

True Christian and the False Christian

By Nick Bibile

Ps 73:25 Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee.

Col 3:2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

The true Christian prefers God above all things in heaven or on earth.

The Psalmist looks at the wealth and the prosperity of the wicked, he sees how they enjoy in this world, they have no problems, and no trials and they continue to prosper. He gets jealous at their wonderful life style in this world. Psalmist himself get tempted, until he went to the house of God then he understood. He understood how foolish and how ignorant he was as God has set the ungodly in slippery places any moment they can die and go to hell to everlasting fire.

First we will see the godly man the true Christian then we will see the unbeliever, the hypocrite.

Every godly man, true Christian has his heart in heaven; his affections are set in Heaven his chosen country and inheritance. He is a traveler on this world. The traveler can content himself to be in a strange land for a while.

Heb 11:13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

14 For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country.

It is like a child living abroad away from his father's house. Heaven is the true saint's Father's house:

John 14:2, "In my Father's house are many mansions.

Now, the main reason why the godly man has his heart in heaven is because God is there; that is the palace of the Most High. It is the place where God is gloriously present, where his love is gloriously manifested, where godly are going to be with him, see him as he is, and love, serve, praise, and enjoy him perfectly.

If God is not in heaven, we would not be so earnest in seeking it, nor would he take so much pains in a laborious travel through this wicked world of temptations and trials. The martyrs would not undergo cruel sufferings, from their persecutors, but their mind was in heaven, although their pain was here they felt the comfort of peace in heaven.

The believer's heart is in heaven, because his treasure is there. The true Christian cheerfully forsake all their earthly possessions and all their earthly friends in exchange for God. God becomes number one and all the others are below God. True Christians are afflicted, tormented for their uncompromised belief as they exchange their earthly values for a heavenly inheritance where they want to be with their glorious redeemer.

Other religions including Mormonism heaven is a place of sensual delights and pleasures, you can become a god and marry many women populate the universe. If heaven was a place of sensual carnal enjoyments filled with sensual pleasures and God was not there, the true Christian cannot enjoy God. The true Christian will be restless without God as God is the center of his desires.

Even on earth godly man's set his mind on God.

2Co 4:18 While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.

True Christian does not enjoy God fully in this world, he has a little of his divine glory and love but God has promised in his word to give him full enjoyment and these promises are more precious than becoming a millionaire. It is better to live in rags and to believe in these precious promises than to live in luxury.

The true saint is always hungry for more and more of God in this world; it is a continuous growth in his spiritual life. It is their desire to know more of God and desire to imitate their Master Christ and not the world.

Psa. 27:4, "One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after, that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple." Psa. 42:1, 2, "As the hart panted after the water-brooks, so panted my soul after thee, O God. My soul thirsted for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God?" Psa. 63:1, 2, "O God, thou art my God, early will I seek thee: my soul thirsted for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is; to see thy power and thy glory, so as I have seen thee in the sanctuary."

Isa 26:8 Yea, in the way of thy judgments, O LORD, have we waited for thee; the desire of our soul is to thy name, and to the remembrance of thee.

9 With my soul have I desired thee in the night; yea, with my spirit within me will I seek thee early: for when thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness.

The genuine Christian wants to be rich in grace than to be rich in wealth, desire the honor of God and not the honor of men.

Joh 5:44 How can ye believe, which receive honor one of another, and seek not the honor that cometh from God only?

They desire to have communion with God more than worldly friends fellowship and earthly pleasures.

Psa. 84:10, "A day in thy courts is better than a thousand: I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness."

Php 3:8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ.

The true Christian prefers God to all his temporal enjoyments he has in this world.

Ps 16:5 The LORD is the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup: thou maintains my lot.

6 The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage.

He prefers God than his earthly friends.

Lu 14:26 If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.

He prefers God to any earthly enjoyments and prefers Christ to any earthly kingdoms.

Godly man lives in this troublesome world, he loses his temporary enjoyments for God, loses luxury and can be deprived of many things but his foundation of happiness is above this world and no one can take that happiness away, as long as God remains his happiness with God remains. Worldly people set their hearts on earthly enjoyments but the true Christian his chief portion is God and that's where his heart is and no one can take that eternal enjoyment of God from him.

The true Christian's portion is God, he worship God, he has great honor and respect to God as a person and to his word, he has communion, fellowship with God, relationship to God through his word, prayer, fellowship and his Christian conversation and behavior. Unbelievers may have an external honor and respect to God but not truly internal.

Psa. 66:3, "Through the greatness of thy power shall thine enemies submit themselves unto thee." In the original it is, *shall thine enemies lie unto thee*, i.e. yield a feigned obedience.

On the other hand the ungodly have no desire to go to heaven, their mind is set on earth, this is their heaven, they do not worship God as God, no respect to God's word and behavior is carnal and worldly.

They very often hear how excellent and glorious a person Christ is. They are told of his holiness, and grace, and the judgment to come yet it is not important to them.

They hear the glorious message of the gospel and told that Christ can save the worst sinner, yet they will not make any effort to repent and

turn to Christ. They hear the suffering of Christ and his dying love but these things are taken very lightly.

Unbelievers Christ is not exceedingly beautiful. If you see something greatly beautiful you will desire, will labor to get it and have it and enjoy. Unbelievers labor the things of the world, as their delight and ultimate enjoyment are the things of this world, they are passionately in love with them.

On the other hand Christ is most glorious above everything, there is great internal beauty in him, for who he is and what he has done, they have no desire for Christ, they have no passion for him, they are not passionately in love with him and have no enjoyment in Christ, Christ is boring to them compared to the world, Bible is a boring book, there is no desire at all.

To the unbeliever they have no value for Christ, he is worth nothing, and it is the world that is greatly valuable to them and the world is everything for them. The worthless things of this world have great value for them. They trample Christ daily in their disobedience; they have fear of death but no fear of Christ.

Rather they gratify earthly things and think and meditate daily on earthly things. They have no desire to conform to Christ yet they have a great desire to conform to this world.

Consider that you are just dust a worm before the king of kings, consider the great crime you have committed in your disobedience to the author of life. Christ can deliver you from hell, from the lake of fire even that blood that was shed for such poor sinners as you are, and that is offered to you for your salvation. But you trample Christ for the sake of your desires of the world.

Mt 7:21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

24 Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

25 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

26 And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:

27 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.

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