

Leading A Spiritual Double Life

- Love and Hate
- Submit and Resist
- Remember and Forget
- Run and Take A Stand
- Be Peaceful and Fight

Have you ever heard the phrase, either in real life, or in the movies,
Regarding one who is “**Leading A Double Life**”?

Usually, this phrase is one of shame, and dishonor,
as it can describe one, who is not living as he or she, should live
and is hiding it, behind a cloak of hypocrisy, Such as

- Dishonest business people
- One who travels the world and has a different mate, in every city.
- All liars, And All who are not, what they pretend to be.

However, spiritually speaking, there is an honorable “Double Life”, that one could lead.
In this study we use the expression in a special way to describe
The life God calls upon christians to live, which is BOTH Positive AND Negative, thus “DOUBLE”.

With these things in mind, the lesson is entitled, “**Leading a Spiritual Double Life**”

Notice, that God Calls Upon Us,

I. **To Love and To Hate**

- There is “a time to **LOVE**, and a time to **HATE**;” ([Ecc.3:8a](#))

A. **We Must Love...**

...God, and Our Neighbor.

- “Thou shalt **LOVE** the Lord thy **GOD**,
with **ALL** thy heart, and with **ALL** thy soul, and with **ALL** thy strength, and with **ALL** thy mind;
and (love) thy neighbour **AS** thyself.” ([Lk.10:27](#))

We Must Love, Our Brethren.

- Peter said, “Seeing ye have **PURIFIED** your souls, in **OBEYING** the Truth through the Spirit,
unto unfeigned **LOVE** of the brethren, see that ye **LOVE** one another,
with a **PURE** heart, **FERVENTLY**.” ([1Pet.1:22](#))
- “**HONOUR** all men. **LOVE** the brotherhood. **FEAR** God. **HONOUR** the king.” ([1Pet.2:17](#))

We Must Love, The Truth.

- There are those who “...received NOT the **LOVE** of the Truth, that they might be saved.
¹¹ And for this cause, God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:
¹² that they all might be damned who believed not the Truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.”
([2Thess.2:10-12](#))
- We should speak “the Truth in **LOVE**, (that we) may grow up into him in all things,
which is the head, even Christ:” ([Eph.4:15](#))

We Must Love, Our Enemies.

- “Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt **LOVE** thy neighbour, and **HATE** thine enemy.
⁴⁴ But I say unto you (Jesus said), **LOVE** your enemies, **BLESS** them that curse you,
DO GOOD to them that hate you, and **PRAY** for them,
which **DESPITEFULLY** use you, and persecute you;” ([Matt.5:43-44](#))

B. However, We Must also Hate

Such as, Hating the world of evil.

- “Let love be without hypocrisy.
ABHOR that which is evil; **CLEAVE** to that which is good.” ([Rom.12:9](#) ASV)
- “Love **NOT** the world, **NEITHER** the things that are in the world.
If any man love the world, the love of the Father is **NOT** in him.” ([1Jn.2:15](#))

We Must Hate, Every False Way.

- The Bible says of Jesus, “Thou hast **LOVED** righteousness, and **HATED** iniquity.” ([Heb.1:9a](#))
- “Through Thy Precepts, I Get Understanding:
therefore I **HATE** every false Way.” ([Psa.119:104](#))

We Must Hate, even our own Lives.

- “He that **LOVETH** his life shall **LOSE** it;
and he that **HATETH** his life in this world, shall **KEEP** it, unto **LIFE** eternal.” ([Jn.12:25](#))

In considering the lesson, regarding a spiritual Double Life,
God Calls Upon Us,

II. To Submit and To Resist

A. We Must SUBMIT...

...To God.

- “...God **RESISTETH** the proud, but **GIVETH** grace unto the **HUMBLE**.
7 **SUBMIT** yourselves therefore **TO God**.” ([Jas.4:6b-7a](#))
- “...God **RESISTETH** the proud, and **GIVETH** grace unto the **HUMBLE**.
6 **HUMBLE** yourselves therefore under the **MIGHTY** Hand of God,
that He may **EXALT** you in due time:” ([1Pet.5:5b-6](#))

The Bible says, We Must Submit, To One another.

- “Likewise, ye younger, **SUBMIT** yourselves unto the elder.
Yea, all of you **Be SUBJECT** one to another, and Be Clothed with **HUMILITY**:
for God **RESISTETH** the proud, but **GIVETH** grace unto the **HUMBLE**.” ([1Pet.5:5](#))

Notice also, We Must Submit, To Civil Government.

