

Biblical Christian or Cultural Christian?

January 21, 2009
Delbert E. Anderson

Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying, This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. [Matthew 15:7-9](#)

SUMMARY:

Overall, we live in a culture dominated by the secular life view. "Cultural Christianity means to pursue the God we want instead of the God who is. It is the tendency to be shallow in our understanding of God, wanting Him to be more of a gentle grandfather type who spoils us and lets us have our own way. It is sensing a need for God, but on our own terms. It is wanting the God we have underlined in our Bibles without wanting the rest of Him, too. It is God relative instead of God absolute." "A Biblical Christian is a man who trusts in Christ and desires to be obedient to God's principles (see Romans 1:5). Obedience does not save us, faith does. This explains why some men can be cultural Christians – they have a saving faith, but they have not obediently made Christ Lord over all their lives; they have not allowed the Holy Spirit to empower them."

pgs. 53, & 57 *The Man in the Mirror* by Patrick Morley

NOTES:

DISCUSSION POINTS:

- If you are a Biblical Christian, what advice would you give to a Cultural Christian that might help him get on track?
- In nearly all successful, thriving relationships, the individuals often have passion. How do we develop that passion for God to insulate our relationship with him and allow it to thrive in a secular environment?
- In the heat of spiritual testing, is it practical to have a pre-planned escape route to ensure our Biblical convictions remain intact?
- What role does reading God's Word on a daily basis play in establishing the Biblical Christian's foundation?

APPLICATION:

- From Steve Farrar's **Point Man**, page 68: "*There is nothing wrong with desiring happiness, but horrendous problems develop when we become disobedient to obtain it. God rewards the obedient, and He is able to do far more than any of us could ever ask or think.*" Let's consciously target decision-making that directly aligns with Biblical principles.

ON YOUR OWN...

I Corinthian 2:4
1 Samuel 15:22
Matthew 16:24
Philippians 2:5