



# Eternal Perspectives

*We fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen...*

**Winter 2008**

## Sacrificing the Unborn on a Political Altar?

by Randy Alcorn



I confess to not having much interest in politics. The exception is those political issues which in fact are first biblical and moral issues. These particularly include concern for the poor and needy and defenseless. Hence I oppose abortion, disregard for the poor, and racism.

I have been a Republican largely because I oppose abortion. But my concern for the poor, racial justice, and the environment—all of which have a strong biblical basis—make me sometimes identify more with the concerns of some Democrats (though I don't always agree with their proposed solutions). But I can't be a Democrat as long as that party remains hostile toward the rights of unborn children. Yes, there are prolife Democrats, but they are a small minority. I salute their efforts.

If given a choice between voting for a prolife Democrat and a prochoice Republican, I'd vote for the Democrat in a heartbeat. No, child-protecting and child-killing aren't the only issues, but I can never regard them as secondary; I might write in a third alternative, but I will never cast a vote for someone who won't stand up for the right of unborn children to live, yes, even if I agree with them on every other issue. John Piper takes the same position; see his article at [www.epm.org/OneIssuePolitics.html](http://www.epm.org/OneIssuePolitics.html)

As director of a nonprofit organization, I can publicly advocate any position I choose on moral issues. (If the IRS said I could not do so, we would simply surrender our ministry's tax exempt status, since the IRS is not our Lord.) The IRS also says the leader of a nonprofit organization can endorse a candidate as a private citizen, not as a representative of his organization. I have done that

in my personal blog, which I write myself and talk about everything from family to books to personal beliefs, including who I favor as a presidential candidate. (See [www.randyalcorn.blogspot.com](http://www.randyalcorn.blogspot.com).)

In this newsletter, however, I do speak as EPM's director and therefore am not endorsing a candidate. I will leave you to evaluate the candidates yourself or go elsewhere for further guidance. What I'm writing about is not a man, not a candidate, but a moral position and whether our loyalties properly belong to a political party.

When Pat Robertson publicly endorsed Rudy Giuliani, standing by his side and presenting him as the best candidate for the presi-

dency, I knew I had to speak up. I believe Robertson is absolutely wrong. I am truly saddened for him. I shake my head in wonder at what has happened to him and other Christians who once stood up for innocent lives and moral concerns, but who appear to now be followers of a political party.

Before we go further, none of this will make

sense to you if you don't understand why abortion is such a big deal. The picture above is a 3D sonogram of a child in the womb. Check out this website: [tinyurl.com/ywcrzb](http://tinyurl.com/ywcrzb) for a beautiful slide show of living unborn children at various stages of development. This and the photos in this article are all of living children in the womb.

In contrast to these, go to [www.abort73.com/HTML/I-A-4-video.html](http://www.abort73.com/HTML/I-A-4-video.html) to see what an abortion really does to children. Warning: these are not made up photos; they



**3D Sonogram of a child**

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*It is not the photos that are immoral—it is abortion that is immoral.*

are not exaggerated. They are real. This is simply what abortion is. Uncloaked, uncovered, unimaginably horrible. If these pictures, rather than banners and balloons, were hung alongside Rudy Giuliani and every candidate who defends legal abortion, we would turn away in horror at the evil of this position.

If, like many, you get upset about the fact that people would post these pictures or that I would give a link to them, I suggest you reserve your outrage for those who defend the right to commit such atrocities against children. It is not the photos that are immoral—it is abortion that is immoral. The photos only tell the truth most of us don't want to see. It is the height of hypocrisy to support a candidate who defends legalized abortion, while getting mad at people who show the truth about abortion because the truth is so horrible.

Now, if you are "prochoice," I'm nearly certain you won't go to the slide show showing what an abortion is. My question is, "Why would it be hard for you to watch something that you defend as being okay?" If you are willing to stand up for the legal right to do something, shouldn't you be willing to look at what that something really is? We hate the pictures because they tell the truth—that abortion is not merely a word on a page or in a debate; it is a horror inflicted upon children.



**Live child in the womb**

If you say you are prolife, but you are considering supporting Rudy Giuliani, or any candidate of any party who favors legalized abortion, I pray you will go to your computer and watch the video you might have passed on. Because if you really saw what abortion is and what it does to a child, I don't think you would defend anyone's right to it. If you refuse to look at what abortion is, you simply will not "get it."

God's Word says of the innocent, "Precious is their blood in his sight" (Psalm 72:14). He sees their blood, even if you and I turn away from it. (Having forced myself to

watch that video, though I've seen many like it, I wept and cried out to God to bring deliverance and justice to His children.)

Even the secular world sees the hypocrisy of Christians getting behind Giuliani. CBS correspondent Bob Schieffer claims he has a helpful anonymous source he goes to in the evangelical community. Here's what Schieffer said in his Face the Nation Commentary:

When Robertson announced he was supporting Rudy Giuliani, who is for so many of the things that Robertson has spent his life railing against—gay rights and abortion rights to name just two—I decided to go back to my high-level source with the obvious question: Why? There was a long pause.

Finally, my source said "God only knows."

Really, what are secular people to think? All the years that Christians have said unborn babies were precious, their lives were sacred, marriage between a man and a woman was sacred, marriage vows were sacred and family was sacred....were they just kidding? Because now some of the same Christians are saying "we support for president a man who has demonstrated that none of those are sacred to him."

So what is sacred now? Being conservative? Being a Republican? Please. I am a disciple of Jesus. I bend my knee to Him alone, not to a political party. (If you are a Democrat or a member of any other political party, the same principle applies and you should examine your loyalties.)

Pat Robertson's endorsement of Rudy Giuliani, supposedly representing the beliefs of a number of evangelical Christians, is disturbing to me. How is it that followers of Jesus who stand for the cause of unborn children and family values are supposed to support a man who will not 1) defend the rights of the unborn, 2) define marriage as between a man and a woman; 3) keep his vows to his wife and 4) refrain from betraying and abandoning his own children?

Robertson promises Giuliani will lead the way against terrorism. But what would he do that most of the other Republican candidates, and perhaps some of the Democrats, wouldn't

do? And why is he unconcerned about the acts of terrorism committed against millions of unborn children across the country and in his own city? Why should we expect God to defend the cause of a nation that kills His children?

Giuliani said in his speech to the Values Voters Summit, "People of good conscience come to different conclusions about whether abortions should be legal in some circumstances."

Actually, those of good conscience *cannot* believe that it's okay to cut babies to pieces. Such a conscience by definition is not good. These people may be sincere, but they are deceived. A conscience that is deceived can be earnest and passionate, but it cannot be good. Giuliani's statement is no different than saying, "People of good conscience come to different conclusions about whether it should be legal to kill toddlers and black people in some circumstances."