- “**SUBMIT** yourselves to every ordinance of man, for the Lord’s sake:
whether it be to the king, as supreme;¹⁴ or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him,
for the **PUNISHMENT** of evildoers, and for the **PRAISE** of them that Do Well.” ([1Pet.2:13-14](#))

B. However, We Must also RESIST...

...Satan

- “Be **SOBER**, be vigilant; because your **ADVERSARY** the devil, **AS** a roaring lion, walketh about, **SEEKING** whom he may **DEVOUR**:⁹ whom **RESIST** stedfast **IN** the **FAITH**, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.” ([1Pet.5:8-9](#))
- “...**RESIST** the devil, and he will flee from you.” ([Jas.4:7b](#))

We Must Resist, False brethren, as Paul did.

- He said, “because of **FALSE** brethren unawares brought in, who came in privily, to spy out our liberty, which we have **IN** Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage, to whom we gave place by subjection, no, **NOT** for an hour; that the **TRUTH** of the gospel might continue with you.” ([Gal.2:4-5](#))

We Must Resist, Wicked Civil Government.

- Peter and the other apostles said, “We ought to obey God, rather than men.” ([Acts 5:29](#))
- Even though the Jewish Council, “commanded them not to speak at all, nor teach in the name of Jesus.¹⁹ But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you, more than unto God, judge ye.²⁰ For we cannot but speak the things, which we have seen and heard.” ([Acts 4:18-20](#))

In “Leading A Spiritual Double Life”, God Calls Upon Us,

III. To Remember and To Forget

A. Things We Ought To Remember...

...The death of Christ.

- Jesus, “when He had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this **DO** in **REMEMBRANCE** of Me.²⁵ After the same manner also He took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in My blood: this **DO** ye, as oft as ye drink it, in **REMEMBRANCE** of Me.²⁶ For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord’s death, till He come.” ([1Cor.11:24-26](#))

We Ought To Remember,

Our past spiritual condition without Christ.

- “Wherefore **REMEMBER**, that ye being in time past, Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision, by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands;¹² that at that time, ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:¹³ but now **IN** Christ Jesus, ye who sometimes were far off, are made nigh by the blood of Christ.” ([Eph.2:11-13](#))

We Ought To Remember, To do Good and Communicate (or Share).

- The Bible says, “to **Do Good** and to Communicate (or share), forget **NOT**: for with such sacrifices, God is well pleased.” ([Heb.13:16](#))

B. Useless Things of the Past, We Ought to Forget

- Paul said, “Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, **FORGETTING** those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,¹⁴ I press toward the mark, for the prize of the high calling of God **IN** Christ Jesus.” ([Phil.3:13-14](#))

In considering a lesson regarding a spiritual “Double Life”,

God Calls Upon Us,

IV. To Run and To Take A Stand

A. There Are Some Things, that We Ought To Flee

...for example, Fornication.

- “**FLEE** fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication, sinneth against his own body.” ([1Cor.6:18](#))

We Ought To Flee, Idolatry.

- “Wherefore, my dearly beloved, **FLEE** from idolatry.” ([1Cor.10:14](#))
- “Son of man, these men have set up their **IDOLS** in their heart, and put the stumblingblock of their iniquity before their face: should I be enquired (or consulted) of, at all, by them?

4 Therefore speak unto them, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God; Every man of the house of Israel that setteth up his **IDOLS** in his heart, and putteth the stumblingblock of his iniquity before his face, and cometh to the prophet; I the Lord, will **ANSWER** him that cometh according to the multitude of his **IDOLS**;
5 that I may **TAKE** the house of Israel in their own heart, because they are all **ESTRANGED** from Me through their **IDOLS**.” ([Ezek.14:3-5](#))
- “**PUT to DEATH** therefore your members which are upon the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is **IDOLATRY**.” ([Col.3:5](#) ASV)

Sometimes we need to Run or Flee, But other times,

B. We Have To Stand Firm

- “Watch ye, **STAND** fast **IN** the **FAITH**, quit you (or act) like men, Be **STRONG**.” ([1Cor.16:13](#) ASV)
- “Wherefore **TAKE** unto you, the whole armour of God, that ye may be **ABLE** to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. ¹⁴**STAND** therefore, having your loins girt about with **TRUTH**, and having on the breastplate of **RIGHTEOUSNESS**; ¹⁵and your feet shod, with the preparation of the **GOSPEL** of peace; ¹⁶above all, **TAKING** the shield of **FAITH**, wherewith ye shall be **ABLE** to quench, all the fiery darts of the wicked.” ([Eph.6:13-16](#))

V. To Be Peaceful and To Fight

Consider, Those with whom,

A. We Must Be at Peace

We should be at Peace, with The Heavenly Father.

