

ONE THING IS NEEDFUL

September 13, 2015

Luke 10:38-47

“And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things: but one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen the good part, which shall not be taken away from her.” Luke 10:41, 42

In the home of, Mary, Martha and Lazarus, Jesus spoke with Mary while Martha busied herself with chores of hospitality. Martha complained that Mary should be helping, and asked Jesus to instruct her accordingly. Jesus responded that Mary had chosen something better, “that good part, which shall not be taken away;” that Mary’s concern was with the “one thing” that is necessary.

All of Scripture can be summarized in one statement: Jesus Christ is the one need of every human being. He is needed for our existence. “All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made” (John 1:3). He is needed to sustain our existence and to preserve the order of the universe, for “by him all things consist” (Colossians 1:16, 17); He is “upholding all things by the word of his power” (Hebrews 1:3).

John exclaimed, “Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created” (Revelation 4:11). Thus, He is the one for whom and to whom all things exist. “For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things; to whom be glory for ever. Amen” (Romans 11:36). God’s purpose ultimately is to “gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him” (Ephesians 1:10), “that in all things he might have the preeminence” (Colossians 1:18).

“For it pleased the Father that in him should all fullness dwell” (Colossians 1:19) “In Him are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge,” and “in him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily” (Colossians 2:3 & 9). He is “Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last” (Revelation 22:13).

All creation is under the curse of sin (Genesis 3; Romans 8:18-22). Only Christ can remove sin’s curse. He “purged our sins” (Hebrews 1:3). By crucifixion God “made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him” (II Corinthians 5:21). He is the only “Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world” (John 1:29).

This is the message of Scripture: Mankind is under a damning curse; Jesus Christ is the only deliverance from that curse. Thus, He is the one thing needful. “For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil” (I John 3:8b).

Christian education differs from secular education in this: secular education seeks to equip a person to advance in this world-system, a system that is under the curse of sin and under the influence of Satan (Ephesians 2:2; I John 5:19). But it offers no deliverance from that curse.

Christian education seeks to distance students from the effects of the curse through salvation

from sin by Christ alone (John 14:6), and instruction in truth. Christ is the eternal embodiment of truth. He said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6). For this reason, Jesus Christ is "the one thing needful" for salvation from sin and from every effect of sin's curse.

**Christian Education
and
Secular Education: A Contrast**

Christian Education Secular Education

God the Creator Man the Evolver

Scripture Human Wisdom

Truth Man's Latest Opinion

God's Glory Man's Pleasure

Conviction; The Will of God Utilitarianism, Pragmatism

Biblical Morality Relativity, Immorality

"The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:7) "There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked." (Isaiah 57:21).

Western Civilization Increasing Anarchy & Danger

Eternal Life Worldly Survival but Eternal Destruction