

Half-Hearted Christianity

Genesis 19:12-38

Main Point:

Instead of being a half-hearted Christian like Lot, follow the Lord with your whole heart, as Jesus did for you.

1. Lot was a real Christian, like you.

2. But Lot was a half-hearted Christian, which you should not be.

3. Half-hearted Christianity stems from being earthly-minded.

4. Half-hearted Christianity usually has no godly influence on others.

5. Instead of being a half-hearted Christian like Lot, follow the Lord with your whole heart as Jesus did for you.

WCF 27.1 Sacraments are holy signs and seals of the covenant of grace, immediately instituted by God, to represent Christ and His benefits; and to confirm our interest in Him: as also, to put a visible difference between those that belong unto the Church and the rest of the world; and solemnly to engage them to the service of God in Christ, according to His Word.

J.C. Ryle “Remember that a true Christian may have many a blemish, many a defect, many an infirmity, and yet be a true Christian nonetheless.”

Derek Kidner “Not even brimstone will make a pilgrim of him: he must have his little Sodom again if life is to be supportable.”

J.C. Ryle “They hold the Head, even Christ, and love the truth. They like sound preaching, and assent to every article of Gospel doctrine, when they hear it. But still there is an indescribable something which is not satisfactory about them. They are constantly doing things which disappoint the expectations of their ministers, and of more advanced Christian friends ... They believe in heaven, and yet seem faintly to long for it; and in hell, and yet seem little to fear it. They love the Lord Jesus; but the work they do for Him is small. They hate the devil; but they often appear to tempt him to come to them. They know the time is short; but they live as if it were long. They know they have a battle to fight; yet a man might think they were at peace. They know they have a race to run; yet they often look like people sitting still. They know the Judge is at the door, and there is wrath to come; and yet they appear half asleep ... What shall we say of these people? ... They are all brethren and sisters of Lot. They linger.”

Dale Ralph Davis “[For Lot] the ‘cushiness’ of life seems to matter more than the kingdom of God ...”

Matthew 10:37-38 ³⁷ "He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. ³⁸ "And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. (NKJV)

J.C. Ryle “He chose by sight, and not by faith. He asked no counsel of God, to preserve him from mistakes. He looked to the things of time, and not of eternity. He thought of his worldly profit, and not of his soul. He considered only what would help him in this life.”

J.C. Ryle “This is the way to make the pulse of your soul beat feebly and languidly. This is the way to make the edge of your feeling about sin become blunt ... This is the way to dim the eyes of your spiritual discernment ... to bring a moral palsy on your feet and limbs ... and to give the devil the vantage ground in the battle.”

J.C. Ryle “As a general rule, lingering souls do no good to the world, and bring no credit to God’s cause.”

J.C. Ryle “I bid you give diligence to make your calling and election sure. I bid you not to be slothful, – not to be careless, not to be content with a small measure of grace, – not to be satisfied with being a little better than the world.”