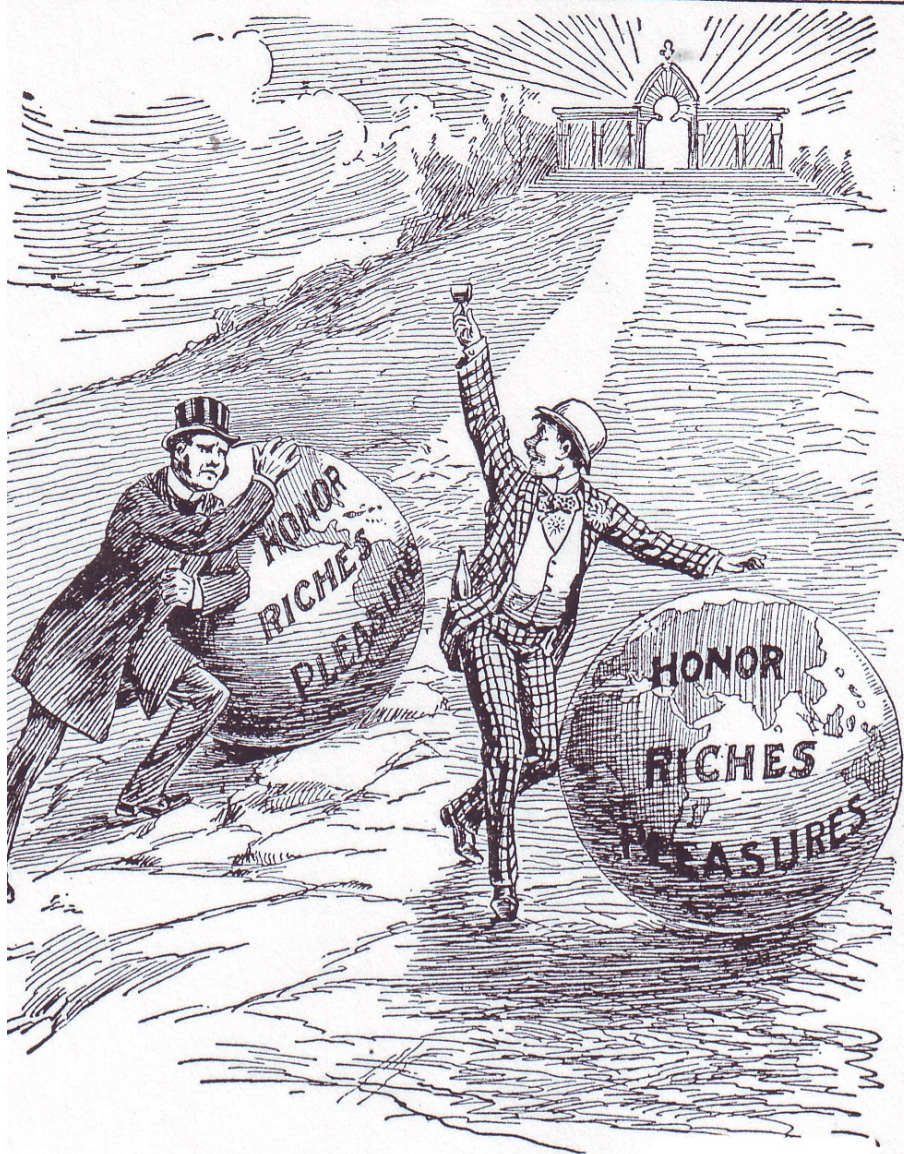


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Conquering Truths Lesson 8 – Serving Two Masters

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View here spread out the plains of heavenly light, A narrow way, that ends where all is bright. Behold, with globes, upon the lightsome green, To different work addressed, two men are seen. With careless ease one rolls his globe along, And follows after, full of mirth and song; The other strives to move his world's vast weight, Uphill, toward the brightly-shining gate: He strives in vain; the globe, though in the track. Still downward tending, drives him further back. And though they seem contrary roads to go, They meet together in the vale below. Thus some pursue an open course of sin; Some Christ profess, yet hold the world within. Though these appear to play a different game Their fate is equal, and their end the same.

Related verses:

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Psalms 1:1-6; Joshua 24:14-15, 23-24; 1 Chronicles 28:9; Matthew 6:21, 24;
Matthew 12:35; 1 Samuel 7:3; John 12:26; Proverbs 23:6-7, 1 Samuel 16:7

In the picture, two men are seen employed in rolling - globes. The one on the right hand has very easy work of it; he is going downhill; his globe rolls on rapidly. He follows after with great pleasure and excitement soon he is out of sight below.

The pathway signifies the way of holiness, leading thereunto; the man on the right, rolling his ball along so happily, represents the professed man of the world. Where they lead, he follows; where they tarry, there he also abides; hence he turns his back upon the way of life, and upon the glories of heaven. He is not a hypocrite he glories in his conduct. He will have nothing to do with church or ministry, prayer, witnessing or the Bible. He says in his heart, "There is no God," (Psalm 14:1) and casting off all fears, he hastens down the road that leads to death, and receives the doom which awaits, all those who forget God. (Job 8:13-14)

The one on the left is seen, with his globe, in the path that leads to the gate of brightness. He is striving to make his way toward the light, yet still hanging on to the worlds honor and pleasures. In vain he struggle's the weight of the world's cares still press down upon him, pushing him backward, till at length he finds himself at the bottom of the hill with his lost neighbor, who laughs heartily at him for taking so much trouble to effect what he accomplished so easily.

