**The Upside Down World**

It is often said that Christians need to turn the world upside down. But NO! We should be the people who are living the right way up. It is the world that is upside down and as such, the world needs turning the right way up! Similarly we hear people talk about the church as the counter-culture, as if we are a force that is seeking to overthrow the world. But NO! It is the Christians who should be the true culture and the world is the counter-culture trying to undermine God’s correct order for things.

Yet, for many Christians we are so tied into the way this world thinks that we find it almost impossible to give the right answer to some very basic questions on Christian living. Let me illustrate this.

God speaks to you and tells you to seek Him afresh for a whole month. During that month you are to ask Him to change your heart so that you have more of a heart of flesh and for God to take away your heart of stone. So, to help you see how well you have progressed you ask yourself at the start of the month to estimate what percentage of your heart is flesh and what percentage is stone. You realise the answer can’t be 100% flesh for then there is no point in spending a month asking God to change your heart. However, you feel that you are not at all a bad sort of person so your answer would not be 60% but a bit higher. You settle on 90%. A month later, after earnestly seeking God for a change of heart, you ask yourself what percentage of your heart is flesh. You have certainly changed and have more of a heart of flesh so what answer do you give? Do you give an answer of 95%, or an answer of 90% or an answer of 50%?

The correct answer is 50% or a figure even lower! The world would say this is wrong, and if as a Christian you say this is the wrong answer, then be aware just how much the world is influencing your thinking. You have improved and so it is obvious the answer is 95%.

To understand why this is the case, read “The Ant Parable” on the home page of this web site.

So, going back to our heart of flesh, the more our heart becomes a heart of flesh, a heart filled with God’s compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, love, etc, the more we realise just how much more there is for us to get / how far short we fall of what God wants.

Reflection:

Have we ever spent time earnestly seeking God for more of a heart of flesh – if not, why not start today?

Bill Hunter 2018