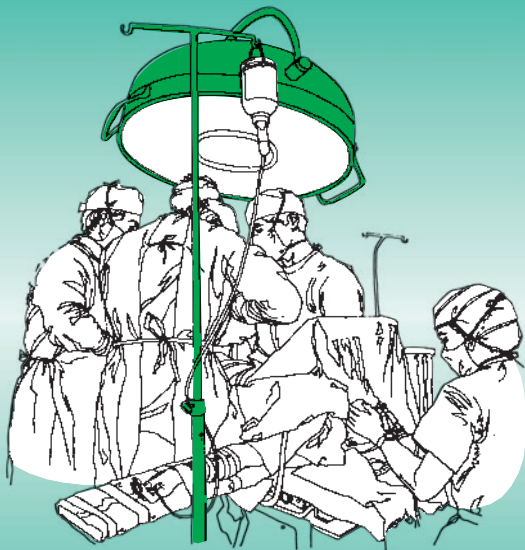


SINCERITY



is **NOT**
enough!

SINCERITY IS NOT ENOUGH

Because you could be sincerely mistaken!

A patient in a New York hospital was being prepared for minor surgery. The trained anesthetist was administering a controlled mixture of oxygen and anesthetic gas when the tank of oxygen emptied, and a new tank was substituted.

Almost immediately, according to the police report, the patient died. The attending surgeon and hospital officials suspected some kind of accident and called the coroner.

An autopsy revealed carbon dioxide poisoning. Upon examination, the replacement “oxygen” tank was found to contain carbon dioxide! The tank had been mis-labeled before it reached the hospital.

How could such a tragic mistake happen?

- The *manufacturer* was sincere.
- The *hospital authorities* were sincere.
- The *anesthetist* was sincere.
- The *surgeon* was sincere.
- The *patient*, certainly, was sincere.

No one wanted the tragedy to happen. But *all* were sincerely mistaken about the “oxygen.”

This incident demonstrates that **sincerity is not enough**. *Certainty* must be coupled with *sincerity*. There is a Scripture which

says, “There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death” (Proverbs 14:12).

Too many people are saying, “As long as I am sincere, I’ll come out all right in the end” – but they are sincerely mistaken! One must be absolutely certain regarding eternal facts, as well as matters pertaining to health.

Too many things are mis-labeled *salvation, forgiveness, life, peace, security, and satisfaction*. How can one be absolutely certain in such all-important matters? By simply taking God at His word. No one is greater than God; no one is truer than He.

Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me” (John 14:6).

There is *every* reason to believe **Him**, for He loved us to the point of dying for our sins on the cross of Calvary. He now lives in the power of an endless life and saves all who come unto God by Him.

All who make Him their Lord and Savior can say with the apostle Peter, “We ... believe and know” (John 6:69). Peter also said, “Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12).

– Tom M. Olson

If you have not received Jesus Christ as your Savior, won't you do it now? Simply confess your sins to Him and thank Him that He died to cleanse you from sin. The Bible, God's Word to us, is full of warnings that eternal damnation falls upon those who refuse God's offer of salvation.

"He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him" (John 3:36).

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