

The Christ Centered Life: Christ Esteem

Narcissism: the disease of starving to death on self-absorption

- self-absorption is a "sickness unto death" - Is 2:22; 53:3-4

Antidote: A "This One Thing" Mentality - Christ Esteem - Ps 18:3; Rev 4:11; Phil 3:7-8

- Everything ultimately profitable in life is tied to knowing and esteeming Christ

- He is of such surpassing value all else pales in comparison - Matt 13:44-46

...no cost is too high to know, to have Christ

...He is the "one thing needful" by which all other "goods" are measured - Lk 10:38-42

- Seeing with a "single eye"... focused on Christ - Matt 6:22-23

...consider Jesus, not our circumstances - Heb 3:1

...purity comes from fixing our focus on Him, not ourselves - 1 Jo 3:3

...we become like Him by seeing Him, not ourselves - 1 Jo 3:2

- A Christ consciousness that slays the sacred/secular divide

Humility: The Cessation of Self Worship (Bowing before the highest good!)

- Pride is a primal sin that makes us deaf and blind to reality
(self affirmed greatness is of the devil - Ezek 28:18)

...it is self consuming - Ezek 28:18

..."flesh" - how I would do life if not Christ-enlivened - Ro 8:6-8

- The mind set on self-esteem/flesh is "starved"

- The mind set on Christ esteem/spirit is "steadfast" - Is 26:2; Col 3:1-3

- Humbly bowing before Christ as our highest good renders a holy self-forgetfulness

...acknowledge our creatureliness - Is 43:15; Ro 1:25

...confess our constant dependency - 1 Cor 4:7

...exalt His interests over ours - Matt 16:23

...go low before others - Phil 2:3-4