

Wednesday: 01/16/2018

Hiding from God

Faith is not opposed to evidence that we might gain from perception as well as from reason. Anything that we can use to remove and settle doubt that afflicts us or others around us is good. God has given us natural abilities, and it is right and good to devote them to God.

The intellect is good. Our natural abilities of perception are good, and they are not opposed to faith. Yes, we live by faith and not by sight, but try not using your sight at all and see how that works. When Jesus walked this earth, he used all of his human powers—all of them—and we are called to devote all of our human powers to God in order that we might live under him as he intended.

People can also use their reason to hide from God, and he will cooperate with them (up to a point). God has so ordained that if we wish to hide from him, he will hide from us. He has created the world and arranged history so that human beings can have a way to avoid him, but also so that they can find him in their own way.

Reflect:

(Q) Can you think of an area in your life where you have chosen to hide from God – a circumstance where you would rather be alone and do what you thought best?

(Q) Take a moment and make a fair assessment of this choice, has it led you to joy and confidence and contentment in your life?

Devotional by: Dallas Willard

Book: *The Allure of Gentleness: Defending the Faith in the Manner of Jesus*



*Dallas Willard Ministries is excited to partner with Jeff Whitebread, who, through his work with Capitol Commission, ministers to those serving in the Pennsylvania State legislature, their staff members, and those in the lobbying community. We believe the thoughts and ideas contained in Dallas' book, *The Allure of Gentleness*, are timely guidance for those who seek to stand for truth in a manner that reflects the character of Jesus himself. Dallas acknowledged he gave up trying to get people to do things, preferring instead to inspire them to think things through on their own and come to a different view of matters. We pray that in making this material available, we can continue in his footsteps, playing our part in helping others catch a vision of life with God, becoming his apprentice, and walking in the easy yoke of Jesus — even when engaging the rough and tumble world of the public arena.*