

ADORNING THE DOCTRINE

By Keith Greer

"You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house." {Matthew 5:13-15} Christians are the "**salt and light**" of this world. How can we demonstrate these traits? By "adorning the doctrine" of Christ

By a godly life. "Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear." (Hebrews 12:28) All of us need to be sure that the lives we live are directed by the godly standards of God's word. Godly living shows the world that we live by a different moral code.

Faithful service. "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." (1 Corinthians 15:58) God's people are examples of faithfulness. Christians must strive to be faithful to the commitments made when they entered the kingdom of God. When a Christian's manner of life is consistent with the teaching of God's word - his faithful service is well pleasing to God and an influence for good.

By subjection to God. "Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live?" (Hebrews 12:9) God's children are "subjects" that submit their lives to Him and His word. The life of a Christian is always to be "under subjection" to the responsibilities given to him by God in His word. This is a willing subjection one takes when becoming His child.

Adorning the Doctrine. "Not pilfering, but showing all good fidelity, that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things." {Titus 2:10} One "wears" this doctrine as they live according to those teachings provided in that doctrine.

Dear reader, are you "**adorning the doctrine**" of Christ by your life? How can you convict the sinner to live for God when your life is not in line with God's teachings? Simple, isn't it? ***