I am not a fan of Hillary Clinton, and would not vote for her for some of the same reasons, and a few others. Central among them is her denial of basic human rights to unborn children. But let me respond to the people who are adamantly ABC (Anybody But Clinton).

There actually are worse things than Hillary being elected. In my opinion, having to stand before God to answer for compromising biblical convictions and acting as moral hypocrites by voting for an unprincipled man who will not defend the innocent and care for his own family is worse. God will not judge me in light of whether I've followed conservatism or promoted Republicanism, but as to whether I have honored my Lord Jesus.

Jesus said if we love Him, we will keep his commandments. These include His commandments about the sanctity of life. As Christians we need to ask ourselves, do we love Jesus more than we dislike Hillary Clinton? I would not vote for Hillary Clinton, but that doesn't mean that I will vote for anyone who runs against her even if that person has denied one of the central planks of the official platform of his party. And far more importantly, the very law of God that forbids the killing of the innocent.

If a Republican who opposes the rights of the unborn were elected president, the Republican Party would no longer take seriously the prolife issue. Why should they if they know that proliferers consider it more important to

vote Republican than to defend the rights of the innocent? If our loyalty is greater to the Republican Party than to the weak and needy, the least of Christ's brothers, then we have made clear that we are people of a Party more than people of principle.

My daughter Angela, an emergency room nurse who is prolife to the core, sent me a note which I totally agree with: "I'm still going to believe that God is on his throne even if Hillary is elected." If Giuliani and Clinton face each other in an election, there would be some policy and philosophy differences, but what would be their fundamental differences in morality and faith and personal integrity? A vote for the lesser of evils is still a vote for evil. And it sends the message loud and clear: "You have my vote even when you turn your back on the innocent."

You have no control over who votes for Hillary Clinton. You do have control over who you vote for. You won't be held accountable for someone else voting for a pro-abortion candidate. You will be held accountable if *you* vote for such a candidate. "But he was a Republican, Lord," You may say at the judgment seat. "But I'm *not* a Republican," Jesus may say. "I'm the original Independent."

Sacrifice children on the altar of the Republican Party? I won't do it. The children aren't expendable. The Republican Party is. The logic that we'll really save lives because fewer will die under Rudy than Hillary doesn't cut it. No, I'll vote for someone who won't sacrifice children on the altar of expedience, pragmatism, partisanship, or economic philosophy. And I won't consider it a wasted vote, because if the two options on a ballot so blatantly dishonor Christ and His values, then the real waste would be voting for one of them. (And saying by my vote that the unborn aren't really human; who would vote for someone who says, "I don't favor legislation granting teenagers the right to live; I'll look the other way while people kill them"?)

To some, this kind of vote according to conscience and principle rather than for the lesser of evils, is naïve and impractical. But if we acted according to principle and conscience, if we stopped selling out because of



*God will not judge me in light of whether I've followed conservatism or promoted Republicanism, but as to whether I have honored my Lord Jesus.*



our premature analysis of “electability,” if we did it God’s way instead of ours, maybe we would be coming over to His side rather than expecting Him to come over to ours. Maybe then we would receive God’s approval. That’s what will matter in the last day. And that’s what should most matter to us now.

I can live with not being a Republican. I cannot live with ceasing to stand up for the little ones, of whom God says, “Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves; defend the cause of the poor and needy” (Proverbs 31:8-9). Is it really too much to ask that a national leader oppose the legalized killing of children?

*If the people of the community close their eyes when that man gives one of his children to Molech...I will set my face against that man and his family and will cut off from their people both him and all who follow him... (Leviticus 20:1-5)*

*Do this so that innocent blood will not be shed in your land, which the LORD your God is giving you as your inheritance, and so that you will not be guilty of bloodshed. (Deuteronomy 19:10)*

*He sent them to destroy Judah...Surely these things happened to Judah according to the Lord’s command, in order to remove them from his presence because of the sins of Manasseh and all he had done, including the shedding of innocent blood. For he filled Jerusalem with innocent blood, and the LORD was not willing to forgive. (2 Kings 24:2-4)*

*There are six things the LORD hates, seven that are detestable to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood... (Proverbs 6:16-19)*

*Therefore as surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I will give you over to bloodshed and it will pursue you. Since you did not hate bloodshed, bloodshed will pursue you. (Ezekiel 35:6)*

Every Christian must take these teachings seriously. Is the candidate’s stand on the issue of shedding innocent blood important enough to disqualify him as a candidate? Yes. While a single issue can’t qualify a candidate, it can disqualify him. I don’t think someone is a good candidate just because they are pro-life. But they cannot be a good candidate unless they are pro-life.

A few final thoughts. First, regarding electability: Instead of waiting to see who’s likely going to win, why not actually influence the election by getting behind someone we think is the right person, so they might become electable?

Is there a time for pragmatism? Sure. As long as you can stay within the realm of righteous principles, then go ahead and weigh pragmatic considerations, as a matter of wisdom. But there is no wisdom in unrighteousness. If you are tempted toward a pragmatic action that violates Scripture and conscience, do not succumb to that temptation.

You must decide whether the killing of children pleases God or displeases Him. If you believe it displeases Him, only support those who will speak up for those children, and defend them from the shedding of innocent blood.

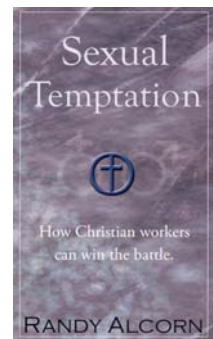
Truthfully, I think it’s a lot less complicated than we make it. One day we’ll look back and wonder why we thought we should make all the compromises we did.

*“The LORD said, ‘What have you done? Listen! Your brother’s blood cries out to me from the ground.’” (Genesis 4:10)*

## **Sexual Temptation: How Christian workers can win the battle**

*New Updated printing!*

1-9 copies: \$2.00 each; 10-49 copies: \$1.50 each; 50+ copies: \$1.00 each



## A Godly Worldview by Cathy Lindley

**Note:** Cathy attends Randy's home church, Good Shepherd Community Church, where she heard him speak on the persecuted church.

When Randy Alcorn told the story of Graham Staines holding his two sons—ages ten and six—in his arms as all three of them were burned to death for their faith in Christ, I was moved to tears. But as I analyzed my reaction further, I realized my feelings came from the fact that there were two small children involved. I could accept that a grown man had followed a call of God on his life and had made a decision to go to a foreign country that was hostile to Christians. I could even accept that he died for his faith, but I was troubled by the thought of the young boys dying.

