

# The Plumbline

Scriptures to use for Searching your Soul

Edifying the Body of Christ (Eph. 4.10-16)

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Amo 7:7 Thus he shewed me: and, behold, the Lord stood upon a wall [made] by a plumbline, with a plumbline in his hand.

## How is it with your soul?

How many times have I heard, I've forgiven him (or her) but I'll never forget what they did. Beloved, there is no forgiveness without forgetfulness. That is a false teaching. Jesus said that as far as the East is from the West so are our sins removed from us (Ps 103.12; Isa.43.25). You want Jesus to forgive you and forget your sins, but you set – yes you set – a different standard for yourself than the Lord God Almighty established for His people called according to His name. The plumbline is established (Amos).

So it is with those who believe they are righteous and holy and have set themselves above the Word of the Lord Jesus Christ whose eyes are so blind that they once again have set a different standard for themselves than what the Lord Jesus Christ teaches. I John 2.9-11 states clearly the demand of the Lord Jesus Christ for His people called according to His name.

### Plumbline: I John 2.9-11

He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now. (Thayer: Brother: A fellow believer...)

He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him.

But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes.

### Perhaps there needs to be some soul searching as King David prayed:

Psa 139:23 Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts:

Psa 139:24 And see if [there be any] wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

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**Co-laborers together for Jesus Christ**

*Come apart and rest (Mark 6.31)*

# Walking in the Light

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Rom 10:17 So then faith [cometh] by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

There is joy when the brethren you meet are touched by the hand of the Lord Jesus. When they are touched by the Lord, we are, in turn, strengthened by the "Holy Communion."

Recently someone was helping us with our groceries to unload them into our vehicle. We asked this person if there were a time in their life when they asked Jesus into their heart and life to be their Lord and Savior.

Before we could complete the question, the person burst into tears saying emphatically, HE IS MY LORD.

This was a time that one knew that this person knew the Lord Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. What a sweet Holy Communion to find another member of the body of Christ, a "brother."

Another time was when we were purchasing a food item in a specialty shop. When asking this person if there were a time when they asked Jesus Christ into their heart and life to be their Lord and Savior, the response was with such power that we knew we had met another "brother" in the Lord.

This person went on to give to us a word from the Lord to encourage us right there in the shop.

This is what the Lord Jesus is teaching us as we read Ephesians 4.10-16. Each one is called to edify the Body of Christ.

The writing in I John makes it clear that those who are backbiting, stirring evil thoughts about a "brother" may not be a "brother." Matthew 7.22-23.

When I was a pastor, prayer chains were gossip sessions. It was a time when people could feel good about themselves saying, I have a prayer request for someone, BUT let me give you my version of the situation.

I recall a spiritual that you might sing before calling the gossip chain – when requesting prayer for another person: "It's me, it's me, O Lord, standing in the need of prayer."

Psa 119:11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.