**Saying and Doing**

**Introduction**

1. The Bible has much to say about **Saying and Doing**.
   1. ***“Be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves” (James 1:22).***
   2. ***“Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be so” (James 3:10)***.
   3. Jesus requires a consistency in our actions as well as our speech.
2. We understand Jesus’ authority extends to our words and actions. Because of this, we must have a seamlessness in our **Saying and Doing**.
   1. ***“My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth” (1 John 3:18)***.
   2. ***“And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus” (Colossians 3:17)***.
3. **It is imperative that the things we say and do are in line with Christ’s gospel, and consistent with each other.**
4. Saying and NOT Doing – Peter
5. Peter has been referred to by many as “Impetuous Peter.”
   1. **Impetuous** – impulsive; acting or doing quickly without much thought.
   2. **Several times the scripture records Peter saying something on impulse (not necessarily dishonestly, or insincerely) and not following consistently with his actions.**
6. In the Tempest **(Matthew 14:22-33)**
   1. **(vv. 22-24)** – After feeding the 5,000, Jesus went up to the mountain to pray while He sent the disciples to the other side of the sea on a boat.
      1. **(v. 23)** – He went up to the mountain alone ***“when evening came.”***
      2. **(v. 24)** – During this time, the disciples were in the midst of a tempest.
   2. **(v. 25)** – ***“fourth watch of the night”*** = about 3:00 AM.
      1. Jesus allowed them to struggle in the tempest for some time. (*He went to the mountain at evening, and they were in the tempest. He did not come to their rescue until 3 am.*)
      2. **By allowing their struggle and anxiety to grow, Jesus’ miracle He was about to perform would be even more impressive, and produce more faith and trust.**
   3. **(vv. 26-27)** – The disciples did not immediately recognize Him, so He revealed Himself.
      1. ***“It is I”*** is literally “I AM.”
      2. **It is possible Jesus was not simply declaring it was Him, Jesus, but that it was the GREAT I AM who has control of all nature, including the tempest.**
   4. **(v. 28)** – Peter’s statement is not one of doubt, but of faith.
      1. He understood after Jesus’ statement who it was.
      2. He wanted to show his faith.
   5. **(vv. 29-33)** – After Peter made such a bold statement of faith, and even took a bold action of faith, his faith waivered.
      1. **(v. 30)** – He took his focus off Jesus, and directed it toward the tempest. Therefore, he sunk.
      2. **(v. 31)** – Jesus labeled this as an indication of ***“little faith,”*** and ***“doubt.”***
   6. **Peter said one thing, and did another. His faith was not as strong as he suggested.**
7. At the Mount of Olives **(Mark 14:26-31)**
   1. **(vv. 26-29)** – After Jesus’ prophecy that the disciples would stumble in faith at His death, Peter made a bold statement of faith.
   2. **(vv. 30-31)** – Even more bold than his first statement was his second after Jesus prophecy of Peter’s specific denial.
   3. **Such faith was easy for Peter to profess when all was well. However, when the time came, he did exactly what Jesus said he would do.**
   4. **(vv. 66-72)** – When Jesus was being tried, spat upon, and beaten Peter denied Him.
   5. **Once again we see Peter saying one thing, and doing another.**
8. In Antioch
   1. **Acts 11:2-3** – After speaking to Cornelius’ household, Jewish Christians questioned Peter’s behavior.
      1. **(vv. 15-18)** – After explaining to them the vision he had seen, Peter defended his actions – ***“who was I that I could withstand God?”***
      2. He was firmly convicted by the truth, which was made evident when he defended it.
   2. **Acts 15:6-11** – In Jerusalem after it became evident that there were Judaizing teachers binding the Law on Gentile Christians.
      1. **Peter was at the helm of the defense of the truth.**
      2. He did not waiver at this juncture any more than he did before.
   3. **Galatians 2:11-13** – Paul recounts a time when Peter was inconsistent with what he believed, taught, and defended – the gospel of Christ – salvation by grace through faith in Christ.
      1. **Paul explained to the Galatians that Peter’s actions were inconsistent with what he and Peter had preached.**
      2. **Once again, Peter’s actions were inconsistent with his words.**
9. Peter – Penitent and Restored
   1. **Cf. John 21:15-19** – Peter was given another chance by Jesus when Jesus asked him if he loved Him three times. (Denied three times)
   2. Peter later wrote in his second epistle about Paul’s writings, calling him ***“our beloved brother Paul” (2 Peter 3:15)***. It is obvious he took the rebuke as he should, and repented.
   3. **Peter’s saying and doing were not always consistent with each other. He repented of that wrong, and grew in faith.**
10. **We find the same problems alluded to by John in his 1st epistle 🡪**
11. Saying and NOT Doing – **1 John**
12. We have fellowship with Him **(1:5-7)**
    1. Fellowship with God means we have something in common with Him – spiritual place, character, and action.
    2. **Many in the world claim to have a relationship with God, but are in darkness – participation in sin, not in righteous living.**
    3. **(v. 6)** – Just because one says they have fellowship with God does not mean they do.
    4. **(v. 7**) – To have fellowship with God, we must walk in the light where He is.
    5. **If we claim to have fellowship with God, we had better be walking in the light. (Otherwise we lie, and do not practice the truth.)**
13. We know Him **(2:3-6)**
    1. To ***“know”*** Jesus involves more than simply knowing the fact of who He is – the Christ, the Son of God.
    2. The world says they ***“know”*** Jesus, but they do not keep His commandments.
    3. **(vv. 3-4)** – You cannot truly ***“know”*** Him without doing what He requires.
    4. **(vv. 5-6)** – We come to truly ***“know”*** Him when we strive to walk as He did.
    5. **This becomes a participant knowledge in which we understand and *“know”* Jesus better by becoming like Him.**
    6. **Those who live completely contrary to how Jesus lived cannot possibly know Him!**
14. We are in the light, and Love Him (**2:9-11; 4:20-21)**
    1. **Our being in the light is contingent upon our loving our brethren.**
    2. **(2:9-11)** – There are some who hold grudges, and even hate their brethren, but still think they are in the light, thus right with God.
       1. **(vv. 9, 11)** – In actuality they are in darkness, and are blinded by such darkness, thus not able to see his own corruption.
       2. **(v. 10)** – It is not simply he who says he is in the light, but he who loves his brother that is in the light.
    3. **(4:20-21)** – The same can be said for those who claim to ***“love God,”*** but hate their brother.
       1. **(v. 20)** – Brethren in Christ are those who are ***“partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust” (2 Peter 1:4).*** If we do not love the one we see who has this ***“divine nature,”*** we cannot possibly love the One we cannot see!
       2. **(v. 21)** – God requires us to love our brethren, else we cannot possibly love God.
15. **We cannot rely upon our mere “saying” to make us right with God, we must be “doing” what God requires for what we “say” to be legitimate.**
16. Saying and Doing – **Matthew 7:21-27**
17. Jesus says there will be some who “say” they loved, obeyed, and served their ***“Lord”*** – supreme in authority, but in actuality they served Him their own way – ***“lawlessness.”***
18. Just because they said they did it ***“in Your name,”*** did not make it so.
19. **We must do as Jesus says in order to be pleasing to Him.**
20. **(vv. 24-27) – The one who not only “says,” but is actually obedient to what the Lord commands will be prosperous spiritually.**
21. ***“But why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do the things which I say?” (Luke 6:46)***

**Conclusion** – **Saying and Doing** are two different things. However, they must be consistent with each other. If we say, but do not do, then we lie. **Is your Saying and Doing in line with God’s word?**