

we use the Bible in Christian education.

END

# Christian Maturity

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God's total resources for man's total need have been made available in the person of Jesus Christ. These are not professional clichés, they are the truth of God. If by reason of thoughtless use they sound smug or pat or stereotyped, let the perfunctory handling be blamed, not the words, for they are the very substance

ever name, which perpetuates the illusion that man is able in and of himself to solve this problem not only fails, it is antagonistic to authentic Christian faith.

The conventional "image" of Christianity in our modern world is utterly contrary to New Testament truth. Christianity is conceived as primarily ethical, the Christian being a man doing his best to behave. To be respectable is to be Christian and vice-versa. It is widely accepted without question, both within and without the Church, that the distinction between a Christian and a non-Christian is one of degree, not of kind. In fact, it is commonly assumed that all Americans (all Westerners for that matter) save Jews, are Christian as distinguished from the "heathen" of primitive lands, and even this distinction is rapidly evaporating as civilization, equated with Christianity, spreads its veneer over the fast-changing world.

The assumption therefore is that man is perfectible in himself, that all the rese