 – (16) “But to the wicked God says: ‘What right have you to recite my statutes or take my covenant on your lips? (17) For you hate discipline, and you cast my words behind you. (18) If you see a thief, you are pleased with him, and you keep company with adulterers. (19) You give your mouth free rein for evil, and your tongue frames deceit. (20) You sit and speak against your brother; you slander your own mother’s son.’ (21) These things you have done, and I have been silent; you thought that I was one like yourself. But now I rebuke you and lay the charge before you.’

John 8:41-44 – (41) “‘You are doing the works your father did.’ They said to him, ‘We were not born of sexual immorality. We have one Father—even God.’ (42) Jesus said to them, ‘If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and I am here. I came not of my own accord, but he sent me. (43) Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear my word. (44) You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.’”

Life Signs

1 Thessalonians 1:8-10 – (8) “For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. (9) For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, (10) and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.”

Galatians 5:22-23 – (22) “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, (23) gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.”

Investigate & Illuminate

Acts 19:1-5 – (1) “And it happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the inland country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples. (2) And he said to them, ‘Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?’ And they said, ‘No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.’ (3) And he said, ‘Into what then were you baptized?’ They said, ‘Into John’s baptism.’ (4) And Paul said, ‘John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus.’ (5) On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.”

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)

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