

For Our Information

Joyce Venable is feeling better after getting a cortisone shot.

John LaValla is doing a little better.

Brenda Keisler will receive shots for her vertebrae pain to see if that will help her some.

Other members also have procedures and treatments ahead. Several have family members with health difficulties that must be dealt with daily as well.

Remember one another as we pray to the Father each day

Contact Us

We want opportunities to speak with others about our work in the Lord's Kingdom.

Church of Christ
1512 Tanner Street
Malvern, AR 72104
(501) 332-8806

preacher@tannerst.com

Find us online

tannerst.com
FB @TannerStCoC

We seek only to serve God according to His Will!

religion and love God and live good moral lives are also pleasing to God? Or, are there examples of people being lost despite their sincerity and good moral living? (Please see the cases of: The Ethiopian eunuch, (**Acts 8:26-39**); Saul of Tarsus (**Acts 22:3-16**); Cornelius, (**Acts chs. 10,11**); The Athenians, (**Acts 17:16-31**); The Jews, (**Rom. 10:1-3**). These all make it clear that it is not true that a person is saved just simply because he has devotion to some religious system or just because he has good morals. Other things are necessary, including knowledge, faith, and obedience to the gospel of Jesus Christ. Please consider (**Mk. 7:7-9**); this passage is nonsensical if it makes no difference what one does as long as he is sincere and a good moral person.

"As long as a man is honest and sincere and is a good moral person he is acceptable to God." Such an idea is a widespread delusion. It will not stand, nor will it bear the test of Scripture.

Sincerity is not Christ, and therefore, sincerity cannot put away sin. It is not true that a man is saved, if he is only sincere, no matter what he thinks is truth.

Seeking His Righteousness

Tanner St Bulletin Volume 8 Week 4

January 2019

Sincerity And Morality Alone

Ira Lynn

Many sincerely moral people live in disobedience to God's teaching and are lost.

Many will suggest that the important thing is not what people believe but merely that they are sincere (real, genuine, honest) in their belief.

The idea that sincerity -- not belief -- is what really matters blurs the distinction between the sincerity with which one holds a particular belief and its truthfulness. Imagine that you are in a science lab and the teacher places a beaker of clear liquid on the lab table and says, 'This is sulfuric acid.' In response to this explanation, Ray -- a student in the class -- blurts, 'I don't believe this is



For not knowing about God's righteousness and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God.

Romans 10:3



Meet With Us

Worship Services

Sunday 10:20 am & 5:00 pm

Bible Classes

Sunday 9:30 AM

Wednesday 7:00 PM

1512 Tanner St. Malvern, AR

TannerSt.com

sulfuric acid. It looks like water to me.' Ray is so sincere in his belief that the beaker contains water that he decides to drink it. What will happen to Ray? Obviously, he will be lucky if he lives long enough to participate in next week's lab. Despite his sincerity, Ray's belief that the beaker contained water did not change the nature of its contents. The same principle applies to religion. What we believe about God and how we relate to Him is of fundamental importance. Those who apply the sincerity principle to religion would never dream of applying it to other areas of life. If a student asks, "What is the correct answer to problem #35?" we would never expect to hear the teacher say, "Well...any answer is correct as long as you're sincere!" Sincerity is a laudable quality, but by itself is not an adequate test for the veracity of religious truth-claims. I would hasten to emphasize the necessity of sincerity and the living of a good moral life. Surely one must be sincere in religious matters (**Matt. 22:37; Eph. 6:24; 1Pet. 2:2; 2Cor. 8:8; Phil. 1:17; 1Pet. 1:22**). Proper motivation is of utmost importance.

There are numerous examples where people have shown deep sincerity in religious matters. Take the case of Saul of Tarsus and his violent persecution of the church. You must freely admit his total sincerity. He tells of such. To the council he said, "*Men and brethren, I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day*" (**Acts 23:1**). I have no reason to doubt that. Such a life would demand sincerity.

He later stated that he "*Verily thought that he ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth*" (**Acts 26:9**). Again, we find an affirmation of his sincerity. I wouldn't doubt it for a moment. But, is that alone the standard for acceptability with God? If so, he didn't need to change, did he? You would hasten to say that he must change. You would say this because his practice was wrong in spite of his sincerity. Could he still be sincere in his opposition after he learned the truth

Store In My Heart

Numbers 10:11-12

Now in the second year, in the second month, on the twentieth of the month, the cloud was lifted from over the tabernacle of the testimony; and the sons of Israel set out on their journeys from the wilderness of Sinai. Then the cloud settled down in the wilderness of Paran.

We all remember that the book of Numbers includes the counting of the nation and the listing of the various dedications and sacrifices for the tabernacle. Do you remember that most of their travels are also found in this book?

Numbers is the book to read if you want to consider their travel from Sinai to Canaan. It tells of their 40 years of wilderness wandering because of unbelief.

about his mistakes?

There are religious people throughout the world who are sincere and extremely zealous for God who have not given their zeal proper guidance by understanding; by a precise knowledge of God's Word. When a man says, "All it takes is for a man to be honest and sincere" -- the man immediately indicates that though he may have a zeal for God, it is not according to knowledge. Paul was honest and sincere, he was not only honest and sincere he was zealous in his honesty and sincerity -- but he was lost! Those Jews in **Rom. 10:1-4** may very well have been honest and sincere in what they were doing, but they were lost nonetheless! We need to recognize that these Jews were lost: Paul's desire was that they be saved. They were lost people! It takes more than honesty; it takes more than sincerity, it takes more than zeal to be pleasing in God's sight. It takes an understanding of the will of God.

When a man says, "All it takes to please God is for a man to be honest and sincere and a good moral man" he denies man's need for divine guidance. If all it takes to please God is just to be honest and sincere in heart and it doesn't matter what you believe so long as you're honest and sincere, then why does God have to speak? Why did God reveal His will? It doesn't matter if man has a knowledge of God's will or not if all it takes is honesty and sincerity!

Often in religious discussion, when it is pointed out that some religious practice or group violates God's Word, someone will respond that the people who participate in the practice are sincere, religious, and good moral people. I suppose the point is that having good morals and being sincere is good enough to save them despite the fact that they continue in their disobedience to God!

Is it true that all people who are sincere in their