"MAKE IT AS SURE AS YOU CAN"
Matt. 27: 62 - 66

INTRODUCTION:
1. The title of this sermon is a part of a statement made by Pilate concerning the securing of the sepulcher of Jesus --Matt. 27: 65
2. I believe every man should apply this principle in his preparation to meet God.
3. We should strive to "MAKE IT AS SURE AS YOU CAN".
4. All of us are going to die and meet God in the Judgment -- Heb. 9:27; II Cor. 5:10; Rom. 2:16

I. IN THE JUDGMENT WE WILL BE JUDGED BY WHAT IS WRITTEN
   1. Jesus said, "The word which I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day" --John 12: 48
   2. John pictured the Judgment -- Rev. 20:12
      (1) Matt. 25: 31 - 34; Matt. 25:41
   3. The Judgment will be according to our works or deeds -- Eccl. 12:14; Rev. 20:12
   4. We must seek to conform our activities to the teaching of the scriptures -- I Cor. 4:6; I Pet. 4:11; Matt. 7:21; II Tim. 1:13
   5. This forbids our using "for doctrine the commandments of men" -- Matt. 15:9
   6. To "make it as sure as you can", you must reject:
      (1) The manuals of men
      (2) The creeds of men
      (3) Disciplines of men
      (4) Catechisms of men
   7. The scriptures will furnish us all that we need to please God -- II Tim. 3:16 - 17; II John 9; II Pet. 1: 3; Jude 3

II. FOR ONE TO "MAKE IT AS SURE AS YOU CAN" HE WILL BE A MEMBER OF NO CHURCH BUT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST.
   1. Christ built but ONE church -- Matt. 16:18
   2. Christ died but for ONE -- Acts 20:28; Eph. 5: 25 - 27
   3. The saved are added to but ONE church -- Acts 2:47
      (1) Reconciled to God in one body -- Eph. 2:16
   4. We glorify God in but ONE church -- Eph. 3:21
   5. Christ loves but ONE church -- Eph. 5:25
   6. Christ will save but ONE church -- Eph. 5: 23, 27
   7. To "make it as sure as you can", you will be in this ONE church.
III. FOR ONE TO "MAKE IT AS SURE AS YOU CAN" HE WILL BE "BURIED IN BAPTISM" "FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS"

1. Paul affirms that one is "buried in baptism" -- Rom. 6: 3 - 4; Col. 2:12
2. The example of the eunuch being baptized -- Acts 8: 36 - 39
3. The Lord's baptism -- Matt. 3:16
4. Peter tells us the purpose of baptism -- Acts 2:38; 3:19; I Pet. 3: 4
5. Were you buried in baptism for the remission of sins???
6. If not, you are not making it "as sure as you can".

IV. FOR ONE TO "MAKE IT AS SURE AS YOU CAN" HE MUST WEAR ONLY THE NAME "CHRISTIAN"

1. In the first century followers of Christ were "called Christians" --Acts 11: 26
2. It is the "new name" of Isaiah 62:2
3. We "glorify God in this name"-- I Pet. 4:16
5. If you wish to "make it as sure as you can" you will not wear human names.

V. IF YOU WOULD "MAKE IT AS SURE AS YOU CAN" YOU WILL HAVE ONLY THE WORSHIP FOUND IN THE NEW TESTAMENT.

1. The principle of true worship -- John 4:24; Matt. 4:10
2. Items of worship:
   (1) Singing -- Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16
   (2) Prayer -- Acts 2:42
   (3) Giving -- I Cor. 16:2; Acts 2: 42
   (4) Lord's Supper -- Acts 20:7
   (5) Teaching -- Acts 20:7; 2:42

VI. FOR YOU TO "MAKE IT AS SURE AS YOU CAN" YOU MUST OBEY NO PLAN OF SALVATION BUT THE NEW TESTAMENT PLAN.

1. Be taught -- Matt. 28:19
2. Believe -- Mark 16:16
3. Repent -- Acts 2:38
4. Confess -- Rom. 10:10
5. Be baptized -- Acts 22:16; Mk. 16:16

VII. IF YOU WOULD "MAKE IT AS SURE AS YOU CAN" YOU WILL LIVE A GODLY LIFE

1. Tit. 2: 11 - 12; Rom. 12: 1 - 2; II Tim. 2:22; I Tim. 5:22
2. I Tim. 2: 9; Matt. 5:28

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