

Wearing Mask 101

It is that time of year again, where the tricker treaters will be out in full force. They will be wearing their favorite costumes. Some will dress like angels, and others will dress like their favorite comic superhero. But whatever it is, they will be trying to trick us. They will be pretending to be something on the outside they are not on the inside.

You know, many Christians are the same way. They wear a mask. They pretend to be something on the outside that they are not on the inside. And Jesus dealt with that in His day. In Matthew 23:28 told the religious leaders of his day, you appear to people as righteous but, on the inside, you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness.” Another time in Matthew 7:5, Jesus said, “⁵You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye. You see He told them that you need to get your own sin under control before you try and tell others about their sin problem.

From the very beginning. Way back in the book of Genesis. We read that man was created in God's image. Man was to always bear God's image. To bear His characteristics. In Romans 8:29 it says, “*For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of His Son.*” Through God's

So let me ask you. When people look at you, do they see the image of Christ? Or are you wearing a mask? Someone once said, God has seen behind your last mask and He has seen you naked and open, warts and all. You will not fool God, and you won't fool people either. I want to encourage you today. Will you take off your mask? Will you shine forth the image of Christ? This is Jesse Walker with the Glenwood Church of Christ.