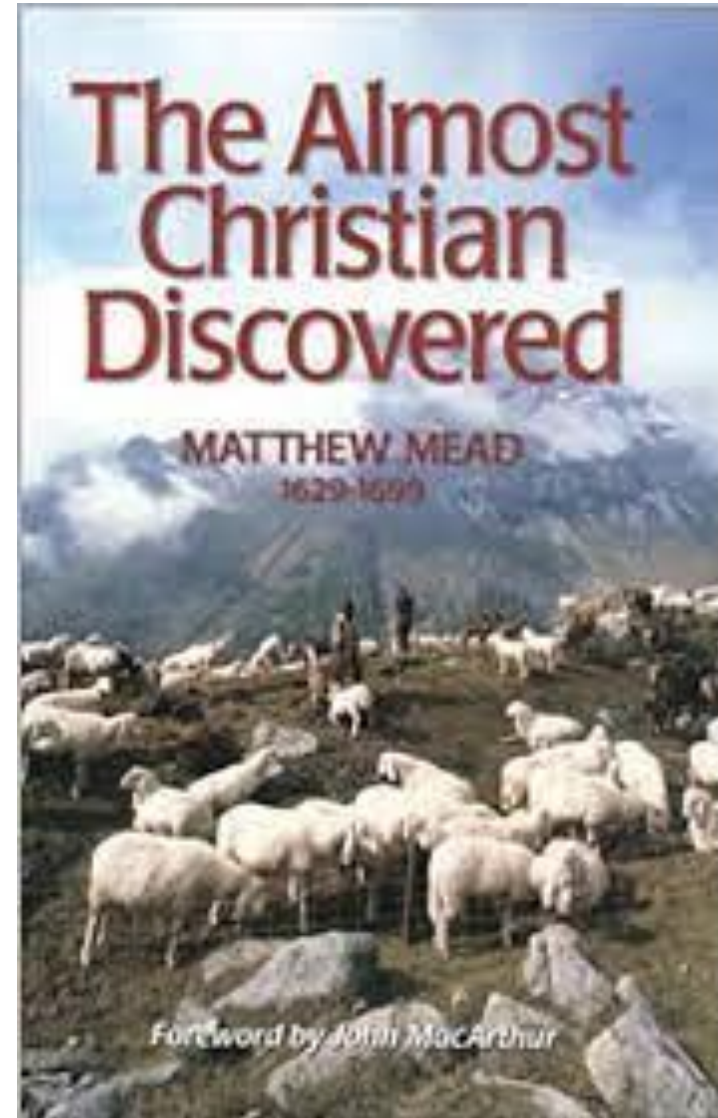

Without Christ

CHAPTER 16
HOLINESS
J.C. RYLE

Matthew Meade: *The Almost Christian Discovered*



**Truth: There are very many in the world CHURCH that
are almost and, yet, but almost Christians.**

Self Examination

“Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? – unless indeed you fail to meet the test!”

2 Corinthians 13:5

Dr. Ryle's 3 Categories

1. No head knowledge
2. Head knowledge, but no saving faith
3. No evidence of the Holy Spirit

“A man is ‘without Christ’ when he has no head knowledge of Him.”

p.154

“A man is ‘without Christ’ when he has not heart-faith in Him as his Saviour.” p.154

Light vs. Grace

“A man may have much knowledge and much light; he may know much of God and His will, much of Christ and His ways, and yet be but almost a Christian.”

Profession vs. Grace

“A man may have a high profession of religion, be much in external duties of godliness, and yet be almost a Christian.”

Visible Membership vs Invisible Reality

“A man may be a member of the Church of Christ, he may join himself to the people of God, partake with them in all ordinances, and share of all church privileges and yet be but almost a Christian.”

“A man is ‘without Christ’ when the Holy Spirit’s work cannot be seen in his life.” p155

Vows Against Sin vs Progress Against Sin

“A man may make great vows and promises; he may have strong purposes and resolutions against sin, and yet be but almost a Christian.”

“No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God’s seed abides in him; and he cannot keep on sinning because he has been born of God. By this is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil.” 1 John 3:9-10

Without God

Without peace

Without hope

Without heaven

*Without life, strength, safety, foundation, friend in heaven,
righteousness*

“No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day. It is written in the Prophets, ‘And they will all be taught by God.’ Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me-.”

“All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out.”

John 6:37,44-45