

Proclaiming the Gospel

For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness;
But unto us which are saved it is the power of God" (*1 Cor. 1.18*).

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

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The Wise Still Seek Him

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We and Our Fathers Have Sinned So Much!

The Psalmist writes much about the history of God's people, God in Christ Jesus. The Psalms is vivid, alive, and present tense in grammar. Psalm 106.6, "We have sinned with our fathers, we have committed iniquity, we have done wickedly." Psalms 78; 106; Nehemiah Nine, as well as many other scriptures, reveal the nature of man without the Lord God Almighty. It shows who we are today as this nation has walked in the steps of those of whom the Psalmist writes.

Isaiah in Chapter Six sees the glory of the Lord: "...I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple." Verses one through eight are significant as we see Isaiah experiencing the glory of the Lord and then seeing his sinfulness – as he experiences the glory of the Lord God Almighty. It is then Isaiah is cleansed and made whole by the Lord when the seraphim touches his mouth with the live coal from the altar. When Isaiah is cleansed and his sins forgiven, it is then he has clarity of thought and clarity of spirit and heart; and he hears the call of God in Christ Jesus, "...Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Isaiah's heart is touched profoundly, and he answers the call, "...Here am I; send me."

Who among you have experienced the glory of the Lord? Who among you have realized your sinfulness as you stand in HIS presence? Who among you have sought forgiveness, have repented (turned from your sins to walk with the Lord God)? Who among you have heard the call of the Lord God? Who among you have responded to the call of God and are willing to be taught and prepared for the work of the Lord Jesus Christ – come what may?

There is a cost. History tells us that Isaiah was later sawn asunder for his obedience to the Lord God. Are you aware that all through history, to include today, the people of Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, have suffered and are suffering horrendously, have been and are being tortured beyond our understanding – all because – all because they love the Lord Jesus Christ so much **they refuse to deny Him?**

were saying as well as what could happen to them, the beatings they endured; but, they could not be deterred from walking in obedience to the Lord Jesus Christ.

There is an urgent call to holiness and to be in prayer daily (II Chr 7.14). Are you willing to walk a life of holiness and be in prayer daily? Are you willing to speak forth the Word of the Lord daily in your life "as you go," being a light to a people who dwell in darkness?

Should we, the body of Christ, walk according to this scripture (Acts 5.40-42) – following the example of the apostles? **Yes!** Would it change the world around us? **Yes!**

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Co-laborers together for Jesus Christ

Come apart and rest (Mark 6.31).

The Bible states clearly, “Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.” (Mt 10.32; see also Lk 12.8; Rom 10.9). We must not be ashamed of the Lord Jesus Christ.

This is not about “going to church.” This is about **Becoming The Church.** God is not looking for more “church-goers” and more of those hiding behind the pulpit while standing on a pulpitum (stage). He is looking for The Church, His body, to stand up for Him and speak forth the Truth where we live daily. If we live for Him who died for us and rose victoriously over sin, hell, and the grave, this nation will be changed – for change begins in your heart and life as well as ours. Change is effected by those of us who are born again from above (Jn 3), who are living godly lives – when we lie down, when we rise, when we are away from home, and when we are at home (Dt 6.4-9).

Change comes when we are born anew in Christ Jesus, when the old life, old ways, are no more in our lives. We must read the Bible daily to know the will of God in our lives. Many people say they have repented of their sins and asked Jesus to be their Lord and Savior, that they are living for Him daily. BUT, they are not reading the Bible. Our response is, “You are living a goodly life according to the world and Satan; you cannot live a **godly** life if you are not reading the Bible to know the will of the Lord in your life daily and to discern His voice as He speaks.

It is a must that you read the Holy Bible that you might come to discern the voice of the Lord. If someone says they heard God tell them to do something or heard God tell them anything – and, it does not align with the teachings of the Holy Bible, they have heard *another* voice – not the Lord Jesus Christ. You cannot discern the difference **if** you are not reading the Bible. Also, when you hear others, whether from the pulpit or elsewhere, with false teachings, you will not discern it as false unless you know the Word of the Lord, the Holy Bible. You must have the Bible as your standard whereby you are able to discern Truth, the Truth of God in Christ Jesus.

God does not understand when one continues to walk in sin, continues to fail to witness for Him, continues not to bring souls to Him (soul-winning), continues not to live for Him in their spirit, their heart, their mind, how one dresses, how one does the things the world and Satan may have lured them to do . . . You cannot win someone to Jesus Christ as you walk in sin. If you are walking with them in sin, how can you even think to ask them, “Have you repented of your sins and asked Jesus Christ to come into your heart to be your Lord and Savior?”

We are called to be a light in a world living in darkness. This begins in the home, the community; it is then Satan will flee. When there is light in the midst of sin, the darkness will flee. The world will be changed if each person who says they have repented of their sins and asked Jesus Christ to be their

Lord and Savior live for HIM – walk in obedience to the Lord Jesus Christ, and read the Bible daily.

This means the United States would be changed, and the enemy/enemies of the Lord Jesus Christ would flee from this nation in every location. If each one who is born again will walk in obedience to Jesus Christ, there will be no place in this nation to which the enemy / enemies can flee – because the enemy, Satan / his ministers (II Cor 11.13-15), cannot stand to be where the Truth of the Lord is, where the Lord Jesus Christ is present and each one is living moment by moment for Jesus Christ.

Think about this. Pray about this. Begin inviting the body of Christ **not** to talk and / or discuss anything, **not** to carry signs . . . , but to get on their knees and pray about this, asking the Lord what He wants changed in them that others shall know they are “Living for Jesus” a life that is true – according to the Holy Bible – no, not new translations that change the meaning to fit society today. Get back to older translations where the Truth of God in Christ Jesus is – seeking the Lord to change your heart to be what He wants it to be that you shall go forth in the community, in the work place “Living for Jesus” and witnessing for Jesus Christ. Seeking the face of the Lord is a daily walk.

Nehemiah Nine is a corporate confession of the sins of the people of God. As a clinical chaplain in correctional institutions, I recall a superior saying that chaplains should not mention sin to the men as they are “already beaten down.” This was someone with a “conservative” view. Did I obey? No. The Word of God, specifically St. Peter, tells us we are to obey God – not man.

And when they had brought them, they set *[them]* before the council: and the high priest asked them,

Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us.

Then Peter and the *[other]* apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men (Acts 5.27-29).

The following speaks profoundly and with great efficacy the call that is upon the lives of all who have repented of their sins and are living a **godly** life.

And to him they agreed: and when they had called the apostles, and beaten *[them]*, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.

And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.

And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ (Acts 5.40-42).

These are those who gladly obeyed the Lord God at any cost. They knew of the sins of their fathers all through history. They knew what the “religious” one