

PLAIN SPEECH

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“Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech” (2 Cor. 3:12)

By Scott Parker

DO YOU EVEN KNOW THE ABC’S???

When we were children nearly all of us learned the “ABC’s,” right? The ABC’s are the basics; something that the beginner student needs to gain a mastery of early on. How sad it is that there are scores of folks out there who claim to be members of the church that belongs to the Lord Jesus Christ who do not even know the “ABC’s of Christianity.” Yes, it is becoming more and more apparent, at least to this author, that although many claim to be faithful Christians, very few understand even the very basics of Christianity. Yes, very few know their ABC’s, spiritually speaking. In what areas, you ask? Consider the list below.

Abiding in the doctrine of Christ (2 John 9).

Bearing one another’s burdens (Galatians 6:1-2).

Casting the cares of this life upon God – for real (1 Peter 5:7).

Departing from iniquity (2 Timothy 2:19).

Encouraging young men to prepare early to become elders one day (1 Timothy 3:1-7).

Following Christ’s example in trials (1 Peter 2:21-23).

Giving like one could and should (2 Corinthians 9:6-7).

Humbling oneself before the Lord (James 4:10).

Informing those lost in sin of the good news on a regular basis (Mark 16:15-16).

Judging righteously rather than hypocritically (John 7:24; Matthew 7:1-5).

Keeping away from idolatry (Colossians 3:5).

Loving God more than mammon (Matthew 6:24).

Marking and avoiding those who are false teachers (Romans 16:17-18).

Not forsaking the assembly (Hebrews 10:25).

Overcoming evil with good (Romans 12:21).

Praying in the proper way (James 5:16).

Quickly dealing with sin in the camp (Ephesians 5:11).

Reading the Bible every day (Romans 10:17).

Standing up for truth even when it will come at great personal loss (Revelation 2:10).

Treating others the way we would like to be treated (Matthew 7:12).

Understanding hardships are a good thing (James 1:2-4).

Vanquishing vanity (Ephesians 4:17).

Walking daily in the fear of the Lord (Acts 9:31).

X-amining oneself {sic} – for real (2 Corinthians 13:5).

Yoking not to the world (2 Corinthians 6:14-18).

Zealously striving to do good works (Titus 2:14).

Now folks, I realize that some of us may be ahead of the curve in some of the areas noted above, but let’s strive to take it up to the next level. Let’s never be like those sad souls who don’t even know their ABC’s.