

when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

Zephaniah 2:3

Seek ye the Lord, all ye meek of the earth, which have wrought his judgment; seek righteousness, seek meekness: it may be ye shall be hid in the day of the Lord 's anger.

Isaiah 45:21-22

There is no God else beside me; a just God and a Saviour; there is none beside me. Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else.

1 Timothy 2:5

For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.

1 Peter 3:18

For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God.

The Christian religion is not boring or irrelevant, as we are constantly being told by atheists. Rather, it gives us exactly the perfect remedy for our human condition.

Let's all acknowledge our inadequacy and failure and sinful nature, truly repent of our sins, and begin to pray to God for salvation in Jesus Christ. This is the only hope for

any of us. And we know that it is a sure hope, because the Lord has promised that He will not let down anyone who truly turns to Him:

John 6:40

And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.

John 6:37

All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.

John 12:25

He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal.

Embracing

Self-Hatred

Modern psychology, which has infiltrated every conceivable area of life today, has overwhelmed us all by its philosophy. We are told everywhere that we should have a sense of self-worth, self-acceptance, self-esteem and self-confidence. The meaning of life, so we are told, is to love self, and have a good feeling about ourselves in this world.

Because of this philosophy dominating every aspect of our waking lives, including our education system, our television networks, and, sadly, also our churches, there is an army of people out there in the world who have come to think that there is something seriously wrong with themselves because, for whatever reason, they do not feel this confident about themselves all the time.

So we have, for example, many people opting for cosmetic surgery, we have many people taking self-esteem courses, or getting themselves a “life coach,” and we have many, many people filling our psychiatric hospitals, all because none of them feel as confident about themselves as the modern psychologists are telling them they ought to be.

Well, I am here today to say that the modern psychologists are all wrong. Do we feel bad about ourselves? Do we lack confidence? Do we have a low self-esteem? Well, look up! We shouldn't be persuaded by the world around us that this is a bad thing. This is a good thing, not a bad thing. It is a good thing, because it's the truth. We really are such weak, sinful creatures by nature, and so to lack confidence or self-esteem is an acknowledgment of reality. We know that this is true underneath everything anyway, but we are too scared to admit it to anyone else in case they think we need psychiatric

help. But all we're doing by acknowledging this is facing reality.

Modern psychologists tell us we need a sense of self-worth and self-esteem because they think that the only alternative is despair and suicide. But this is not true. It is far better to have a sense of reality about ourselves, and then we can begin to do something about it. Whipping ourselves up into a false sense of self-confidence is not the answer. It's living a lie. In fact, the longer we live a lie, the more despairing and suicidal we will become when we find out it was all a sham.

Let's stop living a lie. Let's seek the truth about ourselves. The Bible tells us the truth about human nature:

Genesis 6:5

And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

Jeremiah 17:9

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

Psalms 14:2,3

The Lord looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, and seek God. They are all gone aside, they are all

together become filthy: there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

Romans 3:23

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.

Once we can clearly see and accept the problem, we can begin to understand the real solution. We are that bad. We need a Saviour to save us from our sins, because we cannot save ourselves. And that's exactly what Jesus Christ came into the world to do:

Matthew 1:21

And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins.

Nothing we can do is good enough. We are all failures. The psychologists are all wrong. Does that mean we should despair and try to end our lives? No! There is a Saviour to be found in Jesus Christ. But we must acknowledge our real condition, want to change, and cry to God for mercy to save us from our sins:

Jeremiah 29:11-13

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. And ye shall seek me, and find me,