

March 9, 2018

Russell's Ritings....

Many years ago Bishop Ken Goodson was bishop of Alabama. Bishop Goodson was a great preacher and a master story teller. He shared once that he had made a passing remark about hypocrites which had been broadcast over the radio. While walking downtown the next week he was confronted by someone who said he had heard the then Pastor Goodson on the radio, and did he know he had hypocrites in his church. Feigning surprise, Goodson responded that he thought all the hypocrites were over at the Baptist Church!

“No,” the man said, “there are hypocrites in your church and I can name them.” At this point he called the names of at least a dozen members, all of which were Goodson’s friends. So Goodson replied that he also had a list, and he listed another dozen or so church members.

His antagonist asked, “Well, what are you going to do about them?” Goodson replied, “I’m going to throw them out of the church.” The man looked Goodson in the eye and said he didn’t think Goodson was brave enough to throw them out of the church. “Oh, yes, I’m going to throw them out. I even have a date set for when I’m going to do it.” His curiosity piqued, the man asked when that would be?

Goodson told the man on the street that he was going to throw all the hypocrites out on the same day the hospital stopped admitting sick people!

We all need Christ and His Church! And none of us measure up the standards He has set for us. But thank God, there is Grace! And because of His Amazing Grace, even we can find our place in His Family, the church.

I hope to see you Sunday. The sermon is “A Secret Meeting” (JN 3:4).

“and the folks are friendly”

Russell