

NORMAL PEOPLE

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“They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.” Isa. 40:31.

The psychologists have a yearly convention in which they seek in a human way to understand the workings of man. I am often amused at the stupid conclusions they arrive at to explain the human problems we face. This time they got it right. Their conclusion listed four things they say make a person normal. I was surprised to find the conditions exactly what you and I have in abundance, through Jesus Christ. They concluded in order for any person to be normal they must have four things. They listed, **Security, Status, Affection and Freedom.** Without these the keynote speaker said no one can be said to be normal. Read carefully and let's see how normal you are. They first said one must feel secure. They said if man is ashamed of his past, unsure of the present and afraid of the future he cannot be normal. In the natural realm of human thinking this is true. When man deals in evil he cannot forget it; memory plagues, and satisfaction in sinning changes to guilt and despair. Because of past deeds of evil the present is filled with uncertainty, while the future clouds with all the “what ifs” of his life. This Satanic three pronged worry cycle erases the possibility of his normality. Now consider the three in the light of Christianity. First **Our Security.** We do not have to be ashamed of the past, *“the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin”* I John 1:7. We know in our past we have sinned for *“all have sinned and come short of the glory of God”* Rom. 3:23. Jesus said, *“I am He that blotteth out thy transgressions for my own sake, and will not remember thy sins”*

Isa. 43:25. The death of Jesus Christ wiped our sin record clean and we are foolish to worry about that which is forgiven and erased. *“If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed”* John 8:36. A computer person will understand the word delete. The blood of Christ has accomplished this so believers need not fret over the past. Our present is secure *“for we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose”* Rom. 8:28. Our present is secure, guided by a loving God who makes no mistakes. Even our future is bright, as God's Word promises His guidance in whatever is ahead for the child of God. *“The gift of God is eternal life”* Rom. 6:23. Jesus says *“Lo I am with you always”* and our future is in the hands of our loving God. The second thing they said to be normal was for man to have status. They said, man has a desire to belong to something or someone important. Poor downtrodden humanity wants to somehow lift themselves. **Our Status** is settled by our faith in Christ. Status does not come through the opinions of others and the pressure to be like them. Mans ideas are so shallow and the endless climb up societies ladder is unsatisfying. Were you able to fill a bank with your savings and gain the praise of man, satisfaction is fleeting. Peer pressure, which seeks to make man attain a higher level, never makes man better. They trample one another in a relentless pursuit to be number one. We believers are already there for we are royalty, members of the King of Kings. *“What manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God”* I John 3:1. How can we possibly measure such love? We cannot but marvel at all that is promised the true believer in Christ. Being born again into the family of God gives us a status beyond imagination, but proven by the wonderful Word of God. Next the speaker spoke of affection. His main quote was, “Normal life needs love.” Our institutions are filled with

unloved people. The divorce rate is so high because of a lack of true love. Same sex marriage and all the acceptance of homosexuality does not result in love but rather in lust. Millions of children get little love from the mixed up parents blinded by the lies of the world. Reminds me of the youth who asked a beautiful long haired blond for a date, and discovered he was looking into a mirror. Affection never comes from any source but that which God gives His own. *"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life"* John 3:16. Further II Cor. 13:1 says *"Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you."* That, my dear friend, is affection the world will never find outside of a personal relationship Christ offers. If you are washed in His blood, forgiven by His sacrifice, and adopted into His family, nothing can be better than that! The final part of the professors speech said to be normal, man must have his independence and be free. Reference was made to slavery and the problems of the black man in their struggle for equality. Like all human speakers he failed to reveal the bondage of the curse of sin. The bondage of smoking, which like a chain of poison enslaves the smoker. Or the alcohol crowd who seeks for thrill in their drunken orgies. Or the immoral that is bound in the evil response to God planned sex and marriage. Or the drugs that addle the brain and blind the user to the curse of sin. Since the day in the garden all persons born are under the curse of sin and doomed in their continued pursuit of it. *"For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God"* Rom. 3:23 and *"the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life."* Rom. 6:23. Sins result binds the sinner in lifetime bondage, and reserved for eternal hell. We born again believers however, are the benefactors of **Real Independence and Eternal Freedom.** Our personal faith in Jesus

Christ offers a faith that truly makes us free and free indeed. *"If the son shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed."* John 8:36. Down through the ages, freedom has come through the sacrifice of those willing to give themselves, in selfless love for others. As a World War II Veteran I went through the Rhine, Ruhr and the Bulge in the battle for the freedoms for all mankind. Millions in Europe enjoy freedom because Americans came to the rescue. Remember, God sent His Son and freedom is ours when we trust in Him. This results in great freedom for *"Where the spirit of the Lord is there is liberty"* II Cor. 3:17. One knows little about Independence and Freedom except through the promises of God. Next time someone ridicules you as a Christian, rejoice for you are normal and beyond human comprehension. We are promised *"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me"* Phil. 4:13 Praise God, with our faith in Christ we are very special in the arms of the Lord we love. Christians are on the right team in the right division of humanity whose hearts are right with God. Remember *"Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty"* II Cor. 3:17. It doesn't get any better than that!

"Hast thou not known? Hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of His understanding. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might He increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young man shall utterly fall: But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint. Isa. 40:28-31.

On Gods Side we Christians are number 1: