

Doctrine of Being a Christian

We Shall Be Like Jesus

1. One of the ways Satan tricks Christians is by getting them to change their agenda. The agenda is to know Christ, and to be like Him.
 - *Philippians 3:10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;*
 - *1 John 2:6 He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.*
 - *1 Corinthians 11:1 Be ye followers of me, even as I also [am] of Christ.*
 - *1 Peter 2:21 For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:*
 - *Ephesians 5:1-2 Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children;*
 - *John 13:13-17 Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for [so] I am.*
 - *John 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.*
 - *Galatians 3:27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.*
 - *Ephesians 4:22-24 That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts.*
 - *Romans 8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate [to be] conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.*
 - *Philippians 2:5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:*
 - *Luke 6:46 And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?*
 - *Matthew 11:29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.*

2. The practical problem is how to be conformed into the image of Christ, and not be conformed to the world.
 - *Romans 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*

3. A traditional, and correct answer, is to know the Word of God by hiding it in the heart.
 - *Psalms 119:11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.*
4. If a person does not know the Word of God, it does not matter what a person believes about Scripture.
5. The Christian must know not only what a person is saved from, the power and pollution of sin, but also what we are saved to. We are saved to glorify God. This cannot be done through a lifestyle of sin.
 - *1 Corinthians 6:20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.*
6. The Christian is to bring glory to God by what is done in the body, and by the spirit every act of life is performed. When this happens, the Holy Spirit bears witness that we really are a child of God.
 - *Romans 8:16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:*
7. While the Christian does not know all that he shall be, we know now, we are the children of God.
 - *1 John 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.*
8. The promise of God is not only that our souls will go to heaven when we die. The promise of God is that we shall be like Christ.
9. In the journey in grace, remember the promises of God. God is a promise making, and promise keeping God.
10. God made promises to Abraham. God promised Abraham a land, a seed, and a spiritual blessing.
 - *Genesis 12:1 Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: 2 And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: 3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.*
 - *Genesis 12:7 And the Lord appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land: and there builded he an altar unto the Lord, who appeared unto him.*

- *Genesis 15:7 And he said unto him, I am the Lord that brought thee out of Ur of the Chaldees, to give thee this land to inherit it.*



11. The most important part of the Abrahamic Covenant is that God promised to be God to Abraham, and to His descendants.
12. The greatest promises given to the Christian is that God will be their God who will conform us into the image of Christ.
13. The practical problem is that people do not want to be made like Jesus.

Special Note.

Dr. R. C. Sproul wrote a trilogy of books. The first, *The Holiness of God*, did very well. The second book, *The Mystery of the Holy Spirit*, did well. The third work, *Who is Jesus?*, did not sell well at all. When Dr. Sproul asked the publisher why, he was told, “Dr. Sproul, Jesus does not do well among Christians.”