Later I heard another story that disturbed me. A family had been forced to dig their own grave before being executed. After they had finished, their captors were gracious enough to allow them some time to pray. At the end of the prayer their six-year-old son bolted from the group and ran away into the nearby woods. The father persuaded the guards not to chase him but rather to allow the father to call the son out of hiding. The son came back in tears, and the family was killed.

Why do the stories of children dying for their faith bother me so much? It's because, as the children of missionaries, they didn't make the choice to go to that country. They didn't choose to live as a part of the persecuted church. They haven't had a chance to live. In other words, they've been deprived of "the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." My tears were over an American value! I was shocked to see how my worldview was so skewed by being American. There is great injustice in the death of martyrs, but when I was honest with myself, the greatest injustice in my mind was the violation of American values, not God's values.

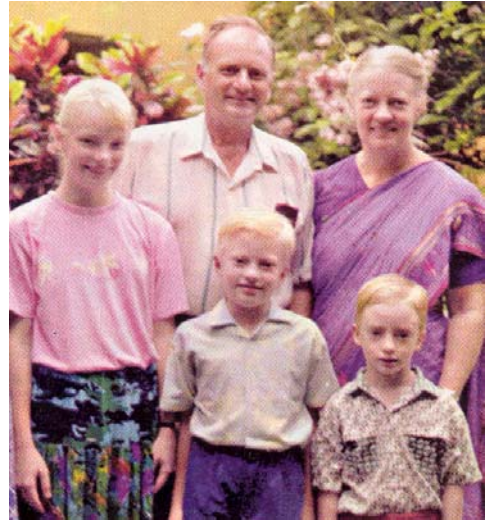
With this new understanding, I started to look at things a little differently. Truly my views were worldly minded. My mind drifted to all the things those boys would never know or do, but these thoughts were drowned out by the sense of awe that accompanies the realization that these children are in Heaven. As horrible as the crime was, as much as they were deprived of their

freedom, they are now truly free—truly whole and at peace. What kid could ask for more?

How often do we allow ourselves to be motivated by American thinking? I'm trying now to see things from an eternal perspective. My own children are a gift from God, and He has ordained when and how they will die. Before this weekend I could never have imagined losing one of them. Now I feel encouraged that no matter what happens to my family, eternity means more than the amount of time we spend on this earth. If I lose my children or my spouse, I will rejoice in their salvation in a different way than I ever could have before.

Another story that has moved me is that of Nate Saint. It probably touches me because he left behind a nine-year-old son when he died. When Nate Saint's son asked if he would use his gun to defend himself against the natives if they attacked, he said, "No." His reasoning was that he knew where he was going when he died and the natives did not. He was not willing to trade the life of someone who does not know the Father for his own! This is certainly not an American view, but it sums up the eternal view very well! His son had an understanding of eternal perspective as he saw his father live out these convictions.

For now God has called our family to remain in America. He has not, however, called us to an American worldview, but rather a biblical one—an eternal perspective. We live in a great country, and I am proud of those who have defended it; but it is not eternal. May we see life the way God does, value people the way He does, and live the days we've been given for His glory and His glory alone.



**The Staines Family**

*Eternity means more than the amount of time we spend on this earth.*

**Nate, Marj, Kathy & Steve Saint**





## Blah, Blah, Blah

by Kathy Norquist, Executive Assistant to Randy Alcorn

*(Wonder about the title? This was put in temporarily, but we got used to it, and decided to keep it!)*

### **How long have you known and worked for Randy?**

I've known Randy since he was a freshman in high school. He attended a high school church retreat with a girl he was interested in. My husband and I were college chaperones and I pulled this girl

aside and told her she shouldn't even consider dating a guy who wasn't a Christian. Well, it wasn't long before Randy committed his life to Christ, dated this girl named Nanci, and they've been happily married for 32 years!

I've worked at EPM for 10 years and several years previously was one of Randy's part-time secretaries when he was a pastor.

### **What do you like most about working for Randy and Eternal Perspective Ministries?**

- I am constantly faced with the biblical message of living life in light of eternity.

- I am introduced to many wonderful people and ministries through Randy and his contacts throughout the world.

- I work with a great supportive staff, and though we are few in number, the ministry is far-reaching because of Randy's writing and teaching.

- I especially love it when I'm able to help people as Randy's representative, freeing him to do other things that only he can do. I really enjoy being able to network people together who have a shared vision and encourage them in ministry.

- My family and I have been greatly impacted personally by being connected with Randy and the ministry of EPM. I often tell people "Randy lives what he writes." I believe my husband's and my desire to be more generous in our giving is directly related to observing Randy and Nanci and how they live and give.

### **What are the most difficult parts of your job?**

- Saying "no" to people who want to talk to Randy or meet with him. It's a delicate balance of helping him free up time to

write without giving the message to others that he's too important or too busy for them. There are many people who are part of his life and church and work who he meets with. But there are enough already that, as much as he'd like to, he can't develop many new relationships. If he did, he wouldn't be able to maintain his core God-given relationships, and wouldn't have time to write books—which benefits us all!

- Trying to adequately communicate a response to someone on Randy's behalf. I never want to misrepresent him, so it takes some concentrated thought on my part to translate the heart of his message to others.

### **What are some things about Randy most people wouldn't know?**

- He wears his slippers in the office.

- He lives a half mile from the house he grew up in and hasn't moved in almost 30 years.

- He has a great sense of humor and likes to tease the staff from time to time. Once he brought a Great Dane into the EPM office and filmed me as I turned from my desk and encountered this human-sized animal right beside me. I'm known for my reactions, so no one was disappointed. 😊



### **So what exactly do you do at EPM?**

Much of my time is taken up in communication either by email or phone. "Can Randy come speak at...? What does Randy think about...? Has Randy read the book...? Could I meet Randy for lunch to talk about...? Could he call me about...? Would he read my manuscript about...?"

One of the best parts of my job is getting to speak with so many wonderful and interesting people whose lives have been touched by Randy's writings.

- I received a phone call from a mother of eight children, ages eight and under, who was diagnosed with a brain tumor and given 3-5 years to live. Her husband had read *Heaven*

*I often tell people "Randy lives what he writes."*

and was sharing it with her. She commented on how helpful it was and how she was writing journals to each of her children and husband. Her biggest fear is that her children will suffer emotionally and have anger and resentment toward God because of her death. She's talking to them now about what strong adults they are going to be and how God is going to use them.

