

Who Am I?

Introduction:

A game of charades or twenty questions involves acting out a part and the audience guessing who or what one is. A similar game is played on a daily basis in the lives of all people. When I leave my home and find myself in the presence of strangers they know nothing of me except by the words I speak and the clothes I wear. All aspects of the Christian's life ought to identify one as sanctified from the world we live in. This lesson shall examine aspects of the Christian's life that tell others "Who I Am."

I. The Christian's Language:

- A. "It's a strange world of language in which skating on thin ice can get you into hot water" (Franklin P. Jones).
- B. The language I use will either commend or condemn me in the eyes of God. When the world hears my speech it will convict, inform, entertain, bewilder, anger, sooth, hurt, comfort, flatter, and influence others.
- C. One aspect of my language, that I cannot escape, is that the words I choose to use will identify who I am. Jesus said, "*The good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and the evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth that which is evil: for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh*" (Lk. 6:45). Let us note some language qualities of both good and evil men:
 - 1. Those who are Good: give thanks (Eph. 5:4; I Thess. 5:18), edify others (Eph. 4:29), and speak in such a way that indicates forethought and love toward others (Col. 4:6).
 - 2. Those who are Evil:
 - a. The evil participate in foolish speech.
 - b. The evil will allow corrupt speech to seep from their lips (Eph. 4:29).
 - c. The wicked are prejudice (cf. Gen. 12:1ff; Gal. 3:28).
 - d. The wicked will tell juicy stories about others to ruin them (Prov. 18:8).

II. The Christian's Attire:

- A. Attire identifies who one is just as language (cf. Prov. 7:7-10). When one's attire is a belly button shirt, short shorts, low cut shirts, shirts that have messages that attract eyes where eyes should not be wandering (breast and buttocks), pants or shorts that hang down from men so low that their underpants can be seen and so forth one can certainly make a judgment as to what is not in that persons mind (i.e., spirituality).
- B. The Christian's dress ought to take into consideration God's instructions (cf. I Pet. 3:1-6).

III. Influence:

- A. My language and dress have the power of influence. One once said, "I have learnt silence from the talkative, toleration from the intolerant, and kindness from the unkind; yet strange, I am ungrateful to these teachers."
- B. God acknowledged this through teaching by example (cf. Phil. 4:9).
- C. Influence is powerful. We may cause others to press on to excellence (Heb. 13:7) or we may with our influence damage others (cf. Gal. 2:11-13).

Conclusion:

Mark Twain said, "Whenever you find yourself on the side of the majority, it's time to pause and reflect." When the Christian's language and attire is no different than the world around us it is time to pause and take inventory of my spiritual knowledge. Time to asks self, "who am I and what do I represent in this life." Our desire ought to be to change the world to godliness rather than conform to its standards. When people hear you talk and see your attire do they hear and see a Christian?