

Should A Christian Separate The Worship Of God And Their Day-To-Day Secular Life?

Titus 1:15-16 [NIV] *“To the pure, all things are pure, but to those who are corrupted and do not believe, nothing is pure. In fact, both their minds and consciences are corrupted. They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny him. They are detestable, disobedient and unfit for doing anything good.”*

Goodness or badness belong to the human personality.

Everything depends on the state of our interior life, our heart [referring to our emotions] and our “*human spirit*” [referring to our relationship with God].

Galatians 5:16, 24-25 [NIV] *“So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature.” ... “Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.”*

For a person who walks with the Holy Spirit there is no strict line separating the sacred from the secular.

James 1:26-27 [NIV] *“If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless. Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.”*

We use our tongue all of our waking hours, and orphans and widows are in need every day of the week.

In today’s society, as throughout the history of humans, there are a thousand human acts that are neither good or bad except as they may be done by good or bad human beings.

Our website and all the internet is an example of this.

The busy world around us is filled with work, travel, marrying, rearing children, burying the dead, buying, selling, sleeping, eating and mixing in common social intercourse with other human beings.

All these activities are usually separated in our minds from prayer, church attendance and specific religious acts.

Because the vast majority of humans engage in the complicated business of living without reference to God or redemption; Christians have called these common activities “*secular*” and attribute to them at least a degree of evil, although evil is **not** inherent in them.

1 Corinthians 10:3 [NIV] *“They all ate the same spiritual food”*

The apostle Paul teaches that every simple act of our lives may be sacramental.

Colossians 3:17 [NIV] *“And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”*

We need to break down the high walls that separate the various areas of our life and see them all as one.

Francis of Assisi accepted the whole creation as his house of worship and saw that all of God's creation was praising God.

The sun, moon, stars, wind, water, flowers, fruits, all bring glory to God their Creator and Sustainer.

Psalms 48:10 [NIV] *“Like your name, O God, your praise reaches to the ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with righteousness.”*

Every part of the created earth praises its Creator.

Psalms 145:10 [NIV] *“All you have made will praise you, O LORD; your saints will extol you.”*

Christians join all creation in praising God.

Psalms 52:9 [NIV] *“I will praise you for ever for what you have done; in your name I will hope, for your name is good. I will praise you in the presence of your saints.”*

No time limit on praising our Creator and Saviour.

As yet the vast majority of humans are engrossed in the secular, without the influence of the Creator God in their lives.

As a result of this the secular is not sanctified in their lives.

Romans 1:18-23 [NIV] *“The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse. For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles.”*

Such humans fail to see the glory of God in all that He has created.

What is the result of this?

Romans 1:24-32 [NIV] *“Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshipped and served created things rather than the Creator, who is for ever praised. Amen. Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion. Furthermore, since they did not think it worth while to retain the knowledge of God, he gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done. They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; they are senseless, faithless, heartless, ruthless. Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practise them.”*

A clear description of society today.

This unsanctified secular society will eventually be brought to an end.

Romans 8:19-23 [NIV] *“The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.”*

All of creation, including all human beings, will come to know their Creator, Jesus Christ and be freed from the bondage of deception that Satan has imposed on all humanity and on the rest of the physical creation that is laying in decay.

In too many “*Christian*” fellowships the people are suffering from what needs to be reversed.

The sacred is being secularised, by accepting the world’s values, thinking its thoughts and adopting its ways.

God’s Word, the Christian Bible, has been misused or ignored to enable “*Christians*” to live in this society without embarrassment or persecution.

We as Christians have **not** brought society to the judgement of heaven, instead we have brought heaven to the judgement of secular society.

May God forgive us and may the Holy Spirit inspire a strong Christian leadership to have the courage to cry aloud and warn all society, secular and sacred, to repent.

That the true children of God may be revealed and be willing to become witnesses, even martyr, for the truth.

For this to happen each of us have to live all day, every day, guided by God’s Word.

Romans 12:1-2 [NIV] *“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to **offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God, this is your spiritual act of worship.** Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is, his good, pleasing and perfect will.”*

Here we find a key scripture to enable us to live a life that is totally sanctified, in every part.

The Greek word translated “*bodies*” is “*soma*” which encompasses our whole life, body, mind and human spirit, [**Job 32:8; Proverbs 20:27; 1 Corinthians 2:11**].