



"And this is the commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also." 1 John 4: 21

Sunday – April 4, 2010

Heart to Heart...

Take a moment and look into your own heart and answer the following questions: Are you wholly committed to the Lord? Can you honestly say that you are giving the Lord 100% of your all? To answer those questions, it might make us wince a little, or think, "I'm trying to be" or maybe completely rejoice over the fact that we are totally committed.

Jesus spoke to the church of Ephesus in Revelation 2:1-7. They had fallen from their "*first love*" (v.4). What did that mean? They had backed off their work, their zeal for the Lord and were serving Him less than they did at the beginning of their conversion. How did the Lord feel about that? "***...I am coming to you and will remove your lampstand out of its place – unless you repent.***" (v. 5) For the Lord to remove the lampstand means you are left in the dark!

Remember when you first entered Christ? Remember how zealous you were to learn, to grow and help? What has happened to that commitment? That zeal? Do we really believe the Lord will bless us while we "back-off" our commitment and desire in our service to Him? Our Lord does not reward those who lack commitment toward Him.

Paul reminded the brethren at Rome, "***Not lacking behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord.***" (Romans 12:11) Not only should our zeal and desire in our serving Him should be at our heart, but also our zeal for His word. "***Like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation, if you have tasted the kindness of the Lord.***" (I Peter 2:2-3) This demonstrates that our souls should be starving for His word as a baby starves for milk! Without that, you will die spiritually, just going through the motions.

Being wholly committed to the Lord, means being committed to prayer. Prayer keeps us ever mindful of our God and releases His power to us for His working in our lives. Paul didn't dare move, speak, act or decide without prayer. He taught the Thessalonians, "***Pray without ceasing.***" (I Thessalonians 5:17)

How would you like the Lord to be as committed to you as you are to Him? Would you be willing to make that trade-off? Our lives are serious before God. Our faith is precious to Him. Just look at the cross and you will see His commitment to you. Our zeal and commitment is the revealing of our heart and love. Where do you stand today before your heavenly Father? Think about it!!!

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