

Emotionalism vs. Faith

Satan's Second-rate Offer

Satan's Substitutes

- Dangers
 - You can't have Satan's substitute and the real thing
 - They are very similar
 - Hold us back spiritually or cause us to be lost
 - Appeal to our fleshly selves and worldly motives

Emotionalism Defined

- True worship is a source of strong emotions
- The validity of a religious activity can be judged by the quality of the emotions that produces
- Worship and other religious activities should be designed to have the greatest emotional impact possible

Faith Defined

- True worship is that which is in accord with the word of God
- The validity of a religious activity can be judged by its consistency with the Bible pattern
- Worship and other religious activities should be designed to adhere to God's will as revealed in the NT

Fruits of Emotionalism In Worship

- Perversion of the Gospel
- Religious Drifting
- Focus on the Sensual or Earthly

Personal Applications

- Prayer – Two paths to satisfactory prayer
 - Feelings

“Now it is very easy to have faith in prayer rather than faith in God. If we pray enough and have a warm session of communion with God we feel that our prayers will be answered. But if our prayers seem to be weak and there is a lack of warmth and fervor we doubt that God will answer them. **If we feel deeply burdened and perhaps shed some tears we think that God has heard us, but if we cannot have this feeling we feel that we have failed in prayer and that God has not heard us.** But that is faith in prayer, not faith in God. We based our faith on our works, instead **we should have based our faith in God’s promise that He would hear.**” – Buell Kазee, “Faith is the Victory”

Personal Applications

- Prayer – Two paths to satisfactory prayer
 - Feelings
 - Convictions – 1 Pet. 3:12; Rom. 8:26-27, 34

1 Peter 3:12

“For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their prayers; but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”

Romans 8:26-27

Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27 Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

Romans 8:34

who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.

Personal Applications

- Prayer
- Assurance of Forgiveness – Two paths
 - Feelings
 - Convictions

“Keep them watching their own minds and trying to produce feelings there by the action of their own wills. When they meant to ask Him for charity, let them instead start trying to manufacture charitable feelings for themselves and not notice what they are doing. When they meant to pray for courage let them really be trying to feel brave. When they say they are praying for forgiveness, let them really be trying to feel forgiven. **Teach them to estimate the value of each prayer by their success in producing the desired feeling**, and never let them suspect how much success or failure of that kind depends on whether they are well or ill, fresh or tired at the moment.”

- C. S. Lewis, Screwtape Letters

Personal Applications

- Prayer
- Assurance of Forgiveness – Two paths
 - Feelings
 - Convictions – 1 John 1:7-9

1 John 1:7-9

But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. 8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Personal Applications

- Prayer
- Assurance of Forgiveness
- Singing – Two paths to fulfilled singing
 - Feelings
 - Convictions

Personal Applications

- Prayer
- Assurance of Forgiveness
- Singing
- Good Deeds – Two reasons to do them
 - Feelings
 - Convictions – James 1:27; Matt. 25:40

James 1:27

Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

Personal Applications

- Prayer
- Assurance of Forgiveness
- Singing
- Good Deeds
- Assurance of Salvation
 - Do you feel saved?
 - Or are you convinced that you are saved?

Are You Convinced that You are Saved?

- Believe in Jesus – John 8:24
- Repent of Sins – Luke 13:5
- Confess Jesus – Rom. 10:9-10
- Be Baptized – John 3:5; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16
- Continue in Fellowship and Forgiveness – 1 John 1:7-9

Personal Applications

- Prayer
- Assurance of Forgiveness
- Singing
- Good Deeds
- Assurance of Salvation
- Many others...

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- Faith
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Are You Convinced that You are Saved?

- Believe in Jesus – John 8:24
- Repent of Sins – Luke 13:5
- Confess Jesus – Rom. 10:9-10
- Be Baptized – John 3:5; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16
- Continue in Fellowship and Forgiveness – 1 John 1:7-9
- **KNOW** that you are saved