

## **EXAMINE YOURSELVES (Galatians 6:1-4)**

**Lam. 3:40; Matt. 7:5; II Cor. 13:5; Gal. 6:4** These verses and others encourage 'believers' to be continually examining ourselves regarding our relationship and fellowship with God our Father.

### **THE DEAD BELIEVER**

**Revelation 3:1** The bible teaches us that there are several types of 'believers'. Here the Lord tells us that there are those within the church that act like, look like and talk like believers but they are dead.

**Matthew 13:19** These are those who came into the church and heard the word of God and stayed for a while but quickly left. They think their saved, they have a reputation of being a believer but are not.

**Revelation 3:2-3** Jesus tells this church leader that many in the church have 'works' that are not perfect and that they should “remember what they had heard and repent.” See (**John 6:29**).

**Revelation 3:5** Jesus told this church that only those who “overcome” will be allowed to be saved and be clothed in white or be able to wear the cloths of righteousness. See (**I John 5:4**).

**John 15:1, 4, 6** Jesus Himself made it clear that the type of 'believer' that is not in Him cannot and will not bear any spiritual fruit and will be cast into the fire. **Luke 17:31-33** ( Remember Lot's wife.)

### **THE ENSLAVED BELIEVER**

**Matthew 13:22** The next type of 'believer' is saved but is bound by worldliness and selfishness, thus they are hindered in their fellowship with Christ and their testimony is shameful.

**Romans 6:16** This type of 'believer' represents many church members today. They are involved with whatever moves them according to their “old man” sin nature. They don't know they are slaves to sin.

**II Corinthians 6:14, 17** These 'believers' ignore bible warnings about fellowship and continue to have friendships with the world which hinders relationships with believers and their spiritual growth.

**I Corinthians 3:1-3** When these 'believer' are in church the preaching of God's word cannot penetrate their heart because of the sin nature that has overtaken them. The Holy Spirit is quenched.

### **THE SILENT BELIEVER**

**Matthew 13:20-21** The third type of 'believer' is one that is saved but is self-conscious and introverted and keeps their fellowship between themselves and God.

**Acts 1:8; Ephesians 6:13-16** These 'believer' keeps silent at work and at home without ever talking about or witnessing for Jesus and their salvation. They never take a stand against sin or for Christ.

**I Corinthians 3:9** These 'believers' come to church services but do not participate in any type of service for God or help in building church unity. They usually do not come to church fellowships.

**Galatians 6:10; Hebrews 6:10** These 'believers' usually close their ears to the needs of others.

### **THE MATURE BELIEVER**

**Matthew 13:23** These 'believers' are mature because they are alive in Christ and have a strong fellowship with Christ and everyone around them. (**Mat. 5:16**) They let their light “shine before men.”

**II Timothy 2:15** They study God's word to help themselves hear from God and to grow in Christ.

**I Peter 4:10** They are grateful for their spiritual gifts from God and use them to benefit others.

**Luke 6:38; Ephesians 2:10** These 'believers' are happy in their giving and in their good works.

**Galatians 6:9-10** These 'believers' give others their time, talents and energy in order to serve Christ.