

Serving In The Emergency That Today's Christless Society Finds Itself In

The major influencing fact in society today, that overwhelms all other considerations, is that humanity as a whole has turned their back on their Creator God.

Since the first human beings were created the earth has been a disaster area.

Nothing is as our Creator God desired life to be for human beings.

Genesis 1:26 [NIV] *“Then God said, **“Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”**”*

God created human beings in His own “*image*” the Hebrew means a resembling shadow of the real thing.

Then through a close relationship to take on God’s “*likeness*” the Hebrew means manner or character.

Genesis 1:27 [NIV] *“So God created man in his own **image**, in the **image** of God he created him; male and female he created them.”*

Note only the “*image*” is created in men and women, the “*likeness*”, character, can only be formed over a period of time.

Genesis 3:1-6 [NIV] *“Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, **“Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’”** The woman said to the serpent, *“We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’”* **“You will not surely die,” the serpent said to the woman. “For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”** When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.”*

The serpent [symbolic of Satan – see **Revelation 12:9**] planted doubt into the mind of Eve as to what God had commanded the first human beings to obey was for her own good.

Genesis 2:16-17 [NIV] *“And the LORD God commanded the man, **“You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die.”**”*

This was a test commandment as to whether these created human beings would look to their Creator God for guidance or follow their own thoughts and way of living.

Satan influenced the first humans to rebel against their Creator.

Revelation 12:9 [NIV] *“The great dragon was hurled down, that ancient serpent called the devil, or **Satan, who leads the whole world astray.** He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.”*

Satan has continued to influence every generation of human beings ever since.

The result is the critical emergency that the whole of society finds itself in, down through each generation but even more devastating today.

Romans 8:19-22 [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.”*

The rebellious sins of the human race has corrupted the perfect recreated earth.

Both the physical and human world are at this time subject to pains similar to childbirth awaiting to the birth of a glorious new world that will be heralded in by the children of God.

What is this “*hope*” that all of creation looks forward to?

The key lies in those who have been called by God in each generation, and what happens at the return of Jesus Christ to this earth as King of kings and Lord of lords.

1 Corinthians 15:49 [NIV] *“And just as we have borne the likeness of the earthly man, so shall we bear the likeness of the man from heaven.”*

All humans have borne the “*image*” of the Creator God, but mature Christians also bear the “*likeness*”, the character of God.

1 Corinthians 15:50 [NIV] *“I declare to you, brothers, that **flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.**”*

Flesh and blood humans, without the influencing Holy Spirit in them **cannot** be part of the Kingdom, family, of God.

Romans 8:9 [NIV] *“You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if **anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ.**”*

Without the Holy Spirit, Spirit of Christ, in us we are **not** part of the created family of God.

1 Corinthians 15:51-54 [NIV] *“Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed, in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For **the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.** For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: “Death has been swallowed up in victory.”*

The key to when this dramatic change will take place is “*the trumpet will sound.*” [See **Revelation 8:6-13; Revelation 9:1-20; Revelation 10:7**]

All of these sounding trumpets herald the final destruction of the surface of the earth, that is a prelude to the return of Jesus Christ.

Revelation 14:1-5 [NIV] *“Then I looked, and there before me was the Lamb, **standing on Mount Zion**, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father’s name written on their foreheads. And I heard a sound from heaven like the roar of rushing waters and like a loud peal of thunder. The sound I heard was like that of harpists playing their harps. And they sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders. No-one could learn the song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth. These are those who did not defile themselves with women, for they kept themselves pure. They follow the Lamb wherever he goes. They were purchased from among men and offered as firstfruits to God and the Lamb. No lie was found in their mouths; they are blameless.”*

Mount Zion is often used as a referring to Jerusalem; this is where Jesus Christ will descend from heaven and land on earth at His return.

Zechariah 14:4 [NIV] *“On that day his feet will stand on the **Mount of Olives**, east of Jerusalem, and the Mount of Olives will be split in two from east to west, forming a great valley, with half of the mountain moving north and half moving south.”*

Referring to Jesus Christ see **verse 3**.

