

BITS & PIECES
CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH
ROLLAND C. STARR, PASTOR
WWW.CORNERSTONEBAPTISTMETROBOSTON.ORG

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THE SINCERITY GOSPEL

One of the most common beliefs that I meet while going door-to-door and speaking with people is the idea that no matter what you believe, if you are sincere, you will be saved. Of course, many churches teach that, and Billy Graham and the Pope have taught it. When I think of this, my mind goes to a cartoon of Peanuts I saw many years ago. He was walking along, slumped over, with his baseball bat on his shoulder and saying: "How can it be - 84 to 0. How can we lose when we are so sincere?" Sincere people lose all the time! You not only have to be sincere, you also have to be right. Jesus said there were two roads; the broad and the narrow. You need to be sincere, but you also need to be on the narrow road - Christ! Jesus said, **"I am the way, the truth and the life; NO MAN COMETH UNTO THE FATHER BUT BY ME."** ~John 14:4.

THE MISCHIEF OF THE TONGUE

Martin Luther's comment on the man Jesus healed in Mark 7: "Our Beloved Lord saw well what an amount of suffering and sorrow would be occasioned by tongue and ears. For the greatest mischief which has been inflicted upon Christianity, has not arisen from tyrants (with persecution, etc.) but from that little bit of flesh that abides between the jaws. This it is that which often inflicts the greatest injury upon the Kingdom of God." How oft we've said the same thing. Truly, **"It is a world of iniquity."** Remember, Christian, you will give an account at the Judgment Seat of Christ!

NATURE OF PERSECUTION

"Christian persecution is not trouble in general. Everyone has that. Christian trouble is trouble that you would not have gotten into if you hadn't been a Christian." Vance Havner. We haven't had much persecution in this land, but that may be changing. The early Christians had plenty of it, but it didn't stop them. **"And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer for His name. And daily in the temple and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ."** ~Acts 5:41,42.

MOST OF ALL WE NEED THE WORD

Dr. R. A. Torrey wrote: "The man who studies the Bible and neglects all other books, will be wiser than the man who studies all other books and neglects the Bible...The men who have brought about great reformation in morals and doctrine, the men that others have flocked to hear and upon whose words the people hung, have been Bible men in every instance, and in many instances, they knew little besides the Bible." **"Preach the Word!"**