

INTEGRITY

INTRODUCTION

Luther Never Divulged Confession

Even though he had been a priest for twenty-eight years, Martin Luther, who fell away from the priesthood and the Catholic faith, never revealed anything he had heard in confession.

He left the Church, married a nun, preached and wrote against the Catholic Church and everyone and everything in it, but he never told a single thing he had heard in confession.

—*Arthur Tonne*

Now, that's integrity.

Memory Verse: Psalm 25:21 Let integrity and uprightness preserve me; for I wait on thee.

BIBLE LESSON

Integrity is the ability to be solid under any load, to live holy under all conditions, and to be incorruptible to the influences surrounding someone. It is the compass of the Holy Ghost that keeps the man and woman of God on the straight path. There are models of integrity in the Bible, and we will explore some of them.

Abraham was a man of integrity, and was regarded by God. Genesis 18:16-19

Integrity kept Abimelech from harm by God. Genesis 20:1-10

Integrity does good things. Proverbs 11:3, Proverbs 19:1, Proverbs 20:7

APPLICATION

People Didn't Know Him

A pious church member, who thought himself to be a great Christian, says Warren W. Wiersbe, visited the Junior Department of the Sabbath school. The Superintendent asked him to say a few words to the boys and girls. He stood pompously before them, and asked, "Why do you think people call me a Christian?"

There was an embarrassing silence, then a small voice from the back of the room said, "Because they don't know you."

—*Christian Victory*

How do you keep this from happening in your life? Discuss.