

Living by Faith in an Experience Hungry World

Introduction:

Three evils in Christian history...

First, judging one another by a doctrinal commitment (early post reformation);

The second, judging one another by a religious lifestyle (Holiness movement);

The third, judging one another by of spiritual experience (Pentecostal movement).

Even more than my generation, our world is highly “experience oriented.” During the Jesus movement, it was not uncommon to hear someone say, “Jesus is a high that is better than any other high!” However, when the “high” wore off, which it inevitably did, many walked away. There is a scriptural picture that warns us that our life in Christ is not founded in experience and calls us to something else.

I Kings 19:9-13

Matthew 12:39, 16:4

Luke 16:31

John 6:27

John 20:29

Matthew 28:20

II Corinthians 5:7

Romans 1:16-17 – it is by faith that our relationship with God is sustained. There are times when we feel and experience God, but our relationship must not depend on that. Our relationship is based upon faith and our walk is sustained by faith alone!