

# Giving Our Mind to Christ - Part 4

by Zac Poonen

---

*True spirituality comes from a personal relationship with God, not from external appearances or feelings.*

**Duration:** 10:08

**Scripture:** 1 Samuel 16:7, Psalm 51:10, Matthew 15:8, Matthew 23:27-28, John 4:24, Romans 12:2, 1 Corinthians 10:31, Colossians 3:2, James 1:22, 1 Peter 3:3-4

**Topics:** "Worldliness", "Surrender"

---

## Description

This sermon emphasizes that worldliness is not primarily about outward appearances like clothing but is rooted in the mind. It challenges Christians to consider how they dress and present themselves, urging them to align their attire with how they would dress if Jesus were physically present with them. The speaker highlights the importance of genuine surrender and worship, cautioning against hypocrisy in religious practices like singing and listening to sermons without true heart transformation.

---

## Transcript

What would you think if I wear a golden colored shirt or a red shirt or a purple one when I come here? You think you suddenly become worldly? I wish it were so easy to be free from worldliness by just wearing a white shirt or something like that. It's not. It's the mind.

Religion has always put worldliness in the clothes. Now I believe that worldliness can affect our clothes. There's no doubt about it.

Have you noticed how you watch girls particularly, young girls, watch the way television models dress, cinema stars dress? Say, I want to dress like that. The world has squeezed them into that mold. Who is their model? It's not young Mary.

How do you think young Mary dressed when she was the mother of Jesus? I don't think God would have chosen her. If she had made some worldly model, I don't know whether they had models in those days, but whatever, some worldly person. If she was dressing, wanting to dress like that, I don't think Jesus would ever, God would ever have chosen her.

Young 17, 18 year old girl, God looked all over Israel for someone who was godly to be the mother of his son. I remember one sister once came to me and said, how should I dress for this act? I said, I'm not going to make you rules. When I say, think of this, supposing you were going, supposing Jesus was living on the

next street and you were going to, he invited you to his home and said, we want to go for a walk.

We're going to walk down Commercial Street. I want to walk with you. And you go to meet Jesus in his house and you're going to walk with him down Commercial Street.

How will you dress? Dress like that all the time, except when you don't want Jesus to come with you somewhere and say, Lord, please don't come here. I'm going somewhere for a party, so allow me to dress as I like. Is there a party you want to go where Jesus is not going to be invited, where he's not, I mean, he may not be invited, but that you don't want him to come with you? You know how the world has squeezed the minds of Christians who got all the religious language, who are hypocrites.

So I don't believe that, you know, for example, immodest dressing, the way all these worldly people dress, immodestly tight-fitting clothes and all, I can't imagine that you'd go to walk with Jesus with those type of clothes. That's why Jesus is not with you, because he's ashamed to walk with you when he sees the way you dress. Don't let Jesus be ashamed, saying, I want to walk with you, change your clothes and come and I'll walk with you.

I really believe that's what the Lord is saying to many Christian girls, change the way you dress and I'll walk with you, unless you go alone, I won't give you leprosy or cancer or anything, you'll be blessed, you'll make money, you'll become great, but I won't walk with you. And the moment the Lord says, I won't walk with you, I tell you, that is the biggest loss you can ever have on earth. I don't want to go to a place where Jesus won't come with me.

I don't want to ever live one single day of my life when Jesus won't come with me. I never get into this pulpit without Jesus coming with me, I would have nothing to say. I know a lot of preachers get into the pulpit, not bothered whether Christ comes with them or not.

Don't ever go to a place where you don't want Jesus to come with you. So worldliness can be in the dress, but it's not primarily in the dress, it's in the mind. It's the mind that makes somebody copy that model or that film star.

The mind is there. So you can, you know, in some churches they'd say, no, no, no, you can't wear this dress, just wear white or something like that and remove all your ornaments and be like this. Okay, you've got them to dress in some uniform, but you haven't changed their mind.

The mind is still worldly, what's the use? Some of the most worldly people I met are people who wear white clothes and don't wear any ornaments. They haven't got rid of the world, the world is in their mind. The devils fool them with a religion that's on the outside.

