

EXPECTATIONS

I was born in and have lived my entire life in the United States of America.

Most Americans have similar expectations of their life here in this country. They plan to grow up and get a good education which would provide a good paying job for themselves.

They also have the expectations of getting married, having children and purchasing a nice house to live in. They plan to work till they're older and retire with a comfortable, enjoyable life, enjoying everything that this world has to offer.

Some have much greater expectations of their lives, pursuing things like stardom, excessive wealth, and power. Some have much lower expectations, such as getting by with minimum effort and functioning with the possession of the bare minimums necessary to exist in our society.

These expectations that people are pursuing is considered to be the American dream that is available to everyone in our country, and the one that many people outside our country, including Moslems, Hindus, Buddhists, and atheists are all trying to obtain as well.

Generally speaking, most of our population is seeking what our constitution calls, life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

The Barna institute, estimates that 205 million people, nearly 2 out of every 3 people in the United States claim to be born again believers. Judging from the state of our country, it appears that they are fully functioning Americans chasing the American dream along with the rest of the world.

America is proud of and claims that our society is the apex of life on this planet, yet it is riddled with all the negative problems that the rest of this world is dealing with.

The reason for this is, because the USA is full of people. It's the same problem that every other country on this planet has. They are full of natural people living spiritually dead lives, separated from God because of the fall of man from God's presence.

Many people in the world don't realize that every system in this world, governmental, financial, educational, religious, entertainment and social, were created by these same people.

People on this planet are exercising a spiritually dead and separated from God life, with no ability to change it.

It's the life that we all inherited from Adam and Eve as human beings. We were all born into it. We all got the same life.

We've all grown up under the influence of this world's systems. They have tried to promote as fact, and have conditioned people to believe the lie, that this all there is for us.

Encouraging us to continually exercise our natural wills, our emotions and our intellect to create the most comfortable and enjoyable life that we can apart from God.

Fortunately, God had other expectations for His creation that He originally created in His image. He created them to live continually in His presence, and not under this world's systems that are controlled by Satan.

He created them by breathing His eternal life into them and gave them authority over this entire planet to manifest God's eternal life to the entire Earth.

Let's look at the scriptures, which are statements of reality from God to verify these things that have said so far.

Colossians 1.13 states that, He delivered us from the domain and authority of darkness and has transferred us to the Kingdom of His beloved Son in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Ephesians 2.1-7 says, You were dead in your trespasses and sins, in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the Prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience (that would be Satan).

Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest.

But God, being rich in mercy because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, He made us alive together with Christ, (by His grace you have been saved), and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places, in Christ Jesus.

We can see from these scriptures, that man had no ability to change his fallen state. God initiated this restoration of His creation without man's help.

God's plan to restore man back to his original created oneness with God was not a new religion. It was the supernatural work that only God could do to restore man back into His family.

God came to Earth as a man, to pay man's penalty of separation from God because of sin.

He not only forgave man's sin, He put all of mankind in Christ. He then crucified him, buried him, raised him from the dead, and seated him at the right hand of God in complete oneness with Him. So that whatever happened to Christ also happened to man, because God put him in Christ.

Man, now had the opportunity to repent of his fallen, sinful nature and receive the eternal life of God in exchange and receive the same life that Jesus demonstrated on Earth.

He could now be reborn into the family of God by faith in Jesus' incredible sacrifice for us.

God's plan to restore man back into His family and His Kingdom is unlike any other plan on this planet.

It's different from any and every religion, because it's done by God and He is the only one who could do this for us.

I believe that after reading these scriptures it should be obvious that God did not go to these great lengths so that men could pray a prayer, join a church that they like, and wait to go to heaven when they die.

Let me wrap this up by sharing a just a few statements of reality from God about His expectations for His children.

Those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the first born among many brethren, and those whom He predestined, these He also called, and whom He called, these He also justified, and whom He justified these He also glorified. Romans 8.29

Speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him, Who is the head, even Christ. Ephesians 4.15

As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance, but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; because it is written, you shall be holy, because I am holy.

If man had no ability to change his fallen state, what makes us think we can walk in this new nature?

I'm glad that you asked.

Let's look at a few more statements of reality from God to answer that question.

Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus Christ our Lord, seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to His life and His godliness through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. For by these He granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, in order that by them you might become partakers of the divine nature having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.

2 Peter 1.2-4

Jesus speaking of the Holy Spirit said, He will glorify Me, because He will receive, and draw upon, what is mine and will reveal, declare, disclose, and transmit it to you. Everything that the Father has is mine, that is what I meant when I said that He, the Holy Spirit, will take the things that are mine and will give them to you. John 16.14

And lastly, John 14.12.

I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, if anyone steadfastly believes in Me, he will himself be able to do the things that I do, and he will do even greater things than these, because I go to the Father.

Our heavenly Father not only did everything necessary for us to be able to exchange our spiritually dead lives for His eternal life, He has also given us His Holy Spirit to equip and empower us to walk in and manifest His eternal life to this entire planet.

It should be tremendously obvious that God's expectations for His children that He redeemed out of the authority and dominion of this world system, are infinitely greater than the expectations of natural man living under the control of this world system, ruled by Satan.

What shall we say to these things?

I say thank you Daddy.

God bless you.

Jim Fuller

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