He on the left represents one who, while professing to be a follower of Christ yet loves the honors, riches, and pleasures of the world. (Romans 1:22) He thinks the Bible may be a true book, and heaven worth having when he can have no more of earth, therefore he is found in the way. He professes to love God, but in works he denies him (Titus 1:16), consequently he makes, no progress heavenward. (Matthew 6:23)

The world is too much for him; it obtains more and more power over him, until it, after having made him miserable on earth he sinks into the gulf of woe, where he receives his portion with the hypocrites and unbelievers.

The worldly Christian can never be happy, the Holy Spirit is convicting him of sin; while the world is telling him all is well. The worldly Christian literally makes God sick, he is a hypocrite, he is a liar, he brings upon himself severe judgment where there should of been blessing from God. He is a lukewarm Christian, one who has been given the gift of eternal life, but has chosen to follow the course of this world for his satisfaction.

Revelation 3:15 *I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. 16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.*

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All of us at one time or another has seen someone who was sick to their stomach and threw up, the word "*spue*" is a definition for throwing up with force.

The thought of making God violently sick by my entanglement with the world should be avoided at all costs as a born again Christian.

Luke 16:13 *No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.* is the solemn affirmation of Him *Never man spake like this man* (John 7:46) There must be one ruling purpose in Life. God, or Mammon. Both cannot sit upon the throne of the Christian's life. Satan, the great arch enemy of mankind, The one who pours his out his suggestions daily through the TV, radio, internet, billboard, as the serpent beguiled the ear of Eve. The man of the left may not have chosen Mammon for his God he may be a professing Christian. He may have solemnly promised before an earthly congregation and before witnessing angels that he steadfastly purposed, by God's help, to renounce the devil, the world and the flesh, and to keep God's Holy will and to keep himself unspotted by the world all the days of his life. But he has been neglectful of Christian duties. He has not been faithful in reading God's word and in private prayer. He has not made the proper preparation for the services of the Lord's House, and for the reception of the Gospel of Truth. He has not thought that there must be a dutiful attention on his part as a hearer, as there must be on the part of the Minister as a preacher. He has not asked fervently for God's blessing to rest upon the delivery of the message of Christ's Ambassador to dying men.

It is very likely he has been reading the Sunday Newspaper, that greatest of modern foes to church attendance and spiritual growth. His mind is distracted with advertisements, accounts of murders, suicides, thefts, adulteries, divorces, scandals, etc. He has brought the world, the flesh and the devil along with him he thinks about business, entertainment, the news, how people are treating him or her. His mind is consumed with the thoughts of the world and what he or she likes rather than the thoughts of God. With a distracted and divided mind he/she cannot offer unto God the sacrifices of thanksgiving and praise.

Christian reader, serve God with a single heart and mind. Do not attempt the impossible in trying to serve God and interact with the things of the world, for what concord has Christ with Belial? (2 Corinthians 6:14-16; James 1:27)

Someday is the very near future, everyone will stand before God, those that have denied Jesus Christ at the White Throne Judgment, and those that have received Jesus Christ at the Judgment Seat of Christ. Picture yourself at the Judgment Seat of Christ being tried for what you did, with what God gave you; all the while God is sick to His stomach.

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There is no mention in scripture of the non-believer causing God to vomit. Yet the professing Christian has received all of the gifts and blessings of God and chose to follow the ways of the devil.

For eternity the Lukewarm Christian will carry his or her testimony, while seeing others like Paul the Apostle, Francis Jane Crosby, George Mueller, John R. Rice, R.A. Torrey, Charles Haddon Spurgeon, and Gladys Aylward who were just ordinary people like you and I who took the gifts and calling of God allowing God to make something great and wonderful of their life.

What about you? Are you waiting for God to bless you? Are you hoping God will solve all your problems? Are you looking for God to give you more?

God has already given all of us more than what we asked for. Colossians 2:9-10 *For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.*

10 And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:

2 Peter 1:3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

1 Peter 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

Notes

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Conquering Truths
Lesson 8 – Serving Two Masters

Name _____

1. Why is there more to say about the man on the left?

2. Who was Francis Jane Crosby?

3. Why can't the worldly Christian ever be happy?

4. Explain Matthew 6:22.

5. Explain Matthew 6:23.

6. Explanation of the following terms?
 - a. spue

 - b. White Throne Judgment

 - c. Judgment Seat of Christ

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7. Before addressing God, how should we prepare?
8. What are some of the world's allurements?
9. How does Satan suggest that you get involved?
10. What has God given us?
11. Why is the non-believer not a hypocrite?
12. Why is the believer a liar?

True/false

- Following after the worlds allurements proves you are a babe in Christ.
- A lukewarm Christian in some ways is worse than a non-believer.
- The Christian life can be tough at times.

Scripture memorization, write out these verses on the back on this page:
Luke 16:13; Revelation 3:15-17 (Must be in KJV)

Any questions?