

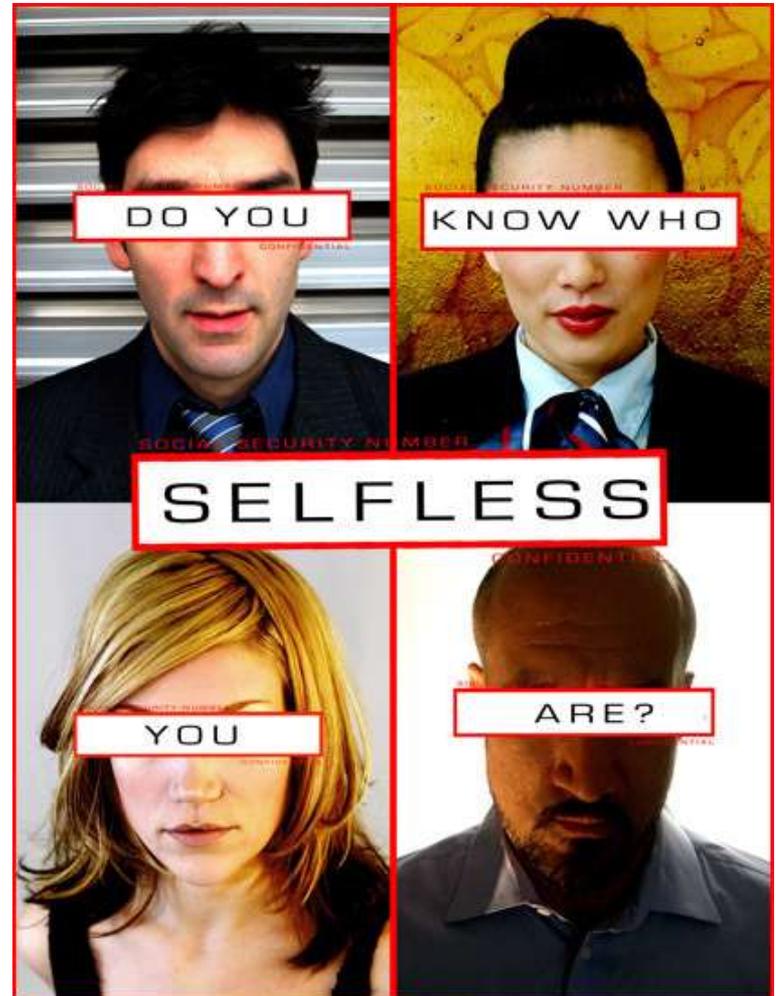


Christianity Versus Self

Matthew 16:21-28

Selfless Nature of Christianity

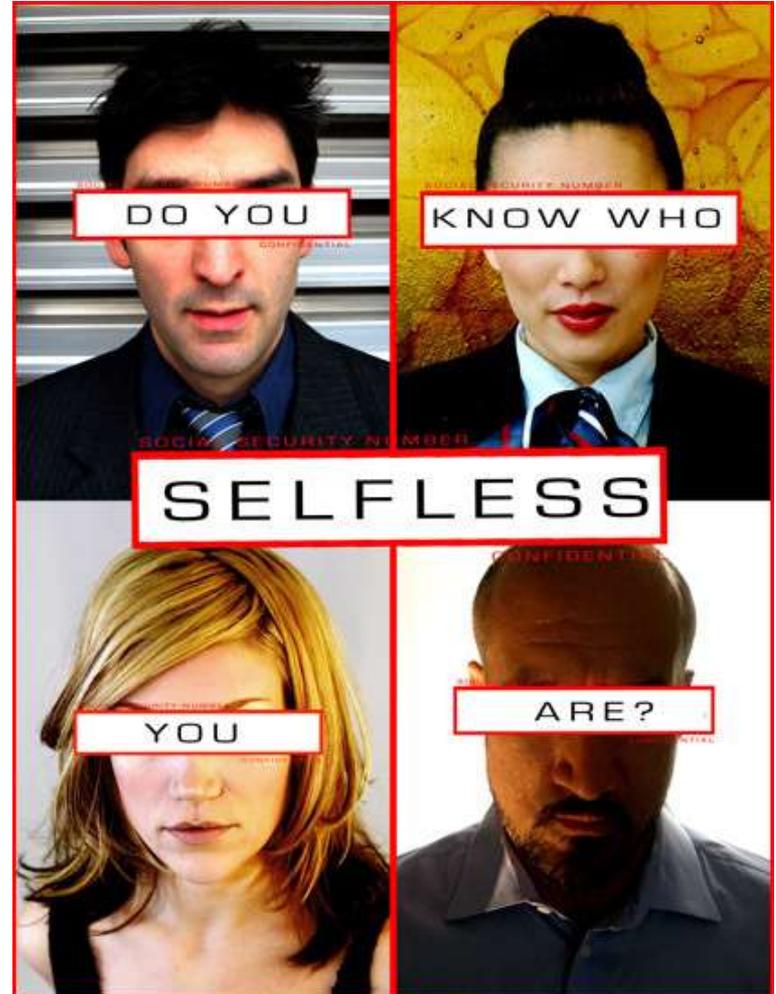
- Christ's Attitude -
Philippians 2:5-8



(5) Let this mind be in you
which was also in Christ
Jesus, (6) who, being in the
form of God, did not consider
it robbery to be equal with
God, (7) but made Himself of
no reputation, taking the form
of a bondservant, *and* coming
in the likeness of men. (8)
And being found in
appearance as a man, He
humbled Himself and became
obedient to *the point of* death,
even the death of the cross.