- The Bible says, "**IN** Christ Jesus, ye who sometimes were far off, are made nigh by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For He is our **PEACE**, Who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; ¹⁵ having abolished in His flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in Himself of twain, one new man, so making **PEACE**; ¹⁶ and that He might **RECONCILE** both unto God **IN** one body **BY** the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: ¹⁷ and came and preached **PEACE** to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh." ([Eph.2:13-17](#))

We should be at Peace, with Our brethren.

- "**IF** ye have **BITTER** envying and strife in your **HEARTS**, glory **NOT**, and lie **NOT** against the **TRUTH**. ¹⁵ This wisdom descendeth **NOT** from above, **BUT** is earthly, sensual, **DEVILISH**. ¹⁶ For **WHERE** envying and strife **IS**, there is **CONFUSION** and every **EVIL** work. ¹⁷ But the **WISDOM** that is from above, is **FIRST** pure, then **PEACEABLE**, gentle, and **EASY** to be intreated, **FULL** of mercy and **GOOD** fruits, **WITHOUT** partiality, and **WITHOUT** hypocrisy. ¹⁸ And the **FRUIT** of righteousness, is sown in **PEACE** of them, that make **PEACE**." ([Jas.3:14-18](#))

We should be at Peace, with All men, as much as possible.

- "Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. ¹⁸ If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live **PEACEABLY** with all men. ¹⁹ Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is Mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. ²⁰ Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing, thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. ²¹ Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good." ([Rom.12:17-21](#))

However, being a christian involves,

B. Upsetting Those In Sin

- "Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a **SWORD**. ³⁵ For I am come to set a man at variance **AGAINST** his father, and the daughter **AGAINST** her mother, and the daughter-in-law **AGAINST** her mother-in-law. ³⁶ And a man's **FOES** shall be they of his own household. ³⁷ He that loveth father or mother more than Me, is **NOT** worthy of Me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than Me, is **NOT** worthy of Me. ³⁸ And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after Me, is **NOT** worthy of Me." ([Matt.10:34-38](#))
- "**FIGHT** the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses." ([1Tim.6:12](#))
- "For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: ⁴ (for the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God, to the pulling down of strong holds;) ⁵ casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;" ([2Cor.10:3-5](#))

VI. IN-CLOSING

Are we living this double life, SPIRITUALLY?

Love / Hate
Submit / Resist
Remember / Forget
Flee / Standing
Peaceful / Fighting

If not, begin today, by dying to self, in order to live.

Die with Christ.

- “Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized INTO Jesus Christ were baptized **INTO** his death?
⁴ Therefore we are buried with him by baptism INTO death:
that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father,
even so we also should walk in newness of life.” ([Rom.6:3-4](#))
- “For **IF** we have been **PLANTED together IN** the likeness of his **DEATH**,
we shall be also **IN** the likeness of his **RESURRECTION**:
⁶ knowing this, that our old man is crucified WITH Him, that the body of sin might be destroyed,
that henceforth we should not serve sin. ⁷ For he that is dead, is freed from sin.

⁸ Now **IF** we be dead WITH Christ, we believe that we shall also live WITH Him:
⁹ knowing that Christ being raised from the dead, dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him.
¹⁰ For in that He died, He died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.
¹¹ Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be **DEAD** indeed unto sin,
but **ALIVE unto** God **THROUGH** Jesus Christ our Lord.” ([Rom.6:5-11](#))

Live for Christ

- “For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge,
that if one died for all, then were all dead:
¹⁵ and that he died for all, that they which live, should not henceforth live unto themselves,
but unto Him which died for them, and rose again.” ([2Cor.5:14-15](#))

If you have a spiritual NEED, won't you COME,

- **Believing** ([Jn.8:24](#); [Heb.11:6](#)),
- **Repenting** ([Lk.13:3](#); [Acts 17:30](#); [2Pet.3:9](#); [1Jn.1:9](#); [Jn.8:11](#)),
- **Confessing** ([Acts 8:37](#); [Matt.10:32-33](#); [Rom.10:9-10](#)),
- Be **Baptized** INTO Christ ([Gal.3:26-27](#); [Rom.6:3-5](#); [Mk.16:16](#); [1Pet.3:21](#); [Acts 22:16](#))
...Where **ALL** “spiritual blessings” exist ([Eph.1:3](#)),
- And Remain **Faithful** ([Rev.2:10](#)), or **Endure** until the end ([Matt.24:13](#))?

Don't Delay, COME Now, as together we stand and sing.