- I spoke to the owner of an oil company, a former professional football player who is now involved in NASCAR racing. As the owner of a million dollar company and wanting to give the money away, he had been introduced to *The Treasure Principle* and wanted help on taking the next step. We were able to connect him with a good friend of EPM's, a financial planner and generous giver, who gave him some direction with his giving.

- I recently met a man who has been deeply influenced by the *Heaven* book and is now reaching out with this message to the over two million seafarers who spend 35 years

of their 40-year careers on the sea. Most of them are from third world countries. There is a high suicide rate among seafarers, as they are away from their family and friends for 9-12 months at a time. It's so interesting to hear of different ministries I would never think of who use Randy's books and materials.



### **What would you like others to know about yourself?**

I have a full and meaningful life and am blessed far more than I deserve with a husband, three children, and eight grandchildren. God has proven himself faithful through various trials in my life and that is the message I want to leave with others: He is faithful and He is trustworthy, no matter how dark the storm. He never wastes an experience on us but will always use it for good in our lives to grow us up in Him. So I can "count it pure joy when I encounter various trials..." James 1:2.

And I love to laugh.

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## **Are You About Through?** by Doug Nichols

Recently my wife, Margaret, and her sister were visiting a dear elderly and godly friend in the hospital.

As Margaret was reading Psalm 42 from the Word of God, suddenly the lady in the next bed said, "Are you about through? I don't like that!"

The Word of God does that, doesn't it? To some, it soothes, comforts, challenges, encourages, convicts and builds up. To others, the Word of God is a stinging sound!

Should we not read and use the Word of God more to let it do its work?

During my cancer treatment years ago, Margaret had to rush me to emergency one night. As the doctors worked on me through the night, not really knowing what to do, they called Margaret into the hall the next morning to explain my situation to her. About that time, a chaplain came in to see me and I thought "Oh no, this must be it."

As the chaplain talked softly to me for a few minutes, I finally opened my eyes and as tactfully as I could in my pain said, "Is that the stuff you share with people all the time?"

He said, "What do you mean?" I said, "Well I'm dying of cancer, I do not want to hear about the sweet breeze blowing through the trees, the smell of flowers or the birds

chirping. I am dying! You need to read the Word of God."

He said, "The Word of God? Where do I get a copy?"

I said, "For Pete's sake, you are a chaplain! Get one of those Gideon Bibles over there on the table." As he picked up the Bible he asked, "Where do I read?" I said, "Well, why don't you start with Romans?" (I forgot that when you are dying you are supposed to read Psalms, not Romans.) So he began to read Romans chapter one. In my pain I went to sleep just as he got to verse 16, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes..." What a great verse to go to sleep on!

The next day, he came to see me again and asked "Can we read the Word of God some more?" As he read and we talked, I challenged him to use the Word with more patients because even in our misery, agony, pain and discomfort, the Word of God brings hope.

The Scripture says, "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ" (Romans 10:17). So let's read the Word of God and our faith will continue to grow.

*"Are You About Through?" by Doug Nichols. Action International Ministries, August 3, 2007.*



# Sanctity of Human Life Sunday, January 20, 2008

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*"You know me inside and out, you know every bone in my body; You know exactly how I was made, bit by bit, how I was sculpted from nothing into something. Like an open book, you watched me grow from conception to birth; all the stages of my life were spread out before you, the days of my life all prepared before I'd even lived one day."* Psalm 139:15-16 *The Message*

On January 13, 1984, President Ronald Reagan designated January 22, 1984, as the first National Sanctity of Human Life Day. The date was chosen to coincide with the 11th anniversary of the *Roe v. Wade* Supreme Court case that legalized abortions in the United States.

Reagan issued the proclamation annually thereafter, designating Sanctity of Human Life Day to be the third Sunday in January, which represents the closest Sunday to the original January 22nd date. His successor, George H. W. Bush, continued the annual proclamation throughout his presidency. Bush's successor, Bill Clinton, discontinued the practice throughout his eight years in office, but Bush's son and Clinton's successor, George W. Bush, resumed the proclamation, and has done so every year since his inauguration.

**Ways to Help Unborn Babies and Their Mothers** by Randy Alcorn: (Note: Randy's complete article is located at [www.epm.org/articles/plhelp.html](http://www.epm.org/articles/plhelp.html) and found in Randy's book *ProLife Answers to ProChoice Arguments*.)

- Direct Personal Involvement
- Educating Yourself and Others
- Literature, Visuals, and Advertising
- Political Action
- Pro-life Events
- Abortion Clinic Strategies
- Personal Conversation
- Influencing Your Church
- Letter-Writing

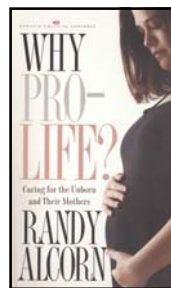
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## Some additional resources:



"Abort73.com educates and motivates. It does that for me at age 60, but more important than that, Abort73.com has the potential of penetrating the world of teenagers and young adults that many pro-life sites don't. It has the facts, the arguments, the pictures, a blog, a message board, videos, news, gear. But it **lets you set your own pace**. It's navigable. The thesis is: Ignorance should end now. Millions of teens and young adults do not really know what abortion is. If there was any excuse for mistaking the weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, there are no excuses in America. **I would love to see Abort73 become a movement led by courageous, smart, Wilberforce-like young people** who won't let it go until abortion is as unthinkable in our land as slavery." - **John Piper**

**"I enthusiastically recommend the website Abort73.com...** [It] communicates the truth about abortion in ways that are holistic, unique, informative and appealing to the next generation, who desperately need to be informed about this issue. **Abort73.com offers a wealth of information for anyone seeking well-documented research.** Students addressing abortion in the classroom will find it extremely helpful. I commend this resource for following Scripture's mandate to speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, and for exposing the culture of deception surrounding this issue that is so close to God's heart." - **Randy Alcorn**



### **Why ProLife?** by Randy Alcorn

Finally, a book has been written that presents the facts about abortion with grace and compassion, helping readers to root their beliefs in reality, not bumper-sticker slogans. *Why ProLife?*, by Randy Alcorn, is written mainly for fence-straddlers and professing pro-lifers, but also with pro-choicers in mind. *Why ProLife?* addresses the questions central to the abortion debate in a concise, straightforward, and non-abrasive manner.

*Pro-life organizations are encouraged to call our office (503-668-5200) for substantial discounts when ordering this book.*

### **DVD—Biology of Prenatal Development** by National Geographic

*The Biology of Prenatal Development* describes human prenatal development through all 38 weeks of pregnancy, emphasizing the first trimester developmental period when all body systems and more than 90 percent of body parts emerge and begin to function.