Selfless Nature of Christianity

- Christ's Attitude -
Philippians 2:5-8
- Self – Denial -
Matthew 16:24-26
(Matt 20:28)



Requirement

(24) Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. (25)

Consequence

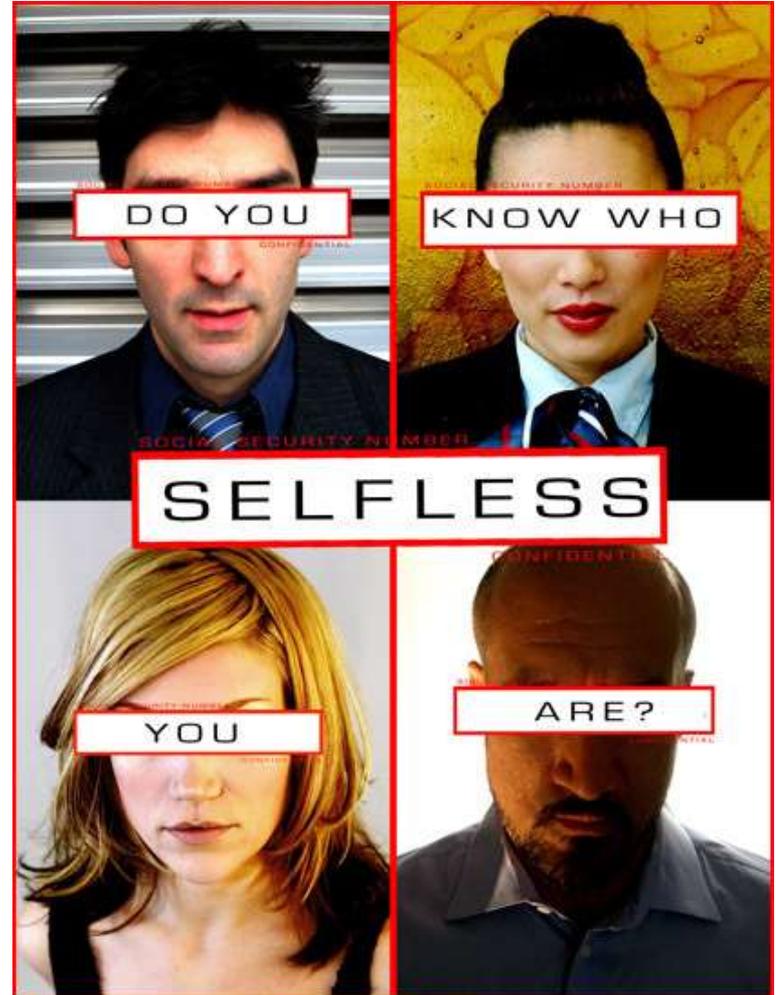
For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. (26) For

Conclusion

what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

Selfless Nature of Christianity

- Christ's Attitude -
Philippians 2:5-8
- Self – Denial -
Matthew 16:24-26
(Matt 20:28)
- Self-Control
(2 Peter 1:6)
- Temperance
(1 Corinthians 9:25)



(24) Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain *it*.

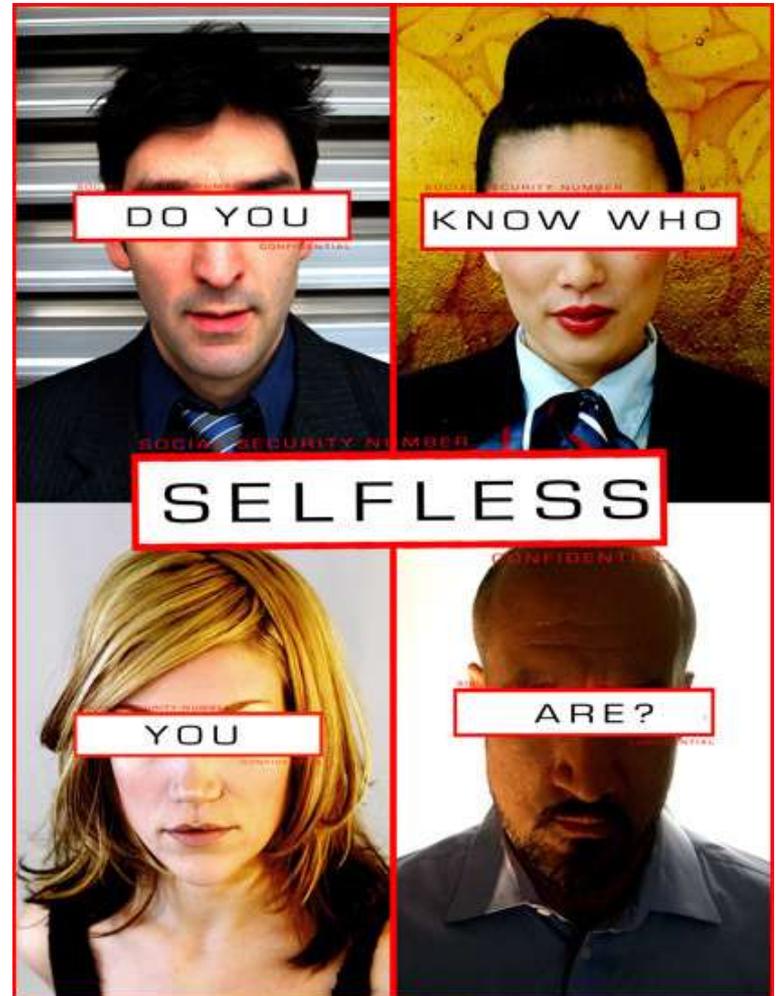
(25) And everyone who competes *for the prize* is temperate in all things.

