

You don't have to pretend to be a Christian when you can be the real thing. Be sure you are saved because your soul is too important to play around with. Christ died for you, was buried, and then resurrected to pay for your sins. He wants to save you today!

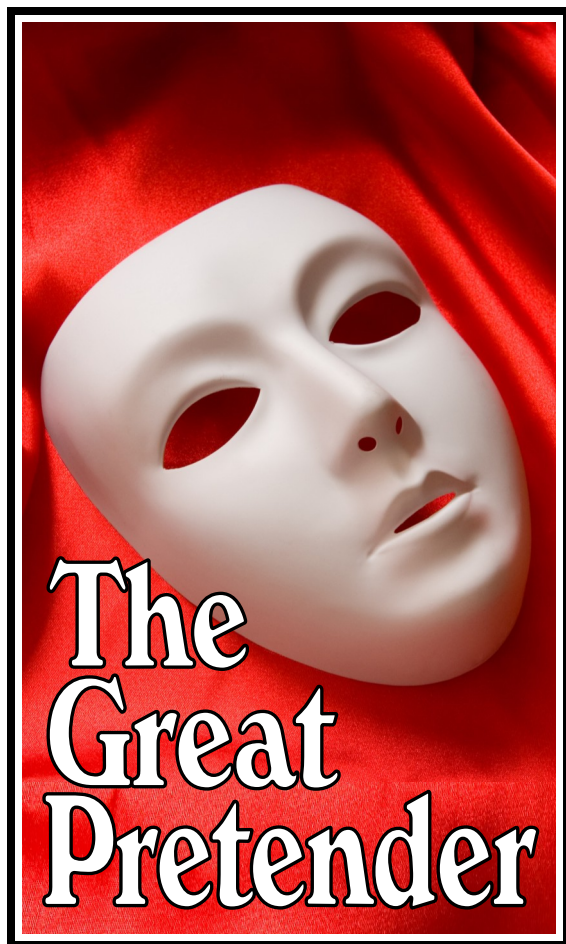
Romans 10:9,13, *"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved... For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."*

Please stop pretending and trust Christ as your Savior.

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Sometimes as children, we played “pretend”. It was always fun to imagine that we were something we were not. We never realized who the first great pretender was.

The Bible says in Genesis 3:1, *“Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he (Satan) said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?”* Yes, Satan was the first pretender. Through his lies and deception he plunged the whole world into sin.

Pretending is fine if you’re a child at play, but some people pretend about some pretty serious things. In Acts 5:1-11, Ananias and Sapphira pretended to give all of the money they received for their land to the Lord, but they actually lied and kept part of it. It cost them more than they wanted to pay. They both fell down dead. You just can’t pretend with God. He knows all!

Delilah pretended to care for Samson. In Judges 16:5 the Philistines told her, *“...Entice him, and see wherein his great strength lieth...”* It cost him his life. *“And Samson said, Let me die with the Philistines...”* Judges 16:30

Judas Iscariot pretended to be a friend to Jesus, but then plotted and betrayed Him.

Matthew 27:5, *“And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and went and hanged himself.”*

There are people now, who pretend to know God. They pretend to be Christians. What is the end for pretenders? Matthew 7:21-23 *“Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.”*

Yes, the world is full of pretenders. The great pretender, Satan, is pleased when he can keep someone playing this deadly game. We are warned though, to *“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.”* 1 Peter 5:8

The great pretender will have an end someday. *“And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone...and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.”* Revelation 20:10