



BUILDING A CHRIST-CENTERED WORLDVIEW


Thinking Biblically: The Biblical Grid

Theology		
Creation	Fall	Redemption
Cosmology	Hamartiology	Soteriology
Anthropology		

“[A Christ-centered worldview] involves three fundamental dimensions: the original good creation, the perversion of that creation through sin, and the restoration of that creation in Christ.”
 (Albert Wolters, *Creation Regained*)

FAITH OR SIN




Romans 5:1 – What is *faith*?

Hebrews 11:1 – “Now faith is...”

- the assurance.
 - There is a reality of faith which satisfies the intellect because it is founded on reason – historically accurate and scientifically sound! – **intellectual**
- the conviction of things unseen .
 - Because faith stands on what is demonstrably true, then when I am asked to believe what I cannot verify, I know the demands of me are consistent with what is true.
 - This reality of faith demands that I surrender my will and believe to be true what I can't understand or substantiate through history or science – **volitional**

FAITH OR SIN



John 20:28 – “my Lord and my God”


- “my God” – proof of intellectual faith
- “my Lord” – proof of volitional faith

But what is *faith*?

- Hebrews 12:1,2** – “let us...fixing our eyes on Jesus”
 - “fixing our eyes on Jesus”
 - Lit. “looking away unto Jesus”

Faith is an active looking away from self and seeing so clearly Who Jesus is as all Truth that our only response becomes yes, my Lord and my God, here am I, send me and use me as you desire.

FAITH OR SIN




Romans 14:23 – “whatever is not of faith is sin”

What then is *sin*?

Remember: there are *sins* (acts – paid for with His blood) and there is *sin* (principle – removed by the cross)

“At the beginning of our Christian life we are concerned with our doing, not with our being; we are distressed rather by what we have done than by what we are. We think that if only we could rectify certain things we should be good Christians, and we set out therefore to change our actions. But the result is not what we expected. We discover to our dismay that it is something more than just a case of trouble on the outside – that there is in fact more serious trouble inside. We try to please the Lord, but find something within that does not want to please Him.” (Nee – *The Normal Christian Life*)

FAITH OR SIN




Romans 14:23 – “whatever is not of faith is sin”

What then is *sin*?

- sin* – *harmatia* – “missing the mark”
 - Whatever is not *looking away unto Jesus* is *missing the mark*
 - Looking unto myself, I can never hit the mark (**Isaiah 64:6**).
 - The Law was given to point this out! **Romans 3:20; 5:20**
 - Even looking unto Jesus for Him to do something in me is missing the mark (**Luke 18:9-14**)
 - If I'm not looking away unto Jesus for everything, I must be looking to someone or something else for something – myself (my reason over His revelation)

FAITH OR SIN



Romans 14:23 – “whatever is not of faith is sin”

- Jesus as the spotless lamb – without *sin*
 - 1 Peter 1:18,19** – unblemished and spotless (sinless)
 - 2 Corinthians 5:21** – “who knew no sin”
 - Jesus then must have never once “missed the mark”
 - John 5:19 and 5:30**.
 - Jesus, of Himself, could do nothing!
 - Jesus never looked unto Himself, He never took His eyes off His Father. Not ever.
 - Whatever is of me is missing the mark (*sinning*) – looking away unto Jesus for everything is living a life of faith

FAITH OR SIN



Romans 14:23 – “whatever is not of faith is sin”

3. A practical lesson on faith and sin – **Jeremiah 2:13**
 - My people – His chosen people (applicable to believers—if you are “in Christ” then you are one of His people) have committed two evils:
 1. They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living water –
 - forsake: to leave entirely; abandon; desert; to give up or renounce.
 2. to hew for themselves cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water.
 - We are forsaking the Truth of justification by faith alone in Christ’s righteousness alone (everything coming from Him) and are looking unto ourselves to try and produce life.
 - **John 4:10-14** – living water

FAITH OR SIN



Romans 14:23 – “whatever is not of faith is sin”

4. Looking unto myself always results in death, never life.
 - **Romans 3:23** – “and fall short of the Glory of God”
 - **Romans 6:23** – “the wages of sin is death”
 - **James 1:15** – “sin...brings forth death”

Summary:

Whatever is not looking away unto Jesus (everything coming from Jesus) is missing the mark (missing the true source of living water – Jesus living His life through me by continually denying myself) and the natural result of looking to myself is death.