

JESUS AND PERSONALITY

Jno. 8:11

Christ and personality. Christ plus anything else certainly means power. It certainly means leaving low levels of life and climbing to hill tops of worthwhile living. Christ plus the soil means food and clothing for the needy...for everybody. Christ plus business means transactions that benefit both parties or all the parties in the trade. Christ plus politics means statesmanship. Christ plus money means the gospel, education, and medicine around the world. Christ plus education means wisdom, and more happy living.

Now let's see about personality. What is personality? One definition is, "An inhabited machine." Something alive in a machine. The war tank, the tractor, automobile are machines but have in them no personality...no conscience. If they get loose as did the street car in Birmingham recently and kill some people and injure others there is no compunction of conscience. Let us say that a human body inhabited by a self conscious being is a personality as we see it in this world. But the machine may die but the personality does not die...So a better definition of personality is "A being capable of self conscious decision."

Let us look a moment at the process of personality....

- a. Self separation. When consciousness begins to dawn there begins to be a realization that the self is separate from something else...I am not this, I am not that or these but I am just me my self.
- b. There is self grasp. You get your self unified..realize that I am a separate unit. I see others like me and there must have been an original pattern.
- c. Self estimate....He sees himself and others like him and in comparison to other animals there is seen more intelligence, more power of decision, a more powerful being.
- d. Then there is that realization that I am a being capable of self-conscious decision

There you have it. Now if any one wants to think that that sort of being by chance one day began walking around with out any designer behind it he can just go on thinking but he will never get me to join his class for instruction.

This some thing we call personality was created..created by

a most powerful intelligence. And when we read that "God made man in His own image" we are reading where earthly personalities had their beginning.

God created personalities...Jesus was there with Him helping to make them..So it is not wrong to say that Jesus made personalities..So when we say Jesus and personality we can remember that they are His creation....There are facts about His dealing with these personalities:

- a. He loves them
- b. He strives to guide them
- c. He has prepared a place for them to come into for eternal dwelling.

Now look at His high regard for personality...

- a. He honored the little child
- b. He stepped over racial bounds and heard the plea of the Syrophoenecian Woman. He teaches this same lesson in the story of the Good Samaritan.
- c. He loved the personality of his mother.
- d. He respected the thief on the cross.
- e. In our scripture here He stepped over sin and faced a personality and said, "Go sin no more."

You hear the expression, "He is a wonderful personality"

1. Do you mean Al Capone..king of the Underworld?
2. Do you mean Hitler who disregards personality for the state?
3. Do you mean Toni Henry (Woman 24) who killed the man who gave her and her accomplice a ride?

1. Do you mean George Washington who said, "Let us raise a standard to which the wise and the honest can repair the event is in the hand of God."
2. Don't you think it means John Wesley saying, "The world is my parish."
3. David Livingston leaving his heart in Africa?

"Woman where are those thine accusers? Hath no man condemned thee?" She said, "No man, Lord." And Jesus said unto her, "Neither do I condemn thee; go sin no more."

