

WHAT YOU SEE IS WHAT YOU GET

Exploring the Power of Belief

Thesis: The foundational law of human nature is that we reflect what we see; we experience what we believe; we behave in accordance with our conception of God. By beholding we become changed. We all act out our picture of God. We relate to others the way we perceive or imagine God relating to us. And in the end, our conscience will judge us by what we believe about God.

Thoughts=Feelings=Character=Behavior

Proverbs 23:7—As he thinks in his heart, so is he.

John 5:19—Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner

John 8:38-, 41-44—38“I speak what I have seen with My Father, and you do what you have seen with your father... **41**You do the deeds of your father.” Then they said to Him,... we have one Father—God.” **42**Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He has sent Me... **44**You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do.”

John 16:2-3—2The time is coming that whoever kills you will think that he offers God service. **3**And these things they will do to you because they have not known the Father nor Me.

3 John 1:11—Beloved, do not imitate what is evil, but what is good. He who does good is of God, but he who does evil has not seen God.

1 John 4:8—He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

The Law of Beholding

2 Corinthians 3:18—We all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

2 Corinthians 4:3-6—3But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, **4**whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them... **6**For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to *give* the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

1 John 3:1-2—1Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God!... **2**and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see him as He is.

NOTE: When we attribute to God the characteristics of the devil, we will perform terrible deeds in the name of God all the while serving the devil. It is vital, then, that we come to understand the true character of God so that we emulate the truth of who God really is.

NOTE: All evil actions are done in the absence of the true knowledge of God's character.

NOTE: The devil's agenda is to block from our minds the true character of God. Jesus came to shed the true light of God's character so we could be transformed by beholding the true image of God.

God's Love is The Transforming Agent—Love Begets Love

Ephesians 2:8-10—**8**For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, **9**not of works, lest anyone should boast. **10**For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

Galatians 5:5-6, KJV—**5**For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith. **6**For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love.

Ephesians 3:14-21—**14**For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, **15**from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, **16**that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, **17**that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, **18**may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height—**19**to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. **20**Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, **21**to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

1 John 4:19—We love Him because He first loved us.

Our Picture of God Will Judge Us in the End

Luke 6:27, 32, 33, 35-38—**27**Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, **28**bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you. . . **32**But if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. **33**And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. . . **35**But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil. **36**Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful. **37**Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. **38**Give, and it will be given to you, good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.

James 2:13—Judgment is without mercy to those who show no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

NOTE: Salvation of our souls is a science that involves five basic components: We are *saved* by *grace* though *faith* that works by *love* entering our heart by means of *comprehension*. Said in short form, Love begets love.

NOTE: Jesus is not here telling us that God will treat us the way we treat other. He will never reflect our image back to us. Rather, Jesus is telling us that we will perceive God relating to us the way we relate to others. The truth is, God loves His enemies, which includes each of us. When we judge with condemnation those who wrong us, we reveal that we do not see and have not accepted God's mercy toward us.

“Behold Your God”—Isaiah 40:9

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All Scripture References are from the New King James Version unless otherwise noted.