This documentary features rare imagery of the living human embryo and fetus. It combines facts gleaned from the medical literature with images produced from six different medical-imaging technologies. Fascinating and visually compelling, this video provides an overview of key features of human embryonic development with video sequences of human embryos, animations, and narration.

Available at <http://shop.nationalgeographic.com>, Item #1075153 at a cost of \$24.95. (Approximately 42 minutes in length. Additional content: French and Spanish subtitles)





## Letters to EPM

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I have just finished reading your book, *Deadline*. I wanted to thank you for writing such a wonderful novel. I'm a 32-year-old mother of one from Ohio. I lost my first child at age 15 to abortion. Through the many prayers, glorious forgiveness, and an awesome Christian counselor, the agony of that day (yes I'll always remember the exact date), that agony has lessened, and I have been able to help another woman. Thank you for writing the *truth*. I have a list of people who would benefit from this book, and maybe even find love and salvation through Christ! Thank you, Mr. Alcorn. I can't wait to read *Dominion*! - **M. M.**

I finished *Deception* and thought it was your best novel yet and in fact the best novel I have ever read. I'm a retired, cynical FBI agent who doesn't have a degree in literature, so maybe my opinion is somewhat skewed, but I loved it. You really did a great job of capturing the essence of law enforcement and bringing a realistic story with a faith-based message. I bought a couple extra copies and sent them to my Marine friends in Iraq. What a great witnessing tool! Well done. - **B. H.**

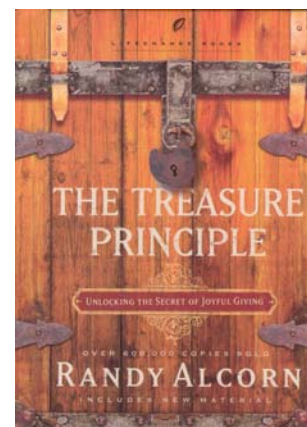
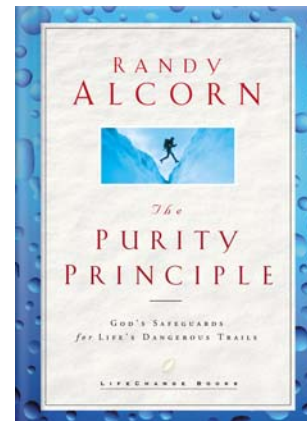
I have been saved for 48 years and I have spent 11 years in full-time ministry after retirement. Somehow I missed the principle of ownership and did not manage God's assets efficiently. I am half way through *Money, Possession & Eternity* and it has changed my lifestyle and philosophy, miraculously! Thank you for teaching an old man (81, but very

active) the biblical plan for a productive Christian life. - **C. B.**

I wanted to let you know how much I have been blessed by your book *The Purity Principle*. As a youth leader of a thriving church in the UK, I have been challenged to cover this difficult subject with our teenagers for the first time. God has directed your book into my path and it has provided so much inspiration to us that we have ordered a copy to give to every teenager in our church youth group. - **D. H.**

My sister was diagnosed with ALS, and passed away recently. I had read the book *Safely Home* a few years ago and gave it to her for a Christmas gift in hopes it would help her. Her sister-in-law later told me she had made peace with God after reading that book, and she was ready to go home. - **L. K.**

I am 16 and was recently released from juvenile hall. I lost faith when my father walked out several years ago. When I saw your book just lying on the ground by my cell, I didn't think much. But then I picked it up and read it. It's fantastically inspiring! I am already generous and *The Treasure Principle* just gave me a push back into what I really am. It changed my perspective. I used to be what my generation calls "EMO," which means emotional. As an "emo," I took everything seriously and it resulted in a very negative lifestyle. Now, I look to God and Jesus for help. It works. It all makes sense now. - **J. T.**



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## EPM Financial Update from Randy Alcorn

Many thanks to everyone who donated to our general fund the past few months. We had significant one-time financial needs, and God graciously provided through His people. Two large donations and many smaller ones covered our one-time expenses of relocating our office, and gave us a needed cushion for our ongoing increased monthly expenses due to staff hiring. This has also enabled us to purchase upfront large quantities of books from our publishers at the cheapest discount, thus saving EPM a lot of overhead costs.



Nanci and I, along with the EPM staff, want to thank all of you for your support, both financially and in your prayers. We are grateful for any time you bring us and our ministry before the Lord.

We are very conscious of the need to be good stewards of what God has entrusted to us. So we seek to make wise and careful financial choices. The recent growth of the ministry has put new demands on staff, and raised our monthly support needs. But God has always faithfully provided, and we know He will continue to. (And if He ever chooses not to, as happened once five years ago, we'll just gratefully cut back, taking that as His leading.)

Please pray for our staff as they seek to minister to the many people who call and write us. May we, along with you, be empowered by His Spirit to represent Christ faithfully in every area of our lives. To Him be the glory.



## Financial Integrity and Accountability in Churches and Ministries

by Randy Alcorn

*We must take pains to establish proper checks and balances.*

In 2 Corinthians 8, Paul advises the church at Corinth about the proper handling and distribution of church funds—and the need to do so in an aboveboard and accountable fashion. The Corinthians were collecting a substantial offering to be distributed to the poor in distant Jerusalem. Paul assures them that Titus, whom they knew to be a man of integrity, and another highly regarded man (unnamed in the text) had been “chosen by the churches to accompany us as we carry the offering” (2 Corinthians 8:19).

Paul also mentions a third Christian brother, a man with equally impeccable credentials, who would watch over the carrying of the funds. Titus and these two men, who were to join Paul and his group, formed a company to be trusted in handling and distributing the offerings (2 Corinthians 8:22-23).

Paul assures the Corinthians that his group would administer the funds “in order to honor the Lord himself and to show our eagerness to help” (2 Corinthians 8:19). Paul did not resent the direct participation of the other two character-approved men in this process of watching over the funds. On the contrary, he welcomed it. In fact, it is likely he initiated their involvement.

Any Christian leaders who resist financial accountability make themselves suspect. Leaders who put too much trust in themselves should not be trusted by others.

I spoke with a Christian leader who had been caught embezzling funds. His downfall came when he was in a personal financial crisis. Because of a lack of checks and balances, he was able to “borrow” money easily from an account that didn’t belong to him. He rationalized that he would pay it back later. Many financial disasters could be avoided by setting up careful procedures that take into account our natural tendency to sin.