You know, a religion that some other people think religion is in our singing. You know, they go to some church, you know, they sing so in a dull way. Well, you've got to sing with great zeal and happiness, but you think worldliness goes away just because we sing some fantastic songs? All to Jesus I surrender, a person can sing that and not surrender anything.

He just told a whole lot of lies to God on Sunday morning, he went home and he's thoroughly worldly. You've got to be very careful about the words we sing, I'll tell you why. Because Jesus said the devil is the father of lies.

I take that word very seriously, John 8 44, the devil is the father of lies. If I stand before God and say all to Jesus I surrender my time, my money, my everything and I don't mean it, I've told a lie. Who was the father of that lie? I said it in church, the father of that lie was the devil and the mother was me.

Or if I stand before God and say, take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold, take my voice and let me sing always only for my King. Take my time, take my lips and take my life and take my heart. I don't mean it.

Every word is a lie and the devil's produced so many children through me in a worship meeting, in a praise meeting. Do you know the number of children the devil produces in praise meetings across the world on Sunday mornings? I think he produces more children through Christians on Sunday mornings than on any other day. Lies, lies, lies.

But what do the people say, the people in the church who sing this 45 minutes of what they call praise and worship, it's not worship at all, it's just a lot of happy, I mean you could be singing rock music or whatever it is, they have a good time. It's just like those people who went to a rock concert and say, boy, didn't we have a good time? The fellows who came from the rock concert say, and the people who came out of this so-called praise and worship time say, didn't we have a good time in praise and worship? Didn't we? We, we, we. Notice the emphasis, capital W-E, didn't we have a good time? They're not bothered whether, wasn't God worshipped today? Wasn't there a sense of reverence and awe? That's not what they think.

The best song leader is the one who doesn't give people a good time, but who gives God a good time, where God's presence, it's very difficult, I'll tell you, you can't do it if you're not filled with the Holy Spirit, you can't do it if you don't fast and pray, you can't do it just because you've got a good singing voice. You've got to fear God, you've got to be a worshipper in secret, and you've got to bring the presence of God into a meeting where people have a sense of reverence and awe of God, and then they don't go away from the meeting thinking, ah, we had a good time. Boy, God was there.

That's the best meeting, whether it's a sermon or the time of singing, that God was there, Jesus was there, he sensed his presence. I'll tell you, I've been in a lot of praise and singing meetings where Jesus wasn't there, we had a good time, wonderful, the beat was good, music was good, he swayed our bodies and clapped our hands, we had a good time, just like the rock music concert, they had a good time there, too, only ours was a little more religious. See, the devil has fooled people with what is spirituality, clothes, the type of singing, even good preaching.

You know, some of you may come here, he gets good sermons here, you like to listen to good sermons. You think that makes you spiritual? The Bible says that Herod loved to listen to John the Baptist, and that's written in Mark chapter 6, you can read it. Herod liked to listen to John the Baptist, you know what it says two verses later, Herod liked to see Salome dancing in that bikinis or whatever she was wearing, he liked that also.

He went straight from John the Baptist to this bikini-dressed Salome and he enjoyed both. A lot of Christians like that. They'll come and listen to a powerful sermon and then go and watch some serial on television and they enjoy both.

They are exactly like Herod, are they spiritual? As spiritual as King Herod was. But the devil has fooled them. Songs make you spiritual, you have a good time in the meeting, you listen to good powerful preaching John the Baptist.

Why did Herod like to listen to John the Baptist? Because the Pharisees were all boring. Herod would go to sleep listening to the Pharisees, but John the Baptist, you couldn't go to sleep when John the Baptist was preaching. He was fiery.

Herod liked that, this fellow is great. This Herod who looks so spiritual, then a few minutes later he's watching Salome dancing and he's excited. This girl is great too.

This is deception. To appreciate good preaching doesn't make you spiritual, to sing for 45 minutes and proudly praise God doesn't make you spiritual, changing your clothes and removing your ornaments doesn't make you spiritual.

---

Video: <https://sermonindex2.b-cdn.net/IXKFFmGdtsU.mp4>

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/zac-poonen/giving-our-mind-to-christ-part-4/>

# *Grow in Your Walk with Christ*

---

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

**[www.sermonindex.net](http://www.sermonindex.net)**