

The true Bible-believing Christian is the one who lives in practice in this supernatural world.

From the biblical view—the Judaeistic-Christian view—reality has two halves, like two halves of an orange. You do not have the whole orange unless you have both parts. One part is normally seen, and the other is normally unseen.

I would suggest that this may be illustrated by two chairs.¹ The men who sit in these chairs look at the universe in two different ways. We are all sitting in one or other of these chairs at every single moment of our lives.

However, to be a true Bible-believing Christian, we must understand that it is not enough simply to acknowledge that the universe has these two halves. The Christian life means living in the two halves of reality: the supernatural and the natural parts. I would suggest that it is perfectly possible for a Christian to be so infiltrated by twentieth-century thinking, that he lives most of his life as though the supernatural were not there.

Murray -
p. 19-20

But the example of the King of heaven, who came and dwelt in the flesh that we might see how to live a godlike life, alas! with how few of His followers does it find imitation. When we look at Jesus, His obedience to the will of the Father, His humiliation to be a servant of the most unworthy, His love as manifested in the entire surrender and sacrifice of himself, we see the most wondrous and glorious thing heaven has to show. Surely such an example ought to win us.

The power of an example consists not only in its own intrinsic excellence but also in the personal relation to him who gives it. Jesus had not washed the feet of others in the presence of His disciples; it was when He had washed *their feet* that He said: "As I have done to you, ye should do." It is the consciousness of a personal relationship to Christ that enforces the command: Do as I have done. It is the experience of what Jesus had done for me that is the strength in which I can go and do the same to others. He does not ask that I do more than has been done to me. But not less either: as I have done to you. He does not ask that I shall humble myself as a servant deeper than He has done. It would not have been strange if He had asked this of such a worm. But this is not His wish: He only demands that I do and be what He, the King, has done and been. He humbled himself as low as humiliation could go, to love and to bless me. He counted this *His highest honor and blessedness*. And now He invites me to partake of the same honor and blessedness, in loving and serving as He did. If I truly know the love that rests on me, and the humiliation through which alone that love could reach me, and the power of the cleansing which has washed me, nothing can keep me back: "I will also do." The heavenly loveliness of the great example, and the divine lovingness of the great Exemplar, combine to make the example above everything attractive.

Only there is one thing I must not forget. It is not the remembrance of what Jesus has once done to me, but the living experience of what He is *now* to me, that will give me the power to act like Him. His love must be a present reality, the inflowing of a life and a power in which I can love like Him. It is only through the Holy Spirit that I realize *what* Jesus is doing for me, and *how* He does it, and that it is *He* who does it. Then it is possible for me to do to others what He is doing to me.

if I am trying to live a Christian life while sitting in the chair of unfaith, I am only playing at it, rather than being in it, because the real battle is not against flesh and blood, but is in the "heavenlies," and I cannot participate in that battle in the flesh.

sin." Hudson Taylor said, "The Lord's work done in the Lord's way will never fail to have the Lord's provision."

The Lord's work done in human energy is not the Lord's work any longer.

p. 62-65 Schaeffer

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In the same manner, your life must be hid with Christ in God. Let this encourage you. Christ calls you to a life of faith and dependence, because it is the life He himself led. He has proven its blessedness; He is willing to live His life in you, to teach you also to live in no other way. He knew that the Father was His life, that He lived through the Father, and that the Father supplied His need moment by moment. He assures you that as He lived through the Father, even so you shall live through Him. Take this assurance in faith. Let your heart be filled with the thought of the fullness of life prepared for you in Christ and the abundant supply for all you need. Do not worry over your spiritual life as something you must maintain. Rejoice that you live in the strength of the Lord Jesus, even as He lived through His Father.

As Christ's life was a life of divine power, although a life of dependence, so ours will also be. He never repented having laid aside His glory to live before God as a man upon earth. The Father never disappointed His confidence; He gave Him all He needed to accomplish His work. Christ experienced the full blessing of living as a man in entire dependence upon His Father, receiving everything day by day from His hands.

Believer, your life can be the same. The divine power of the Lord Jesus will work in and through us. Do not think that your earthly circumstances make a holy life impossible. Jesus manifested the divine life in the midst of earthly surroundings which were supremely difficult. As He lived through the Father, so may you live through Him. Only cultivate greater expectations of what the Lord will do for you

Murray

The Holy Spirit says, "Man is the image and glory of God." Jesus came to restore man to his high destiny: He laid aside the glory which He had with the Father, and came in our weakness and humiliation to teach us how to glorify the Father on earth. God's glory is perfect and infinite: man cannot contribute any new glory to God. He can only reflect the glory of God. God's holiness is His glory.

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He counted nothing too great a sacrifice. He lived and died only that the glory of the Father, the glory of His holiness, of His redeeming love, might break through the dark veil of sin and flesh, and shine into the hearts of the children of men.

Is this not a wonderful calling, blessed beyond all conception—calling to live only to glorify God, to let God's glory shine out in every part of our life? Our daily life, down to its most ordinary acts, may be transparent with the glory of God. Oh!

Books:

Christ the Controversialist
John Stott

The Believers Secret of Living Like Christ
A. Murray

Humility A. Murray

True Spirituality
Francis Schaeffer

Great Men of the Bible
F.B. Meyer

It is of the utmost importance that the children of God should live this detached life as a testimony to the world. How will people believe us, when we talk about our hope, if our hope does not pull us from excessive devotion to the things around us?