I know of a large church where all contributors’ checks are stamped: “Pay to the order of Grace Church, or John Smith, pastor”

(not real names). At best, this procedure generates suspicion. At some point, it will almost certainly present a serious temptation to this pastor. Someday, it may result in his downfall, heartache to the church, and damage to Christ’s reputation. All unnecessary, if only proper precautions had been taken.

Paul says, “We want to avoid any criticism of the way we administer this liberal gift” (2 Corinthians 8:20). He went out of his way to include other character-approved men—both from inside and outside his own group.

Paul also says, “We are taking pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of men” (2 Corinthians 8:21). Here are two important safeguards for preserving financial integrity and accountability:

First, we need to take pains to do what is right. A system of financial accountability may seem awkward, time-consuming, or a nuisance. At times it may seem unnecessary. But it is right, and therefore we must take pains to establish proper checks and balances.

Second, it’s not enough for a leader to say, “My conscience is clear before the Lord.” Our actions must be above reproach, “not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of men.”

Whatever system of collecting and distributing funds we choose, it must involve awareness and accountability, with a plurality of character-approved men or women (preferably not chosen by each other but by a church or constituency). Although two character-

qualified family members might appropriately sit together on a board, there’s no place for the sort of nepotism that makes some organizations top-heavy with underqualified relatives and childhood friends who look the other way instead of fostering accountability.

One of the most telling questions to ask in any church or ministry is this: Who has the courage and authority to tell the decision makers that what they are doing is unbiblical?

According to global missions researcher David B. Barrett, an estimated \$16 billion was



embezzled by the world's Christian churches in the year 2000, with an estimated \$75 billion embezzled between 1980 and 2000. Barrett recommends that "Christians need to tighten up the scrutinizing of all funds holding their monies and to insist on all the accepted safeguards and controls and on all the strictest procedures."

How financially transparent is a ministry? Do the leaders conceal salaries, expenditures, and sources of income? When they make bad decisions, do they admit and correct their mistakes or cover them up? Responsible kingdom investors should ask these questions, as part of the "Nineteen Questions to Ask before You Give to Any Organization" (available on our website).

In light of the serious consequences of past carelessness, the leaders of every church and ministry should review the necessary steps they must take to be (and to appear) financially above reproach in the eyes of God and men—even if the steps are unprecedented and inconvenient.

## ECFA and Other Accountability Organizations

The Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA) was established in 1979. It comprises more than one thousand charitable, religious, and educational organizations that are qualified for tax-exempt, nonprofit status. The ECFA monitors its members, investigates alleged abuses, and issues public reports.

The ECFA upholds "Seven Standards of Responsible Stewardship," including an orthodox doctrinal statement, a responsible board of directors, annual audits, and the avoidance of conflicts of interest. The council requires every member organization to comply with twelve standards for fund-raising. These include communicating honestly, honoring of donor intent, and specific reporting on projects for which gifts are solicited. It also prohibits percentage compensation for fund-raisers and bars the principals of any organization from receiving royalties for any product used for fund-raising or promotional purposes. The ECFA maintains that "good charities willingly answer tough questions" and has formulated a Donor's Bill of Rights.

Certain ministries, including EPM, have legitimate reasons for not belonging to the ECFA. In our case, I'm the only full-time employee of

our small ministry. The cost of audits and other procedures to qualify for ECFA membership, which would be minimal to a larger ministry, is prohibitive for some small ministries. However, from the very beginning of Eternal Perspective Ministries, we have taken seriously the ECFA guidelines and have sought to comply with them voluntarily, even as a nonmember organization. (Our board and accountant carefully review our financial practices, and our books are open to those who inquire.)

Accountability to outsiders is important. But it must begin internally with wise and careful choices of leaders. It must include a commitment to plural leadership that does not leave one person, or one commanding individual surrounded by passive ones, in a position to embezzle, squander, or use funds for his or her personal benefit.

The spending patterns of some Christian organizations are exemplary. They are conscious of God's ownership of their assets and the fact that financial gifts have been given to them by other stewards who are sacrificing to further God's kingdom. These ministries spend their money carefully and thoughtfully with a view toward the purpose for which it has been given.

Other Christian organizations think nothing of providing expensive cars for their executives, booking first-class flights around the world, accommodating their staff in luxury hotels, and wooing donors at \$200 dinners. Funds are contributed to ministries in good faith by people who assume they're being used carefully. Every organization needs staff members who are vocal advocates for the ministry's donors and beneficiaries.

*Smart Money* and *Forbes* magazines have issued annual "best in the nation" charity rankings. They've reduced their assessment criteria to three simplistic ratios, with various weightings to determine which charity is most efficient. However, the ratios are not the same for each publication, and even where they correspond, they are calculated or weighted differently.

*Money* magazine gives its own ratings, relying on calculated ratios and a grading system to identify those it considered most worthy of support. But such ratios can be misleading. For



*Whatever system of collecting and distributing funds we choose, it must involve awareness and accountability.*





instance, the American Red Cross received more than \$500 million in contributions following the September 11 terrorist attacks without spending very much on fund-raising. When they later admitted that only \$100 million was going to victims' families, there was public outrage. Yet when the Red Cross was rated against other charities, they scored very well—not because they were really more efficient but because they had received so much free public exposure.

Ministry Watch is a program of Wall Watchers, dedicated to comparing and ranking ministries, and giving information in areas that include efficiency and transparency. Because its rating system is based on financial data derived from each organization's IRS Form 990 or audited financial statements, the playing field is theoretically level for every charity. However, there are many intangible

qualities that cannot be measured by looking at financial data alone. Efficiency of operation, for example, is very different from effectiveness of mission.

In the nonprofit sector, it is very challenging to evaluate ratios and other numerical performance criteria. Although I applaud Wall Watchers and others for trying to hold ministries accountable, there is no substitute for personal interaction with a ministry to evaluate its mission, sense firsthand its heartbeat and vision, and assess its true accomplishments.

Surveys indicate that seventy million people may be refraining from giving to nonprofit organizations because they don't know enough about them. With 50,000 new charities emerging each year, accountability is critical.

For further insights, see *Money, Possessions and Eternity* by Randy Alcorn.

