

Christ in Our Every Day Lives

J.R. Miller
(1840-1912)

“And whatsoever ye do in word or in deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him” (Colossians 3:17).

This covers all our acts and all our words. It applies to our Bible-reading, but not less to our other reading. We must read our morning newspaper, our Tennyson, our school text-books, in the name of the Lord, so as to honor Him and to get knowledge that will add to the beauty and the strength of our life. We are to pray in the name of the Lord Jesus, but we are also to go to our business in the same blessed name. ...

“Put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground” (Exodus 3:5).

But where is God not present? Where shall we go any common day that it is not holy ground? There may be no burning bush, but God is there as really as He was when Moses came suddenly upon the symbol of His presence in the desert. ...

When we learn this lesson, Christian life will have its true meaning and glory for us. Nothing will then appear commonplace. We never think of our occupation as lowly ... Our God is ... the God of the workshop, the factory, the sewing-room and the kitchen. We please him ... when we live sweetly and do our work faithfully in the lowly place, amid temptation, care and weariness ...

We think we are in this world to attend to a certain business, to perform certain professional duties, to look after certain household affairs, to be a carpenter, a stonemason, a painter, a teacher, a housekeeper – we call these our vocations. But as God thinks of us we are in these occupations to grow ... While we are making things, God is making men. With Him

a carpenter shop is not merely a place for making doors, sashes, and banisters, and for planing boards – it is a place to make men. A home is not merely a place for doing beautiful housekeeping, it is a place to develop fine womanhood. ...

Jesus Himself gave as the basis of His life,

“I do always those things that please Him [the Father]” (John 8:29).

For The Best Things
(1907)

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