

"Intensely Practical"
Christianity / Religion
Chronology of 12 Occurrences in EGW
Fred Bischoff
www.ScriptureFirst.net
www.FredBischoff.com

Group #1 "Christianity"

1892/10/17

The character of Christianity is intensely practical. It adapts itself to every circumstance of actual life, and fits in with everyday trials in sympathy, and carries with it the divine credentials. Great truths are brought into immediate contact with that which are regarded by finite man as "little things." On one side is supplied the motive for purity and holiness, while on the other is furnished the grand, noble, principles for the regulation of the conduct and the well balanced character of a Christian.

[hit 9] {19MR 91.2} Letter 20, 1892, October 17, 1892 to J. H. Kellogg

1892/11/5

Here are the terms the Lord offers you, my dear children. Will you accept the conditions? **The character of Christianity is intensely practical.** "The kingdom of God is not in word, but in power" [1 Corinthians 4:20]. It bears the divine credentials. This practical religion does not put aside the truths of the Bible as too sublime for common life. Its principles are to control us in all the little things as well as the large things of life, supplying the motive to a high and holy course of action. The life of Christ is to be our example.

[hit 8] {14MR 106.1} Letter 2a, 1892, November 5, 1892 to Frank and Hattie Belden; *adapted* from [hit 9] letter 19 days earlier

[hit 11] {1888 1065.1} *same* source

1893/01/02

If you would find joy and satisfaction in everything you do, you must do everything in the order of God and with an eye single to the glory of God. **The character of a Christian will be intensely practical,** because the human agent bears the stamp of the divine nature.

[hit 10] {20MR 288.3} Letter 113, 1893, January 2, 1893 to N. D. Faulkhead

1893/03/09

All who are on the Lord's side are to confess Christ. "Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord." The faith of the genuine believer will be made manifest in purity and holiness of character. Faith works by love and purifies the soul, and with faith there will be corresponding obedience, a faithful doing of the words of Christ. **Christianity is always intensely practical, adapting itself to all the circumstances of actual life.** "Ye are my witnesses." To whom?--To the world; for you are to bear about with you a holy influence. Christ is to abide in your soul, and you are to talk of him, and make manifest the charms of his character.

[hit 7] {YI, March 9, 1893 par. 4} "Words to the Young"; *similar* to [hit 9]

[hit 2] {MYP 200.1} *taken* from and apparently identical to [hit 7] YI 3/9/93

1894/01/13

What great need there is of cultivating tenderness and gentleness. None should be ashamed to manifest a tender, compassionate spirit for those who err; for those who think they make no mistakes, are far from being without fault before God. No one needs to think that the manifestation of compassion is something for which they need be ashamed, Thorough and decided reformation must be made that this hard, iron like spirit which has been so often and easily brought to the front and made manifest in words and measures that savor more of the attributes of Satan than of the Spirit of Christ, should be overcome. I have a message for the workers in both high and low position in the office to each one of them in their several departments. It is that unless the transforming grace of Christ conforms you to his character, you will never be numbered with the family of God in heaven. Now is the testing time. Angels of God are watching the development of character. Angels of God are weighing moral worth and nothing can make a man truly great in God's estimation except being truly good, being a partaker of the divine nature, escaping the corruption of the world through lust. The world's Redeemer demands that those who are called by his name, who claim to stand under his banner shall represent his character; **Christianity is intensely practical.** When Christianity is brought into the circumstances of actual life, it is a safeguard to the soul in all daily cares, perplexities, and annoyances, and then it is that the sympathy, tenderness, and gentleness of Christ is manifested in the deportment, and revealed in the character of those in whose heart God abides; and then it is that the kingdom of God comes in through his representatives into the world.

[hit 12] {PC 390.2} Letter 70, 1894, January 13, 1894 to Brethren in Responsible Positions in the Review and Herald Office; *similar* to [hit 9]

1897/09/28

The word of God is like a treasure-house. It is a light that shineth in darkness. It is better to neglect anything of a temporal nature than to neglect to search the Scriptures. God has appointed that through the study of the Bible, important truth shall be communicated to his human agents. My heart aches as I see that even among those who claim to be looking for Christ's appearing in the clouds of heaven, there are those who permit their minds to be taken up with that which is merely fictitious. The world is full of such books, but God has given us a definite work to do, and we are not to turn to side issues, and employ time and workers in selling books that give no light. **Christianity is an intensely practical thing,** and those who have put on Christ should walk even as he walked. We should be wholly engaged in the work of God. "Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God?"

[hit 4] {RH, September 28, 1897 par. 2} "Preach the Word"

Group #2 "Religion"

1901/11/03

Religion, pure, undefiled religion, is intensely practical. Nothing but earnest, wholehearted labor will avail in the saving of souls. We are to make our everyday duties acts of devotion, constantly increasing in usefulness, because we see our work in the light of eternity.

[hit 3] {9T 150.2} "The Work in the Cities"

1902/03/19

God's servants are to be "not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord." Listlessness and inefficiency are not piety. When we realize that we are working for God, we shall have a higher sense than we have ever had before of the sacredness of spiritual service. This realization will put life and vigilance and persevering energy into the discharge of every duty. **Religion, pure, undefiled religion, is intensely practical.** Nothing but earnest, wholehearted labor will avail in the saving of souls. We are to make our everyday duties acts of devotion, constantly increasing in usefulness because we see our work in the light of eternity.

[hit 1] {CM 77.1} Letter 43, 1902, March 19, 1902 to J. S. Hart; *identical* to [hit 3] and apparently copied from the letter source of 9T150.2 to this one

1902/12/09

The Lord's servants are to be "not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord." Listlessness and inefficiency are not piety. When we realize that we are working for God, we shall have a higher sense of the sacredness of spiritual service than we have ever had. This realization will put persevering energy into the discharge of every duty. **True religion is intensely practical.** In the saving of souls nothing but earnest, whole-hearted labor will avail. We are to make our every-day duties acts of devotion, constantly increasing in usefulness because we look at our work in the light of eternity.

[hit 5] {RH, December 9, 1902 par. 6} "An Appeal for Unselfish Effort"; *adapted* from [hit 3] the letter used in 9T150.2

1907/10/08

The Lord's servants are to be "not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord." Listlessness and inefficiency are not piety. When we realize that we are working for God, we shall have a higher sense of the sacredness of spiritual service than we have ever had. This realization will put persevering energy into the discharge of every duty. **True religion is intensely practical.** In the saving of souls nothing but earnest, whole-hearted labor will avail. We are to make our every-day duties acts of devotion, constantly increasing in usefulness because we look at our work in the light of eternity.

[hit 6] {SW, October 8, 1907 par. 5} "Unselfish Christian Effort"; *repeat* of and apparently identical to [hit 5] RH 12/9/02