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## Some of the Organizations EPM Supports or Recommends

*Note: Many fine ministries aren't on this list. These are just some of those we support. More ministries are listed at [www.epm.org/articles/orgs](http://www.epm.org/articles/orgs). You may contribute directly to them, or give your contribution through EPM. 100% of designated contributions go directly to the ministry noted. Please consider how your gifts can make a difference for God's kingdom.*

### MISSIONS:

**Action International Ministries**  
PO Box 398  
Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043-0398  
425-775-0634, [www.actionintl.org](http://www.actionintl.org)

**The JESUS Film Project**  
100 Lake Hart Dr., Orlando, FL 32832  
407-826-2300, [www.jesusfilm.org](http://www.jesusfilm.org)

**Operation Mobilization**  
PO Box 444, 285 Lynnwood Ave.  
Tyrone, GA 30290, 770-631-0432  
[www.om.org](http://www.om.org)

**The Seed Company**  
(A Wycliffe Bible Translators affiliate)  
3030 Matlock Road, Suite 104  
Arlington, TX 76015, 817-557-2121,  
877-593-7333 [www.theseedcompany.org](http://www.theseedcompany.org)

**Voice of the Martyrs (Persecuted Church)**  
PO Box 443, Bartlesville, OK 74003  
918-337-8015, [www.persecution.com](http://www.persecution.com)

### FAMINE RELIEF:

**Samaritan's Purse**  
PO Box 3000, Boone, NC 28607  
828-262-1980, [www.samaritan.org](http://www.samaritan.org)

**World Relief**  
PO Box 868, Baltimore, MD 21203  
800-535-5433 (donations)  
[www.worldrelief.org](http://www.worldrelief.org)

### PROLIFE:

**Abort73.com/Laxafamosity Ministries**  
PO Box 2256, Loves Park, IL 61111  
[www.abort73.com](http://www.abort73.com)

**CareNet (Crisis Pregnancy Centers)**  
44180 Riverside Parkway, Suite 206  
Lansdowne, VA 20176-8421  
703-478-5661, Fax: 703-478-5668  
[www.care-net.org](http://www.care-net.org)

**Justice for All**  
(projects on college campuses)  
2250 North Rock Road, #118-230  
Wichita, KS 67226  
316-683-6426, [www.jfaweb.org](http://www.jfaweb.org)

### HUMAN TRAFFICKING:

**Faith Alliance Against Slavery and Trafficking**  
625 Slaters Lane, Suite 100  
Alexandria, VA 22314-1176  
888-466-4673, [www.faastinternational.org](http://www.faastinternational.org)

**Make Way Partners**  
P.O. Box 26367, Birmingham, AL 35260  
205-240-8597, [www.makewaypartners.org](http://www.makewaypartners.org)

### CHILD SPONSORSHIP/ ORPHAN AID:

**Covenant Mercies**  
One Fellowship Dr., Glen Mills, PA 19342  
[www.covenantmercies.org](http://www.covenantmercies.org)

### Dalit Freedom Network

5350 S Roslyn Ste. 200  
Greenwood Village, CO 80111-2123  
866-921-1333, [www.dalitnetwork.org](http://www.dalitnetwork.org)  
[childsponsorship@dalitnetwork.org](mailto:childsponsorship@dalitnetwork.org)

### MISCELLANEOUS:

**Family Life Today**  
PO Box 7111, Little Rock, AR 72223  
800-358-6329, [www.familylife.com](http://www.familylife.com)

**Focus on the Family**  
8605 Explorer Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO 80995  
719-531-5181, 800-232-6459  
[www.family.org](http://www.family.org)

**John M. Perkins Foundation for Reconciliation and Development**  
1831 Robinson Street  
Jackson, MS 39209  
601-354-1563, [www.jmpf.org](http://www.jmpf.org)

**Joni & Friends (JAF) Ministries**  
PO Box 3333  
Agoura Hills, CA 91376-3333  
818-707-5664  
[www.joniandfriends.org](http://www.joniandfriends.org)

**Prison Fellowship**  
PO Box 17500  
Washington, DC 20041-0500  
703-481-0000, [www.pfi.org](http://www.pfi.org)

# The Moral Perfection of Christ

by J. Oswald Sanders

In a letter published after his death, the poet Robert Browning cited several statements of men of learning concerning the Christian faith, and among them was this one from Charles Lamb: "In trying to predict with some friends as to how they would react if some of the great persons of past ages were to appear suddenly in the flesh once more, one of the friends said, 'And if Christ entered this room?' Lamb changed his attitude at once and said, 'You see if Shakespeare entered we should all rise; if HE appeared, we must kneel.'" This was his view of the glory of Christ.

A similar conclusion was drawn by a brilliant Brahmin (Hindu) scholar. Disturbed by the progress of the Christian faith among his own people, he determined to do all in his power to arrest it. His plan was to prepare a book for widespread distribution highlighting the weaknesses and failings of Christ and exposing the fallacy of believing in Him.

For eleven years he diligently studied the New Testament, searching for inconsistencies in Christ's character and teaching. Not only did he fail to discover any, but he became convinced that the One he sought to discredit was what He claimed to be—the Son of God. The scholar boldly confessed his faith in Christ.

The moral perfection of Christ impresses itself on the serious reader of the Gospels. The evangelists present the portrait of a real man who displays perfection at every state of His development and in every circumstance of His life. This is all the more remarkable as He did not lock Himself in some secluded cloister but mixed freely and naturally with the imperfect men of His own generation. He became so deeply involved in the life of the ordinary people that His tendency to mix with sinners drew the most bitter criticism of the sanctimonious Pharisees.

And yet there was a perception that He was so ordinary that many of His contemporaries saw Him only as "the carpenter's son," a lowly Nazarene. With eyes blinded by sin and selfishness, they saw no beauty in Him that they should desire Him (Isaiah 53:2). To all except those

whose eyes were enlightened by love and faith, His moral grandeur and divine glory passed unnoticed. The ignorant crowds were deceived by the entire absence of pride and self-seeking in Jesus.

## Perfect Blending of Character

The character of our Lord was wonderfully balanced, with no excessive or deficient qualities. His excellence is recognized not only by Christians but also by Jews and those of other religions. It stands out as faultless and perfect, so even and proportioned that its strength and greatness are not immediately obvious to the casual observer. It has been said that in Jesus' character no strong points were obvious because there were no weaknesses. Strong points necessarily presuppose weakness, but no weaknesses can be found in Him. In the best of men there are obvious inconsistencies, and since the tallest bodies cast the longest shadows, the greater the man, the more glaring his faults are likely to be. With Christ it was quite the contrary. He was without flaw or contradiction.

Virtue degenerates into vice in different ways. Courage may degenerate into cowardice on the one hand or rashness on the other. Purity may slip into either prudery or impurity. The pathway to virtue is narrow and slippery, but in our Lord there was no straying off the path. Throughout His earthly life He maintained every virtue without stain.

