

We Must Live In The Light

(Taken from the book Return to Normal)

Now that we have the New Birth and the Holy Spirit resides in us, we are legally righteous, and our destiny is Heaven when we die. Also, Satan has no legal authority over us as he did before. However there is a difference between who we legally are and who we are experientially. As we live this life we are constantly experiencing our “old Adamic nature” in our thought life. But be sure to know, it is only in our thought life – not our spirit.

We are a new race now cleansed by the Blood of Jesus and totally righteous. As we stumble and sin, we have an advocate, a lawyer, named Jesus, who is constantly cleansing us as we “walk in the light.” We could say that we are normal now that The Holy Spirit inhabits us, but that it could take a lifetime for us to behave as normal people. That is okay, God is at work and He is happy with our hearts to be conformed to His character.

1 John 1:6-9,

“6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.

7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship [intimacy with one another [God and us], and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

Jesus’ names include, Light, Word, Life, Way and Truth among others. Our foundation to being intimate with God is His love, which causes us to love Him. But you cannot live this way unless you “walk in the light.” We must live in total honesty with God. When we do He gently convicts us, not condemns us, so that we may confess our sin to Him and be made whole again.

If you do not live a life of repentance from everyday sin, you will not experience normal intimacy with God. Truth makes you free, but lies allow Satan to torment you! God’s forgiveness is sometimes more than most people can fathom.

Psalms 85:11,

“11 Truth shall spring out of the earth, And righteousness shall look down from heaven.”

Remember God lives in you. Your job is to allow Him to manifest His love, mercy, cleanliness and holiness in you. He is not an adulterer, a liar, etc. His attributes will begin to come out in you.

Condemnation – guilt? No!

John 3:16-19,

“16 “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

17 “For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

18 “He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

19 “And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.”

God does not want us to live in condemnation because of our past failures. However we must bring everything into His light as stated in the John 3 Scripture above. We must even bring Him the sinful issues we may be dealing with presently that we are having a hard time giving up. You will be amazed that when you interact with God this way how wonderful, loving and powerful He will be with you.

The woman taken in adultery – John chapter 8.

She called Jesus Lord. That was a very big event! Jesus said that He gave her Light. He told her now with this Light she no longer had to live like this. Do you think Jesus would be cruel enough to tell this beaten up woman who called Him Lord to just change the way she lived without giving her the power to do so? Too many people see this story that way. That is contrary to Jesus's personality. In His eyes she had been justified, cleansed and was now one of His special followers. The only people that ended up with condemnation after this event were those who wanted to stone her.

John 8:2-12,

“2 Now early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people came to Him; and He sat down and taught them.

3 Then the scribes and Pharisees brought to Him a woman caught in adultery. And when they had set her in the midst,

4 they said to Him, “Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act.

5 “Now Moses, in the law, commanded us that such should be stoned. But what do You say?”

6 This they said, testing Him, that they might have something of which to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with His finger, as though He did not hear.

7 So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, “He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first.”

8 And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground.

9 Then those who heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one, beginning with the oldest even to the last. And Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst.

10 When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, “Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?”

11 She said, “No one, Lord.” And Jesus said to her, “Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more.”

12 Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, “I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.””

When He said “go and sin no more.” I believe that can be interpreted as “Now you can go in this new power and light that I have given to you, and you no longer need to live like you have in your past. Grace!!

Quoted from Oswald Chambers - <http://utmost.org>

‘No one can make himself pure by obeying laws. Jesus Christ does not give us rules and regulations— He gives us His teachings, which are truths that can only be interpreted by His nature, which He places within us. The great wonder of Jesus Christ’s salvation is that He changes our heredity. He does not change human nature— He changes its source, and thereby its motives as well.’

Spiritual Warfare.

Having said what I did in the previous few paragraphs, I have a warning. Satan is against our walking in the Light because that sets us up to bear fruit. He often works in our minds and our thinking. Simply continue to see who you really are in the Word of God, and allow the facts of that to take precedent over your thinking and feelings. We discuss that more in some of our other books available at www.isob-bible.org. Take a look at the book titled Grow or Die.

Here is a quick summary of how we are to handle spiritual warfare.

Ephesians 6:10-18,

“10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness,

15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.

17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;

18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints--”

We must experience the love and goodness of God in order to have a personal revival. The word LIGHT in the New Testament represents the very presence of God. The woman taken in adultery was struck by the light and love of Jesus so that she was empowered to no longer live in sin. She called Jesus Lord - John 8:3-12.

The Love of God cannot be comprehended, but it can be experienced. He is passionate about you and me. He describes Himself as a Bridegroom who has so much romance that He can hardly wait to connect. He is very hurt when the bride goes astray, but does not give up.

Open up to Jesus, The Father and The Holy Spirit, and ask Him to flood you and others with His Light! Allow Him to search and convict you (no condemnation) so that you may repent, confess your sin, and experience His pleasure and forgiveness!

Allow for Him to convict you in the event your life does not conform to His character. With all of us that is often the case, so we must be ready to be cleansed daily.

His character is described in the Fruit of the Spirit.

Galatians 5:22, 23,

“22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.”

Grace, grace!

Grace is the power of God working in you to accomplish what you cannot accomplish. When you come to Him with repentance, His grace kicks in and provides the power you need to conform to His character. You cannot do that, but He does it through His love and grace!

Pray, pray! Talk to Him, study His Word, and join a fellowship group and a church. But be sure that He leads you to the church He wants you in. You must experience His anointing and His peace.