

NOTES PAGE



TODAY'S MESSAGE:

Life OVER God

Bob Schwahn | Lead Pastor | September 17, 2023

Romans 1:18-20

¹⁸ The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, ¹⁹ since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. ²⁰ For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

Moralistic Therapeutic Deism

1. A God exists who created and orders the world and watches over human life on earth.
2. God does not need to be particularly involved in one's life except when God is needed to resolve a problem.
3. God wants people to be good, nice, and fair to each other, as taught in the Bible and by most world religions.
4. The central goal of life is to be happy and to feel good about oneself.
5. Good people go to heaven when they die.

Smith, Christian - Soul Searching (pp. 162-163).
Oxford University Press.

John 5:37-40

³⁷ And the Father who sent me has himself testified concerning me. You have never heard his voice nor seen his form, ³⁸ nor does his word dwell in you, for you do not believe the one he sent. ³⁹ You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me, ⁴⁰ yet you refuse to come to me to have life.

How PERSONAL is your personal relationship with Jesus?

John 10:4-6

⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger's voice." ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what he was telling them.

Mark 1:14-15

*After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The **time** has come," he said. "The **kingdom of God** is near. **Repent** and **believe** the good news!"*

Ephesians 5:15-18

¹⁵ Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. ¹⁸ Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit...

Galatians 5:25

Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

Reflection Questions:

- 1) What was one thing from the sermon that caught your attention or stood out to you?
- 2) READ: John 5:37-40 What is the difference between knowing/following the person of Jesus and following Biblical principles? How can they be the same?
- 3) How would you define Deism? How can it lead to us looking for Biblical principles over looking to know and follow Jesus?
- 4) How “personal” is your personal relationship with Jesus? How would describe your experience of him in a personal way?
- 5) How do you recognize the voice of Jesus in your life? Share some recent examples of your experiences. What are some different ways that Jesus speaks to us? Explain.
- 6) What is a “Kairos” moment? How can we learn to recognize Kairos moments in our life? What has been helpful to you? What have you learned? Which aspect is the easiest for you?
- 7) READ Mark 1:14-15
Repent -> Align your thinking to God’s thinking...
God, what are you saying to me?
Believe -> Take a step of obedience(faith)
God, what do you want me to do?

How can these questions help us follow the voice of Jesus and lead to life transformation?
- 8) Apply these two questions now ...
What is your NEXT STEP?



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