Art And The Bible: Two Essays
"The lordship of Christ should include an interest in the arts," writes Francis Schaeffer. "A Christian should use these arts to the glory of God, not just as tracts, mind you, but as things of beauty to the praise of God." Many Christians, wary of creating graven images, have steered clear of artistic creativity. But the Bible offers a robust affirmation of the arts. The human impulse to create reflects our being created in the image of a creator God. // Art and the Bible has been a foundational work for generations of Christians in the arts. In this book's classic essays, Francis Schaeffer first examines the scriptural record of the use of various art forms, and then establishes a Christian perspective on art. With clarity and vigor, Schaeffer explains why "the Christian is the one whose imagination should fly beyond the stars." --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

Synopsis

"The Lordship of Christ over the whole of life means that there are no Platonic areas in Christianity, no dichotomy or hierarchy between the body and the soul. God made the body as well as the soul, and redemption is for the whole man." - Francis Schaeffer - Art and the Bible

Francis Schaeffer doesn't give us a step by step informative essay on how we should analyze art in today's culture, but gives us insight and perspective to better understand the beauty found in what today's artists are producing. For those of us who are part of the Church, we have too long condemned those things that may be taken as valuable (though not necessarily ultimately determinant) and have alienated those who might want to pursue the arts. Especially in our culture have we been given an
opportunity to engage an intellectual and beauty loving crowd of which we may not have even
known before recent technological advances! I love Francis Schaeffer’s mind and heart, and I think
that both of them are exemplified freely through this short work. I would suggest reading it on the
basis that it is thought provoking and encouraging in the area of arts. When I began college, I wrote
a lot of poetry, but stopped as I lost interest and time over the years. Reading Schaeffer’s work gave
me a new found inspiration in wanting to write as I come to understand, not only through what he
has written, but also through what is said in Scripture, that God is one who enjoys the reflection of
His beauty and creativity through the work of His creation. As evangelical Christians adhering to the
precepts in the Bible, we must come to realize that Spirituality is not defined by plastering the name
Jesus over all of our work, or projecting crosses and ichthus(es)(?

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