

Melva's Corner

Truth or Tradition (The Way To Abundant Life)



Central Truth: Maturity in Christian life isn't about trying to grow up your spirit; it should be about educating or renewing your mind to what you already have in your spirit.

Over the years I have ministered to hundreds of people who just won't let the Bible clarify their theology. Religious traditions and widely-accepted teaching have become the basis of their beliefs, rather than the Bible. The results are obvious: Their relationship with Christ is profiting them little or at the very least less than God intended.

These are people who have accepted Jesus as their Savior. Yet, they can't get healed; they're unhappy, depressed, fearful, and full of unbelief. That just shouldn't be! As you read this message, I challenge you to allow the Bible, God's Word, to get right in the middle of your theology.

It's time to let the Bible remove wrong theology. Hebrews is one of my favorite books of the Bible. I wish I had space to put the whole book into context because it has a lot to say about how God dealt with sin.

Hebrews 9:11-12 says, "But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us."

Just think about these words: Jesus entered in once! Do you know what once means in the Greek? It means once. It means He doesn't do it over and over again. Every time you sin, the Lord doesn't have to wait until you repent and then get that sin under the blood. That sin is already under the blood.

I realize this is a radical revelation. It's the reason many believe God isn't healing them or prospering them. They say out of one side of their mouths that He loves them and sacrificed His Son, Jesus, for their salvation and then out of the other side, they say that He is still judging them for sin. Those are incompatible!

Hebrews 9: 13-15 goes on to say, "For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance."

It isn't God who is condemning us when we sin; it's our own consciences. We haven't purged our consciences with the truth of what Jesus has done with sin. Satan knows that and is using it to condemn us and destroy our faith and confidence in God by reminding us we don't deserve God's blessing.

Praise God, He isn't giving us what we deserve; He is giving us what Jesus deserves. Jesus paid for sin one time, past, present, and even the sins you will commit in the future. How can that be, you ask? It is because God knows the end from the beginning and He knew all the sins of the whole world. So let me tell you this, Jesus only died one time for our sins two thousand years ago, so you better hope He can forgive your sins before you commit them.

Hebrews 9:25-28 says, "Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with the blood of others; For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgement: So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many."

Jesus paid for all the committed before His sacrifice and for all that had not yet been committed. He made the payment once and it will never be made again. The price for sin, all sin, has been paid!

We have received an eternal inheritance (Hebrews 9:15) that cannot be taken away. We are in eternity now. Your inheritance is not temporary; it's eternal. You aren't disinherited and you don't lose the benefits of being part of the family because of sin.

To understand this, you have to see yourself as God sees you. In your born-again spirit, you are as clean and holy and pure as Jesus is. Religion has you looking at your flesh. It has you searching the soulish realm of thoughts, attitudes, and feelings. But that is not what God is looking at. He is looking at your spirit, the part of you that's become a new creation.

II Corinthians 5:17 says, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

And in John 4:24 we read, "God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."

What part of you is new? It's not the flesh and it's not the soul; it's your born-again spirit. When you go to God in prayer and say "O God, I'm so ungodly and so unworthy, please forgive me, please answer my prayer," you are not in the spirit; you are in the flesh. Your spirit is righteous, holy, and pure. Sin does not affect your spirit.

Am I saying sin is okay? Absolutely not! When you sin, you give Satan an open door to the soul, your mind and emotions, as well as opportunity to destroy your physical body. It's just insane to open yourself up to the devil.

Some of you may still be thinking, Well, I know God died once for all men, but His sacrifice still must be applied whenever we sin. Let's allow God's Word to remove this wrong theology again.

Hebrews 10:10-12, 14 says, "By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God; For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified."

This Scripture is not talking about your physical body or your soul; it's talking about your born-again spirit. Your spirit is identical to the Lord Jesus Christ. It is sinless! Your soul and your body can be defiled by sin, but your spirit never can; it's sealed forever.

Maturity in Christian life isn't about trying to grow up your spirit; it should be about educating or renewing your mind to what you already have in your spirit. Your spirit is already perfect! You already have the fruit of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, long-suffering and the rest. Your spirit is always happy, always rejoicing and always healthy.

Listen to me, God loves you no matter how much you think you've messed up . . . even though you aren't perfect. He loves you not because of your performance but because of Jesus' sacrifice. If you can ever get a revelation of what I am teaching, it will change the way you see God forever. With this revelation you can start to appropriate your healing, prosperity and eternal inheritance today!

Scriptural References:

**"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."
(II Corinthians 5:17)**