





WELCOME  
TO  
CAC

Pastor and Sis. McKinney, along with the CAC Church Family, would like to thank you for choosing to worship the Lord with us today.

We hope you find your visit informative and inspirational and one that will keep you coming back. If you have any questions feel free to contact our ushers and staff. Connect with CAC today and let CAC be your home church.

We hope to see you in future services!

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### Superficial Interest

***Matthew 3:7-9*** “But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance: And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.”

Just who were the Pharisees and

Sadducees? Why was John so rude to them and call them vipers? Why did John think that they were there for reasons other than sincerity?

The Pharisees were a religious group that believed the Law of Moses should be kept according to how the scribes interpreted it. Pharisee means separated ones. They always took their separation to the extremes. They were big in traditions. ***Matthew 23:5-7*** gives us a greater insight into the Pharisees: ***“But all their works they do for to be seen of men: they make broad their phylacteries, and enlarge the borders of their garments, And love the uppermost rooms at feasts, and the chief seats in the synagogues, And greetings in the markets, and to be called of men, Rabbi, Rabbi.”*** They believed in the immortality of the soul and future reward or punishment.

The Sadducees were worldly-minded and their interest in religion was superficial or phony. They didn’t acknowledge the authority of the law. They only accepted the teachings of Moses. They denied the resurrection and didn’t believe in the hereafter. They did not believe in angels or spirits. That’s why they were “sad-u-see”! The

Sadducees were from wealthy and influential upbringing.

As we can see from these two groups, their religion was bits and pieces of Law, flamboyant displays of their religious prowess, and superficial interest in what was right. So now we see why John said what he said in ***Matthew 3:7-9***--he knew them. John knew their background. And John knew that they only came to be a spectator and heckler rather than a participant and a praiser! John knew that their reputation was not admirable of repentance and submission.

We must also be aware of this type of superficial interest in religion today. Many today only want bits and pieces of religion. They only want what they can deal with. They only want what won’t *cramp their style*! But the sad part is, in the end, their superficial-bits-and-pieces religion will cause them to be lost.

I want something more than an artificial experience. I want something more than a surface relationship. I want something more than a pretentious praise. I want what it takes to make it to Heaven! How about you?