



“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 – October 7, 2018

Heart to Heart ...

People play a lot of games with sin. Some do not see sin as an enemy of God. Sin killed His Son! One doesn't ease out of their sins. One doesn't make a deal to rid them of sin. One must make a clean, complete break by confessing before God and walking in the Light or you stay in your sins! (I John 1:9)

When one repents, they break away from their sins by pursuing righteousness with all their heart. There has to be a whole-hearted approach to God. To confess our sins and do nothing in response is not repentance. To confess our sins for the cleansing blood of Jesus and not walk in the Light by practicing His righteousness is no confession at all!

Jesus gives us good insight to what happens when one repents with a sincere faith. Confession of sins trusting the blood of Christ, we need to understand what happens. When sin is cleansed there is an empty spot where sin once dwelt. ***“Now when the unclean spirit goes out of a man, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and not finding any, it says, ‘I will return to my house from which I came.’”*** (Luke 11:24) Sin wants to return where it once resided. ***“And when it comes, it finds it swept and put in order.”*** (Luke 11:25) A sincere faith that confesses brings about a complete cleansing. The heart is swept clean and in order! ***“Then it goes and takes along seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they go in and live there; and the last state of that man becomes worse than the first.”*** (Luke 11:26) When one confesses turning to the Lord for a cleansing, there has to be something put in the void of the heart where sin resided. That void is filled with righteousness. The void must be filled by putting God's ways in the heart. Failure to do so will lead to a much worse situation in the life of that person than when sin began residing. The cleansing is for a short while but because it's left empty, it becomes occupied with sin again only this time it is more difficult to free yourself from.

We've seen over the years people repent only to fall back into the same traps. To bring them back to repentance a second time is more difficult. They fight harder to stay in their sins as sin has grown stronger in their heart and hardness results. They confess again but, in a while, return

to sins world of death. Each time the hardness makes their state more difficult than before and eventually they cannot turn it around. There is a point where you cannot reach someone anymore. It's not God's choice or fault but those returning to sin in their lives. ***“Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God.”*** (Hebrews 3:12) Take care of your heart! Confess your sins to the Lord! Put His righteousness in the void! A lot is at stake for all of us. Think about it!!!

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