

ARE YOU SPIRITUALLY MINDED?

Rom. 8:6

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Many think themselves "spiritual" if attend once a month
- B. Some measure "spiritual" completely on the basis of attendance
 - 1. Every week is spiritual to some, but every time doors open is bordering on "fanatical" in eyes of some
 - 2. Yet some who attend EVERY TIME the church meets are still not "spiritual" people
- C. How can we know if we are "spiritual" people? How can we know if we are "spiritually minded"? Is attendance the only measure?
 - 1. Some may be adamant on issues like liberalism, but not adamant at all about issues like conservatism in the home or morality
 - 2. People may argue well for the truth about baptism, but have not themselves been baptized into Christ.
 - 3. Some are adamant about issue of divorce, but not adamant at all about love as the Bible describes it
- D. Selective spirituality is not spirituality at all 1Cor 14:37
- E. Honestly look at how to know if we are really "spiritually minded", or if it is really self-centeredness. Sometimes we pick topics because it just suites US, and it is not really God we want to please after all
- F. A person is spiritually minded when:

DISCUSSION:

I. IT IS THE RIGHTEOUS MIND OF GOD THAT RULES

- A. Their daily "walk" is God-conscious Rom 8:1
 - 1. The "walk" is the conduct, the direction of life
 - 2. Life centered in doing the right thing Rom 8:3,4
- B. This person "sets his mind on the things of the Spirit" Rom 8:5; Gal 5:22-25
- C. An apologetic mind in "slip-ups" and failures. 1Jhn 1:7-9
- D. A sermon that "steps on the toes" is appreciated and taken to heart Heb 12:5-8
- E. Does not pretend to be "perfect", but desires to do the will of God from the heart Phil 3:12
- F. Carnal mind can't be subject to law of God Rom 8:7

II. LIFE IS LIVED WITH GOD DWELLING AND LIVING IN YOU

- A. "Dwelling in you"(Rom 8:9) means permanent residence, not an "on-again-off-again" type companionship

- B. Like life with people to whom we have constant responsibility, God is living in us, a permanent residence in our conscience
- C. All decisions and actions are lived in view of how they affect our relationship
- D. Rom 8:9-11 speaks of "dwelling", not temporary housing situation

III. THERE IS "PEACE" IN YOUR LIFE.

- A. One cannot "walk" with God and not have peace in the heart
- B. Peace is a "fruit" of spirituality Rom 8:6; Gal 5:22-25
- C. There is "peace that passes understanding" in the spiritual heart Phil 4:8
- D. The spiritual person measures his peace and knows when he is losing focus and sinking away from God
- E. Spiritual person strongly believes God can walk on his storms of life and calm the seas of turmoil, and he recognizes that carnality is the source of the storms

IV. YOU KNOW THIS IS REALLY LIVING THE HIGH LIFE

- A. Your life has meaning, purpose, and objectives that are lofty Rom 8:13-23
- B. You are adopted by God. That is real royal living
- C. You really do have it all
 - a. A fine family (God's)
 - b. The best food (Bread of life)
 - c. The finest clothes (Righteousness in Christ)
 - d. The heavenly places in Christ (Lots to explore; adventure)
 - e. The richest gifts (all spiritual blessings in Christ)
 - f. The greatest relationship (Loving God and Being Loved)
 - g. The most wonderful hope (Heaven)

CONCLUSION:

- A. If you are "spiritually minded", you think about and value these things
- B. If you only have occasional, passing interests in these things, then you are carnally minded 1Cor 3:1
- C. Jesus is knocking at the door of your heart because He wants permanent residence on a daily basis Rev 3:20
- D. If you open, He will come in, and you will enjoy His company. Have you opened that door?
- E. Don't you need to today?

Adapted from a sermon By Terry W. Benton