We must not go on as we are. Professing Christians are too much taken up in business cares, in pleasure seeking, in luxury, and self-indulgence. There is little difference between the children of the kingdom and the children of this generation.

Yet how is it to be altered? Shall we denounce the present practice? Shall we inveigh against the reckless worldliness of the times? This will not affect a permanent cure. Let us rather paint with glowing colors that city that John saw. Let us unfold the glories of that world to which we are bound, and surely there will come into many a life a separateness of heart and walk that will impress men with the reality of the unseen, as no sermon could do, however learned or eloquent.

II. OFFER KOG

A. Ezek 37:21-28

1. Offer (Mk 1:15)

2. Their response (Jn 10:20)

their conclusion (Mt 12:24)

3. JC's reaction---withdrew (Mt 12:14-15)

taught in parables (Mt 13:10)

4. Zech 12:10 Acts 2:36-37

Mt 21 Triumphant entry Wicked tenant

Mt 23 Final blast O Jerusalem---removed offer

Mt 24 Delay, then return to set up KOG

III. DISCIPLE

A. JC came to live as an example and to train them

B. Controversial Exposed by contrast Jn 18:36-37

C. Disciples influenced by religious leaders

REVIEW

1. Cross---see Kip's triangle
2. What did Christ get out of it?

I. INTRO

A. Big Picture "Silent Planet"

2 Cor 4:4

God's goal

B. Christ's purpose: 2 Cor 8:9, Jn 6:38

- 1) Cross
 - 2) Offer KOG
 - 3) Disciple
- 2 Cor 4:6-7

2 aspects of Christ's example

a. DESTINY (Jn 7:28-29, 8:23)

** Consider His habit of getting alone to PRAY (Murray p. 92-94)

But that life, as subject to the law of humanity, had need of continual refreshing and renewing from the fountain. It was a life of dependence; just because it was strong and true, it could not bear the loss of direct and constant communion with the Father, with whom and in whom it had its being and its blessedness.

b. HUMILITY

(Murray p. 23)

Christ found this life of entire self-renunciation, of absolute submission and dependence upon the Father's will, to be one of perfect peace and joy. He lost nothing by giving everything to God. The Father honored His trust and did all for Him, and then exalted Him to His own right hand in glory. And because Christ had thus humbled Himself before God, and God was ever before Him, He found it possible to humble Himself before men, too. He was able to be the Servant of all. His humility was simply the surrender of Himself to God, to allow the Father to do in Him what He pleased, no matter what men around might say.

1. View of Reality

Mt 22

Application--2 Cor 4:18

Schaeffer p. 62-64

Gen 17:14---Jer 32:17

2. View of Scripture

Mt 15

MT 12:9-14

Application--Jn 5:39-40

3. View of People

Stott p. 179

The Pharisees withdrew from contact with all outcasts. Jesus, however, welcomed them into His friendship; He touched untouchables.

Why was this? What was the cause of this disagreement between them? A simple answer may be given to these questions: the Pharisees' first concern was themselves, how to preserve their own purity, whereas Jesus Christ's first concern was others, how 'to seek and to save the lost'.

Application--p. 23 Murray The more I become like Christ, the deeper shall I stoop to serve all around me.

p. 20-51 Murray

The Holy Spirit reveals to the believer the right of God's claim on us, how we are not our own but His. The realization of how absolutely we are God's property, bought and paid for with blood, of how we are loved with such a wonderful love, and of what blessedness there is in the full surrender to Him, leads the believer to yield himself as a whole burnt offering. He lays himself on the altar of consecration, and finds it his highest joy to be a sweet-smelling savor to his God, God-devoted and God-accepted. Then it becomes his most earnest desire to know how God would have him demonstrate this entire self-sacrifice in life and walk.

4. Recap

Jn 20:21

Jn 17:4

IV. CONCLUSION

- A. See His example
- B. Walk as lights
- C. I will meet Him one day---2 Cor 5:10 (Jn 12:43, Gal 1:10)
- D. I can fight -----and have victory
- E. We are like the disciples (see Mt 11:29, Lk 22:24, 1 Pet 5:5-6)
- F. Call to cultivate:

HUMILITY p57 Murray

Oh brethren! let us beware. Unless we make the increase of humility our study, we may find that we have been delighting in beautiful thoughts and feelings, in solemn acts of consecration and faith, while the only sure mark of the presence of God—the disappearance of self—was all the time wanting. Come and let us flee to Jesus, and hide ourselves in Him until we are clothed with His humility. That alone is our holiness.

DESTINY Phil 1:20, 2 Cor 5:9

1 Pet 2:4-11 Holiness

p. 207 Stott

Pharisaism will yield to Christianity within us only when we humble ourselves and acknowledge that God is God, our Creator and our Judge, our Beginning from whom we come, our End to whom we go. Then we shall no longer live horizontally like the Pharisees (seeking glory from men and giving glory to men) but vertically (recognizing God as the sole bestower and recipient of glory). We shall love the glory of God more than the glory of men. Delivered from the burden and bondage of self-centredness, we shall begin to experience heaven on earth, the life whose centre is God's eternal throne.

YIELD

????What did JC get receive??