

A Lion Or A Bear?

(Amos 5:19)

- Introduction:
1. We have all witnessed people trying to escape one thing only to be ensnared by something else.
 2. Such was the case with Old Testament Israel.
 3. In their efforts to escape one problem, they found another.
 4. The same is true today; people can be found in extremes, yet God calls us to balance (Deuteronomy 5:32).

I. Faith Only Or Works Only?

- A. Both are extremes.
- B. (James 2:24; Ephesians 2:8-9).
- C. (Galatians 5:6) Faith working through Love is what avails.

II. Baptism Only Or Baptism Unneeded?

- A. Both are extremes.
- B. (John 15:1-8; Acts 2:38).

III. Form Or Feeling?

- A. Both are extremes.
- B. (Leviticus 10:9-10; Isaiah 1:12-17).
- C. (John 4:24).

IV. False Unity Or Division?

- A. Both are extremes.
- B. (1 Corinthians 11:19; Romans 14:1-4; 15:1-3).

- Conclusion:
1. Balance is sometimes difficult to maintain, but it's necessary that we pursue it and maintain it.
 2. Without balance, we become stumbling blocks to others who would potentially come to Jesus.
 3. Let's examine all areas of our lives and make sure we have run from the lion only to be grabbed by the bear!