Acts 1:6-12 [NIV] *“So when they met together, they asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.” Then they returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day’s walk from the city.”*

As Jesus Christ left to return to heaven, so He will return to Mount of Olives, bodily and visibly.

We as disciples of Jesus Christ should **not** be standing around looking up to heaven, but fulfilling the commission to be witnesses to all the earth of the resurrection of Jesus Christ and His return to this earth.

What is the major task of Christians in every generation?

2 Corinthians 5:10 [NIV] *“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that **each one may receive what is due to him for the things done while in the body**, whether good or bad.”*

When we stand before Jesus Christ on our judgement day, we will be judged **not** by how much we have done as Christians but by how much we **could** have done.
[See **Matthew 25:14-30; Luke 17:7-10**].

2 Corinthians 5:14 [NIV] *“For Christ’s love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died.”*

We as Christians should feel compelled to fulfil the commission that Jesus Christ has given us.

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.”*

Out of gratitude for Christ’s sacrifice we offer our bodies, minds and human spirits to Christ as bond slaves, totally sacrificing our lives.

Bond slaves **only** had responsibilities **not** rights, so we submit to God’s Will **not** insist on our will.

Romans 12:3-8 [NIV] *“For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: **Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you.** Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. **We have different gifts, according to the grace given us.** If a man’s gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of*

others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.”

It is **not** the size of the gift we have received from our Creator, but how much of ourselves we put into that gift to serve others.

No person gives anything to God until they have given all of themselves.

No person gives anything acceptable to God until they first give themselves in love, gratitude and sacrifice.

Most Christians would be better pleased if Jesus Christ did **not** inquire into their personal lives and service too closely.

All Christians want Jesus Christ to save them, keep them happy and blessed and accept them into the Kingdom of God at the end of their physical lives, but **not** to be too inquisitive about their conduct or service.

Psalms 139:1-4 [NIV] *“O LORD, you have searched me and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. Before a word is on my tongue you know it completely, O LORD.”*

Every Christian should be well aware of how intimately God knows each one of us.

2 Corinthians 5:15-18 [NIV] *“And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. So from now on we regard no-one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation:”*

This is our main task as Christians, a ministry of reconciliation.

How do we do this?

2 Corinthians 5:19 [NIV] *“that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.”*

Remind all humans that they have rebelled against their Creator but can find forgiveness through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:20-21 [NIV] *“We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”*

We can only be ambassadors of Jesus Christ after we personally have been reconciled to God and He has credited the righteousness of Jesus Christ to us, and we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

John 7:38-39 [NIV] *“Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.” By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.”*

We then allow the fruits of our intimate relationship with the Holy Spirit to flow through us, out to others who do **not** yet know Jesus Christ as their Saviour.

Galatians 5:22-25 [NIV] *“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. 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.”*

These acts of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control will make us stand out as lights in a darkened world that is well-described in the previous verses.

Galatians 5:19-21 [NIV] *“The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.”*

Only when such people are reconciled to God through Jesus Christ, will they receive the Holy Spirit and begin to develop the fruits of the Holy Spirit that will allow them to enter into the Kingdom of God.

Psalms 103:14 [NIV] *“for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust.”*

God knows our physical limitations.

But this is **no** excuse.

Philippians 4:13 [NIV] *“I can do everything through him who gives me strength.”*

Who is the him?

Acts 1:8 [NIV] *“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*

It is the power of the Holy Spirit working in and through us that will enable us to be a witness to others in our job of bringing reconciliation to all human beings.

Considering all these things, we as Christians must **not** go on the defensive.

John 16:33 [NIV] *“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”*

This witness will **not** be without pain and sacrifice but we have already won the victory over all the evil in the world through Jesus Christ.

Revelation 12:9-11 [NIV] *“The great dragon was hurled down, that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him. Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: “Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down. They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death.”*

We can overcome the evil influence of Satan in this world and bring humanity reconciliation to the Creator God through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ and our sacrificial testimony.

The aim of this website is to bring to the vast majority of people knowledge of the God they do not know and the love He has for them personally.

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