Now they *do it* to obtain a perishable crown, but we *for* an imperishable crown.

(26) Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as *one who* beats the air. (27) But I discipline my body and bring *it* into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.

Selfless Nature of Christianity

- Christ's Attitude -
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(1 Corinthians 9:25)
- Self – Less - Ness



Self Examination

- Examine *Yourself*
2 Corinthians 13:5



(5) Examine yourselves *as to* whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you are disqualified.

(6) But I trust that you will know that we are not disqualified. (7) Now I pray to God that you do no evil, not that we should appear approved, but that you should do what is honorable, though we may seem disqualified.

Self Examination



- Examine *Yourself*
2 Corinthians 13:5
- Watch Brethren, Watch *Yourself* - Gal 6:1-5

(1) Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who *are* spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. (2) Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. (3) For if anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself

(4) But let each one examine his own work, and then he will have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another.

(5) For each one shall bear his own load. (6) Let him who is taught the word share in all good things with him who teaches. (7) Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.

Self Examination



- Examine *Yourself*
2 Corinthians 13:5
- Watch Brethren, Watch *Yourself* - Gal 6:1-5
- Responsibility
 - How can this be reconciled with the previous point?
 - Children are not solely responsible
 - They are nurtured to maturity
- Looking into a Glass
James 1:21-27

(21) Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

(22) But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. (23) For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; (24) for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was.

(25) But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues *in it*, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does. (26) If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one's religion *is* useless. (27) Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, *and* to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

Self Accountability

- Each One Shall Give an Account
2 Corinthians 5:9



(9) Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. (10) For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things *done* in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. (11) Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are well known to God, and I also trust are well known in your consciences.

Self Accountability

- Each One Shall Give an Account
2 Corinthians 5:9
- He Will Render According to OUR Deeds - Rom 2:4-10



(4) Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance? (5) But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, (6) who "WILL RENDER TO EACH ONE ACCORDING TO HIS DEEDS":

(7) eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality; (8) but to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness—indignation and wrath, (9) tribulation and anguish, on every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek; (10) but glory, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

Self Accountability

- Each One Shall Give an Account
2 Corinthians 5:9
- He Will Render According to OUR Deeds - Rom 2:4-10
- There is a GREAT Day Coming
Matthew 25:31-46



(31) "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. (32) All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides *his* sheep from the goats. (33) And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left.

(34) Then the King will say to those on His right hand,
'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: (35)
for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; (36) *I was* naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.'

(37) "Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed *You*, or thirsty and give *You* drink? (38) When did we see You a stranger and take *You* in, or naked and clothe *You*? (39) Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' (40) And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did *it* to one of the least of these My brethren, you did *it* to Me.'

(41) "Then He will also say to those on the left hand,
'Depart from Me, you cursed,
into the everlasting fire
prepared for the devil and
his angels: (42) for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; (43) I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.'

(44) "Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?' (45) Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do *it* to one of the least of these, you did not do *it* to Me.' (46) And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Conclusion



- What will become of the *Self-Willed*
Ezekiel 18:25-32

(25) "Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not fair.' Hear now, O house of Israel, is it not My way which is fair, and your ways which are not fair? (26) When a righteous *man* turns away from his righteousness, commits iniquity, and dies in it, it is because of the iniquity which he has done that he dies. (27) Again, when a wicked *man* turns away from the wickedness which he committed, and does what is lawful and right, he preserves himself alive.

(28) Because he considers and turns away from all the transgressions which he committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. (29) Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not fair.' O house of Israel, is it not My ways which are fair, and your ways which are not fair? (30) "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways," says the Lord GOD. "Repent, and turn from all your transgressions, so that iniquity will not be your ruin.

(31) Cast away from you all the transgressions which you have committed, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit. For why should you die, O house of Israel? (32) For I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies," says the Lord GOD. "Therefore turn and live!"

Conclusion



- What will become of the *Self-Willed*
Ezekiel 18:25-32
- Examine *Yourself*
- Are You:
 - *Selfless,*
 - *Or Self willed?*
- Are You Ready?