His perfect balance of character was displayed in speech as in silence. He never spoke when it would have been wiser to remain silent, never kept silence when He should have spoken. Mercy and judgment blended in all His actions and judgments, yet neither prevailed at the expense of the other. Exact truth and infinite love adorned each other in His winsome personality, for He always



spoke the truth in love. His severe denunciations of apostate Jerusalem coincided with His tears (Matthew 23:37). True to His own counsel, He manifested the wisdom of the serpent and the simplicity of the dove. His tremendous inner strength never degenerated into mere self-will. He mastered the difficult art of displaying sympathy without surrendering principle.

The best qualities of both sexes combined in Him. But while possessing all the gentler graces of the female, He could never be regarded as effeminate. Indeed, He was linked in popular thought with the rugged Elijah and the austere John the Baptist (Matthew 16:14). There is contrast yet no contradiction in His delicacy and gentleness in handling people who merited such treatment, and the blistering denunciations He poured on the hypocrites.

Another distinctive feature is that our Lord's character was complete in itself. He entered on life with anything but a passionless simplicity of nature; yet it was a complete and finished character, with entire moral maturity. Most men are notable for one conspicuous virtue or grace—Moses for meekness, Job for patience, John for love. But in Jesus you find *everything*. He is always consistent in Himself. No act or word contradicts anything that has preceded it. The character of Christ is one and the same throughout. He makes no improvements, has no excessive behavior and no eccentricities. His balance is never disturbed or adjusted.

## Uniqueness of Character

The uniqueness of Christ is demonstrated most clearly in the things that every other great human teacher has done, but that He did not do.

*No word He spoke needed to be modified or withdrawn*, because He never spoke unadvisedly or fell into the sin of exaggeration. No half-truth or misstatement ever crossed His lips. He who was the Truth spoke the whole

truth, and no occasion arose for modifying or retracting a single spoken word.

*He never apologized for any word or action*. And yet, is it not true that the ability to apologize is one of the elements of true greatness? It is the small-minded man who will not stoop to apologize. But Christ performed no action and spoke no word that required apology.

*He confessed no sin*. The holiest men of all ages have been the most forthright in their confession of shortcoming and failure. Read for example the classic diary of Andrew A.

Bonar, the Scottish preacher. But no admission of failure to live up to the highest divine standards came from Jesus' lips. On the contrary, He invited the closest investigation and scrutiny of His life by friend or foe. "Can any of you prove me

guilty of sin?" He challenged (John 8:46). His life was an open book. Nothing He did was done in secret. He shouted His criticism from the housetops. No one else could have survived the withering criticism of His enemies, yet He emerged with His reputation untarnished.

Because that was the case, *He never asked for pardon*. Nowhere is it indicated that he ever felt remorse for sin or exhibited any fear of future punishment. He admonished His disciples when they prayed to say, "Forgive us our debts," but He never related those words to Himself, because He owed no debts either moral or spiritual.

*He never sought advice* from even the wisest men of His day. All other great leaders consulted learned men, even Moses and Solomon. On the rare occasions in which well-meaning friends gave advice to Jesus, He rejected it, as for example when His mother reminded Him of the lack of wine at the wedding feast (John 2:4-5).

*He never sought to justify unclear conduct*, as, for example, when He lay sleeping in the stern of the boat in the midst of a raging storm, apparently indifferent to the fears of His companions. Jesus volunteered no explanation and offered no apology (Mark 4:37-41). His delay in responding to the urgent appeal of the two sisters when Lazarus

### KEY INSIGHT INTO THE LIFE AND WORK OF CHRIST

*In His character, Christ had a perfect balance and blending of all the virtues, each to perfection.*



was ill was equally open to misunderstanding. We would have been unable to refrain from explaining and justifying our seeming lack of concern, but He was content to leave the message of time and the unfolding of His Father's plan to vindicate His mysterious actions, as in the story of the raising of Lazarus (John 11).

Finally, *He never asked or permitted prayer for Himself*. True, He invited His three intimate friends to watch with Him but not to pray for Him. Their prayer was to be for themselves lest they enter into temptation (Matthew 26:36-46).

## Combination of Characters

There have been other people who have lived two lives, one open to the scrutiny of all, the other hidden from most people. In His one person, Jesus possessed two natures that were manifested and exhibited at the same time. Certain qualities that seldom co-exist in the same person combined without any contradiction in Him.

An unusual mixture of dependence and independence was observable in the life of the Master. Although conscious that He had at His disposal every human and divine resource, He desired the comfort of human company and sympathy. He exhibited a strong independence from the praise or censure of the crowd, yet the companionship of His inner circle of friends was warmly appreciated.



Joyfulness and seriousness blended in Him perfectly and naturally. The tender words of His farewell discourse are shot through with Christ's particular joy: "I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete" (John 15:11). He was "a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering" (Isaiah 53:3), yet the Scriptures say of Him: "God, your God, has set you above your

companions by anointing you with the oil of joy" (Hebrews 1:9).

Although there is no record of our Lord laughing, He leaves the very opposite impression of gloom or legalism. Did He ever actually laugh? Surely if He was anointed by God with the oil of gladness above His contemporaries, there must have been room for holy laughter. It is unthinkable that He constantly paraded His sorrows, poignant though they were. The Gospels unite to present a man winsome, radiant, and irresistibly attractive.

Perhaps the most arresting of these combinations of qualities were those of His majesty and humility. He was a man who was always meek and lowly: "For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves" (Luke 22:27). On occasion His divine majesty blazed through the veil of His humanity. When He was arrested, He said to the soldiers, "I AM," and "they drew back and fell to the ground" (John 18:6). The demonstration of both qualities is seen on the occasion of the foot washing of His disciples. The utter humility of Christ is highlighted by the fact that it was in the full consciousness that "the Father had put all things under his power and that he had come from God and was returning to God," that He took a towel and washed His followers' dirty feet (John 13:3-5).

The wonder of the unity and uniqueness of His character is the more amazing since he had so short a time in which to work out the seeming contradictions of His soul. He was surely Lord of Himself and of all else besides.

To sum up, "He is altogether lovely." Every element of moral and spiritual beauty resides in Him. In a painting by Michelangelo, Christ is depicted sitting with other men, but the artist has been careful to ensure that the light most strongly falls on His face. The same impression is conveyed in the word pictures of the four Gospels.

*31 Days on the Life of Christ* by J. Oswald Sanders, Moody Press, Chicago, IL, 2001, chapter 1, pages 11-16



*In His one person, Jesus possessed two natures that were manifested and exhibited at the same time.*

## Eternal Perspective Ministries

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# Eternal Perspectives

*We fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen...*

## *In this issue . . .*

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Sunday**

**Financial Integrity and  
Accountability in Churches  
and Ministries**

**The Moral Perfection  
of Christ**

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