

ON THE FRONTIER

“For the glory of God and the furtherance of the gospel”

**GENUINE
VS.
COUNTERFEIT**
By Linus A. Mathis III

It seems the number of bizarre acts of illogic are multiplying rapidly. The sensationalizing of the insane and irrational has become a regular exercise. This trend towards "tabloid scandalmongering" has reached global proportions. Even the oldest and most dignified journalistic institutions have given ground to the morbidity of the masses. Demand dictates supply I suppose, but where is the benefit in all of this? Even if the public seems to have an insatiable appetite for the grotesque, is it ethical to deliver? There are things that my Malamute would eat with gusto that are clearly not good for him. Consequently, I do not give him that which is harmful for him even if his desires remain unappeased.

Forgoing the aforementioned, what really bothers me is the disservice done to God. This is in part due to the fact that many groups claim adherence to the Scriptures. They cite the Word of God as the "source" for their beliefs and subsequent practices. This, combined with a gross ignorance of the Scriptures on the part of society as a whole, and God's Word is disparaged. Just because someone claims obedience to God and His Word does not make it so.

Matthew 7:21

Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

Luke 6:46

And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?

I John 2:3-6

And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.

He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.

No where in the Word of God is suicide suggested or condoned, either for an individual or en masse. Furthermore, the Bible teaches us that when you die you remain dead until the Return of Jesus Christ (I Thessalonians 4:13-18). (By the way, Jesus Christ said that no man knows the time of his Return. So, if a man claims to know, he is contradicting the Lord - Matthew 24:36; I Thessalonians 5:2; II Peter 3:10.) There is no consciousness of any kind in death (Ecclesiastes 9:4-10) so to take one's life would be wasteful. A blissful reunion with a space ship full of little "grey" men, oh please! The dead will stay bound in gravedom [*Thanatos* - death in the Greek] until released by Jesus Christ and not by some starship or other silly apparition of a sick mind (I Corinthians 15:51-ff). If you wish to believe in aliens and not the Savior, that's your business. But, don't use the Bible to certify your beliefs as there is NO mention of aliens anywhere in Scripture. Nor is there any REAL scientific proof of any. As for the probabilities of life somewhere in the cosmos, it would be so far away that no life of ANY kind would have longevity sufficient to make the journey. The possibility of other life-supporting solar systems are at best millions or even

billions of light years away. At 182,000 + miles per second, a light year is a LONG way off! So let's get real, O.K.!

As for following people who rename themselves with minutia, God has never endorsed any man other than Jesus Christ and those who preach him.

John 7:18

He that speaketh of himself seeketh his own glory: but he that seeketh his glory that sent him, the same is true, and no unrighteousness is in him.

Proverbs 20:6

Most men will proclaim every one his own goodness: but a faithful man who can find?

John 14:6

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

We are to try the spirits whether they be of God or not. The Bible says that there are many deceivers that have entered into the world and we are not to believe them. How then will we know? Hebrews 4:12; II Timothy 2:15; Acts 17:11 are some examples of how. Read it for yourself!!!
