



How can we know for absolutely sure what STANDARD God wants from each one of us?

Is the Roman Catholic standard the right standard or some Orthodox one or the Assemblies of God one or perhaps some "non-denominational" group that shuns these man-made religions and meets in someone's home to "do their own thing"? Who's right, who's wrong? Is there right and wrong, is there black and white, or does God consider "gray areas" or sub-STANDARDS acceptable?

Father God told the disciples (and therefore us) in **Matthew 17:5**, "This is My Son whom I love; with Him I am well pleased. Listen to Him!"

So... THE STANDARD of God is Jesus... what He says and what He does.

Maybe most of you already knew that answer. It's doubtful that Christians would argue for a different STANDARD of God than Jesus so let's look at what Jesus says is the STANDARD of God...

Jesus said in **John 15:5**, "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

So... Jesus, THE STANDARD of Father God, says that apart from Me "you can do nothing". This is extremely black and white (no gray)... you're in or you're out. You're connected with Jesus, which includes ALL of His teachings, or you're not. A branch is either in The Vine or a worthless stick on the ground... you can't be both! Maybe the stick thinks they have value, but sticks without Jesus "can do nothing." Sticks aren't THE STANDARD!

Many statistics tell us that the majority of people in the world that say they're Christian are following their own standard or a religious standard, rather than THE STANDARD. They may say they believe in Jesus but the Bible says in **James 2:19**, "You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that - and shudder." Evil spirits aren't saved. Just to believe in God doesn't meet THE STANDARD.

"Get 'em to say the sinner's prayer and we got another one" is what many leaders and denominations think and teach around the world today. This is a gross, sub-STANDARD that is arguably one of the worst inventions of man!



I was at a conference where one of the leaders kept a log of how many people she could get to accept Jesus at a bus station once a week! No repentance, no mentoring and statistics prove that without spiritual warfare... **95%** of these people will be lost again within 1 year, if they ever were serious and saved to begin with! (See eTextbook Sector 5 SAFARI) This is just one sub-STANDARD example.

Man's (sticks) standards aren't THE STANDARD!

Jesus was consistently coming against the religious leaders and teachers (sticks) of His day for their twisted interpretation of God's STANDARDS.

This last paragraph is a main STANDARD of God that I'm focusing on, that Jesus taught us!

I know that you might be saying, but Al, Jesus STANDARD'S are such things as love of others, love of God, don't sin, obedience... these are all STANDARD'S of course but I believe that today's leaders and people have become like the Pharisees and Sadducees (sticks), twisting and interpreting God's STANDARD'S to meet their own standards and thus taking an active (even in ignorance) role with satan in sending millions and themselves to the lake of fire! These sticks aren't in The Vine! They're not following THE STANDARD!

Publically exposing false teaching/teachers and sub-STANDARDS is what Jesus did. If we don't follow this same STANDARD, then aren't we no better than a stick?

Hey Al... that's tough talk! Yeah... I've been speaking this STANDARD for years. The wolves (sticks) don't listen to me anymore than they listened to Jesus. The sheep rarely listen either... they seem to prefer what they want or accept or do what wolves are saying is standard!

Many people and groups say they follow THE STANDARD but let's expose just a few twisted standards...
God says "Love others". Twisted by man to mean: Non-Gospel belief systems and deliberate sin accepted.
God says "Love God". Twisted by man to mean: Religion standards come ahead of God's STANDARDS.
God says "Don't sin". Twisted by man to mean: Sin subject to individual/religion interpretation.
God says "Obedience". Twisted by man to mean: Self worship or someone else's sub-standards first.

We can take God's STANDARDS that are easily found in the Bible (look them up... don't take someone's word, some denomination's word or the world's word on it) and compare them to our own standards to discover whether it's a God STANDARD or not.

You'll find that God's STANDARDS are very black and white, right or wrong, sin or holy, you're going to the lake of fire or going to heaven kind of STANDARDS. It's people that make up "gray areas", not God.

It really is a simple process. We're either a branch in The Vine (Jesus) or a stick on the ground.

We must each examine ourselves closely to see if we meet THE STANDARD. If we're sub-STANDARD either deliberately or in ignorance, then stop, repent and pick up THE STANDARD. If we're compromising, involved with compromising people, or a compromising group, then stop, repent and pick up THE STANDARD! If you're not sure, picture Jesus doing it, then decide or ask the Holy Spirit for direction.

You'd think, "Why would anyone want to be a prisoner to a sub-STANDARD"? It's happening all over the world... people imprisoned by social/religious acceptance, family/friend pressure, indifference, ignorance, false teachings, religious status, "church" position, personal agendas, guilt, pride, money. Rhoda and I experience these prisoners all the time. We point out THE STANDARD to people, friends and family, yet, almost 100% of the time they decide to keep their own standards anyway. Funny thing, they also don't want to associate with us anymore! That's OK... we prefer to work with people who don't want to shame Jesus. We work with Eagles all over the world who strives for God's STANDARD.

Be proud to follow THE STANDARD and expose those who spit on Jesus and the rest of us with their sub-STANDARDS and false standards. Remember... without THE STANDARD we "**can do nothing**"... it's black and white... we're either a branch or a stick! You can't be both!

"All men will hate you because of Me, but he who stands firm to the end will be saved." Matthew 10:22/Luke 21:17