

Accepting Christ Means Rejecting All Else

by A.W. Tozer

Accepting Christ involves not only acceptance, but also rejection of what's contrary to Him, a fact often overlooked in evangelism.

Scripture: Matthew 6:24, Matthew 10:37-39, Luke 9:23, Romans 12:2, 2 Corinthians 6:14, Galatians 2:20, Philippians 3:8, Colossians 3:2, James 4:4, 1 John 2:15-17

Topics: "Acceptance of Christ", "Rejection of Sin"

Description

A.W. Tozer emphasizes that accepting Christ requires not only an act of acceptance but also a continual rejection of all that opposes Him. He explains that Christianity is a balance of affirmation and denial, which must be practiced daily throughout a believer's life. Tozer warns against the misconception that one can live a wholly positive life without acknowledging the necessity of rejecting sin and worldly distractions. He likens this to the vital process of inhaling and exhaling, where both acceptance of Christ and rejection of contrary influences are essential for spiritual health. This truth is often overlooked by those focused solely on the positive aspects of evangelism.

Transcript

The notion that we enter the Christian life by an act of acceptance is true, but that is not all the truth. There is much more to it than that. Christianity involves an acceptance and a repudiation, an affirmation and a denial. And this not only at the moment of conversion but continually thereafter day by day in all the battle of life till the great conflict is over and the Christian is home from the wars. To live a life wholly positive is, fortunately, impossible. Were any man able to do such a thing it could be only for a moment. Living positively would be like inhaling continuously without exhaling. Aside from its being impossible, it would be fatal. Exhalation is as necessary to life as inhalation.

To accept Christ it is necessary that we reject whatever is contrary to Him.

This is a fact often overlooked by eager evangelists bent on getting results. Like the salesman who talks up the good points of his product and conceals its disadvantages, the badly informed soulwinner stresses the positive side of things at the expense of the negative.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/aw-tozer/accepting-christ-means-rejecting-all-else/>

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