

Upcoming Events

**BUSINESS MEETING
TODAY 2:30 P.M.**

**Saturday Meeting
Just 6 days away!
PREPARE!**

MeetUp Class
Thursday, February 24, at 7:00 p.m.
28561 Sunnyslope St.
Desert Hot Springs CA 92241

February Birthdays

8 Zoie Perales

Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.
Sunday.....10:45 a.m.

Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

Preacher:
Jack Critchfield

Church of Christ
81-377 Ave 46
Indio, CA 92201
(760) 342-1859

(Address Service Requested)

Indio Informer

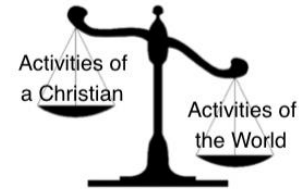
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An Imbalanced Christian Life

John M. Buttrey II

We hear so much about balance. We are encouraged to have a balanced diet with the foods we eat. We hear of the need for balance between our work and home life. In order to get fit, we are told we need a balanced exercise routine. All this talk of balance may find us seeking a balance between our activities in the world and our Christianity. If you were to put your life activities on a balance scale, one side being the world and the other being your activities as a Christian, which side would be heavier?

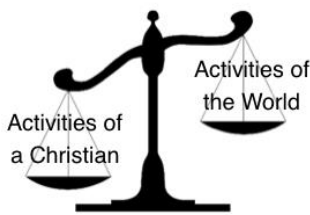


For some, perhaps many, the scale might look like the one pictured above. This would certainly be considered an imbalanced Christian life, with the imbalance favoring the world. Recognizing this imbalance, we might be encouraged to seek for a balanced scale.



While balance might seem like the very thing we need, shouldn't we really be seeking an imbalance? No, we should not seek the

imbalance pictured earlier, but rather an imbalance where our activities as Christians outweigh everything else!



Yes, imbalance is exactly what we need! In this way, Jesus instructed us: **“But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”** Matthew 6:33 (Emphasis Mine) The apostle Paul put it like this: **“Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth”**. Colossians 3:2 (Emphasis Mine) The inspired writer of Hebrews also spoke in this regard: **“Therefore, we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us”**. Hebrews 12:1 (NKJV Emphasis Mine).

As Christians we must tip the scales in favor of the things of God. If we will make such an effort, we will find more time for prayer, Bible study, evangelism, giving, visiting the sick, and all sorts of other activities. Remember, the things of God outweigh in importance the recreational and social activities that generally weigh us down with commitments and lack of time for God.

Let’s all take a close look at the scale this week and see if we can start tipping it in favor of the things of God.

Ecclesiastes 12:13 *“Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man’s all.”*

Revelation 2:10 *“...Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.”*

Quotes from The Simplicity of The Gospel

Mike Willis

The gospel is easily understood. Jesus said, *“Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: for every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened”* (Matthew 7:7-8). In the Beatitudes, He said, *“Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled”* (Matthew 5:6). The Savior emphasized that men who seek to know the Lord’s will can find it and that those who hunger and thirst after the Lord’s righteousness shall be filled with it.

The apostle Paul emphasized that men could easily comprehend the message of the gospel of Christ. In the book of Ephesians, he stated that God’s saving gospel came to him by revelation. However, he wrote this message to the Ephesians in such language that when they read, they could comprehend his knowledge in the mystery of Christ (Eph. 3:1-5). Consequently, he commanded, *“So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is”* (Eph. 5:17, NASB). Has God commanded the impossible of His children? Obviously not! God would be unjust were He to command of His children that which was impossible for them even as it would be unjust and unfair for a parent to demand of his two-month old child that he dress and cloth himself.

Brethren, the revelation from God is simple and clear. Even as we have every reason to expect the alien sinner to be able to understand and comprehend the simplicity of the message of what one must do to be saved, we have every reason to expect the child of God to be able to comprehend and understand how he must live to stay saved, how he must worship God, and the nature and characteristics of the New Testament church.
