

Prayer Study #69
Watchman Nee's "Eight Kinds of Failures among Christians"
Taken from *The Life that Wins*

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. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

1st John 2:15-16

"Watchman Nee became a Christian in mainland China in 1920 at the age of seventeen and began writing in the same year. Throughout the nearly thirty years of his ministry, Watchman Nee was clearly manifested as a unique gift from the Lord to His Body for His move in this age. In 1952 he was imprisoned for his faith; he remained in prison until his death in 1972. His words remain an abundant source of spiritual revelation and supply to Christians throughout the world. '...In my sickness I still remain joyful at heart.' (Excerpt from Watchman Nee's final letter written on the day of his death.)" ---taken from Living Stream Ministry

"From the Holy Scriptures we may see that the life as ordained by God for Christians is one full of joy and rest, one that is uninterrupted communion with God, and is perfect harmony with His Will. It is a life that does not thirst and hunger after the world, that walks outside of sins, and that transcends all things. Indeed, it is a holy, powerful and victorious life, and one that constitutes knowing God's will and having continuous fellowship with Him."
WATCHMEN NEE

Eight Kinds of Failures Among Christians

1. **Sins of the Spirit:** pride, jealousy, unbelief, fault-finding, lack of prayer, and an inability to commit oneself to God. **EPHESIANS 4:30**
2. **Sins of the Flesh:** Adultery, unrestrained eyes, unnatural relationships **GALATIANS 5:19-21**
3. **Sins of the Mind:** Unclean thoughts, doubt, Analytical minds, False assumptions, judgments against people **TITUS 1:15-16**
4. **Sins of the Body:** Addiction to food, refusal to fast, too much sleep, too much adornment and preoccupation with the body's looks **1st Corinthians 9:27** **COLOSSIANS 3:5-9**
5. **Sins of Disposition:** Hard and brittle character, Righteous and pharisaical attitudes, Soft and weak personalities, Need to be noticed,

Control freaks, Timidity and withdrawnness, Quick-tempered, Laziness, Fault finders(Ambitious Absalom(2nd Samuel 15:1-6), Boastful Nebuchadnezzar(Daniel 4:30), Cowardly Peter(Matthew 26:57,58), Devilish Judah(John 13:20-30), Envious Saul(1st Samuel 18:6-12), Foolish Nabal(1st Samuel 25:10-25), Gullible Haman(Esther 6:6-11), Humble Job(Job 1:20-22)

6. **No Heart to Keep God's Word:** Worriers, Refusal to Rejoice, Husbands who don't love their wives, Wives who don't submit to the spiritual authority of their husbands. *Philippians 4:4 & 4:6, 1st Thessalonians 5:16 & 5:18* **PSALM 119:11**
7. **Failure to Render to God His Due:** While the Old Covenant offering is one tenth to God, the New Covenant offering is ten-tenths to God. We are to give Him everything including family, houses, money, jobs, our very selves to God. **LUKE 6:38**
8. **Unrepentant of Sins that Require Confession:** When one comes to confess, he only needs to say, "Brother, I have sinned against you. There is no need for the one who comes to you to tell the hidden stories or details of the sin. *Psalm 66:18* **PROVERBS 28:13**

In some mainly Protestant Christian circles Watchman Nee is considered a revolutionary preacher because of the unique manner in which he interpreted the Bible and wrote in such books as *The Spiritual Man* and *Spiritual Authority* and *The Normal Christian Life*. He believed strongly in one church for one city or town. He believed that geographical boundaries were the only legitimate ground to have different churches to express the one body of Christ on the earth. He believed the basis for separating the churches based on race or social status, different doctrines and missions, spiritual giftings, different apostles and their ministries, etc., was condemned by the Word of God as division and sin and as the works of the flesh.

Today Christianity is growing very fast in Communist China. In spite of persecution and the frequent arrest of Christian leaders, the Chinese Church has become the largest Christian community in the world due to a massive revival dating from the early 1970's. The total number of Christians is estimated to be 60 to 80 million with between 10,000 and 25,000 converts a day, although some think these figures are low.