



General Topics :: Homosexuality and the kingdom of God

Homosexuality and the kingdom of God, on: 2005/9/1 8:01

Hi everyone,

I did not want to put this on the other active thread that is currently unfolding here because I wanted to bring up a point that is not pertaining to the homosexual alone.

The following scripture was posted there, and it is this scripture that I would bring before you for discussion:

Quote:

-----"Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. -----" (1Cor. 6:9-10, NKJV)

Now, we see some of all of us in this scripture, so let's not go off on the homosexual alone here, if you don't mind.

What I want to key in on is the kingdom of God. It says that they shall not inherit the kingdom of God. What is the kingdom of God?

Can I say that to many, the kingdom of God and the eternal kingdom after death are one and the same? If this be so, why did Jesus tell His disciples to preach that the kingdom of God is at hand. Why did Paul write in Romans that the kingdom of God is righteousness, heart peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit?

Religion focuses on sin, guilt, and unrighteousness. Christianity admits all these things, but provides acquittal. Is acquittal only for those who reach sinless perfection as most demand the homosexual to do? Or is our acquittal by placing the entirety of our eternal hope in Jesus Christ and accepting His imputed righteousness, purity, holiness, and perfection?

Is this blessed hope only for the drunkard, the thief, the gossip? Or does it apply to all, even though the war continues between flesh and spirit?

It is so easy for us to stand in front of church and gloat that we are "not like that man". We also know what Jesus thought about the man who stood in self righteous deception.

Is it not for the sick that the physician came? Have not all sinned and fallen short? Is there one single person here who can step forward and cast the first stone? Then how dare we single out one particular "sin group" as "different" from us?

The kingdom of God is here and now. It is that abundant life that places us in a place of our heart above circumstances and events. It is not dependent upon the outcome of this life, but on our faith in the outcome of a life already lived and continues to live on.

When we attempt to identify, quantify, and qualify, we are headed for strong delusion and pride. It is a path of our own undoing in deception and self righteousness.

There are just so many things that are above our "understanding". But the wisdom of Proverbs tells us not to lean on understanding, but on the sure Word of God. That He can do what understanding cannot. He is full of surprises and opportunities for salvation for all men. All men (and women too of course). We dare not separate ourselves from the fact that we are all in this together, and it is together, bearing one another's burdens that we will sink or swim.

God's mercy is so much bigger than ours. I know this first hand, up close, and personal. Please don't limit God to not being able to do the impossible.

The Holy Spirit does in fact, and according to the Word of God work within the heart of man to change the desires of his/her heart. But there never comes a time in this life, when some one is so holy, so pure, so arrived in their own walk, that

their flesh is made perfect. The good news of the Gospel is that God sees the flesh of the believer already dead, crucified with Christ. Why keep playing with dead things? Let it be. Bury it in His Grace, His unmerited favor. The homosexual does not deserve the favor of God. Neither do you or I. But bless God forever, He gives it to all who ask. And He imputes righteousness and perfection to all who believe. To God be the glory, now and forever amen.

In His mercy and grace forever,

Lahry

Re: Loving the homosexual - posted by roadsign (), on: 2005/9/1 9:01

Lahry, Your words radiate the aroma of Christ. Funny that you should post this! Just this morning I had been thinking that even in my two threads about homosexuals, we still barely reached heart of the issue—learning how to apply Christ's command to love. I was thinking of waiting a bit and then revisit the homosexual issue under a new heading: "How to Love the Homosexual". I think your post is like a foundation for that. We seem to be on the same 'wave-length' (or is it the Spirit?)

As you say, until we UNDERSTAND our own fallenness, we will never be able to understand the fallenness of others.

Consider this:

If we were asked to leave all our friends, our familiar surroundings, our earthly securities and go to a foreign land with a different culture, speak a new language, act a new way, live among strangers who have "weird" ideas and who have been harsh and judgmental to us in the past, how eagerly would we go?

I am trying to look through the eyes of the homosexual. Just like us, and like the Prodigal son, they too can only leave behind their familiar existence when it stops working for them, and when they know that there is something better.

Our role: demonstrate that "something better" through our lives. We can only do that if we actually HAVE IT - God's mercy and love.

Diane

Re:, on: 2005/9/1 21:31

Hi Diane,

Thanks for the kind words of encouragement. Oh my. It is only because I am able to see my own wretchedness, that I am able to groan in empathy for my fellow man. It's all grace or we are all so very lost. Oh Lord help us all.

In Him,

Lahry

Re: - posted by baruch_48, on: 2005/9/7 11:54

Quote:

-----It is so easy for us to stand in front of church and gloat that we are "not like that man". We also know what Jesus thought about the man who stood in self righteous deception.

Is it not for the sick that the physician came?

You're a man that understands that grace leads us to holiness, brother Lahry. There are many posters here who are putting that backwards.

I appreciate your heart and your thoughts

baruch

When Homosexuality hits home - posted by roadsign (), on: 2005/9/7 12:31

Here is a stirring true story in Christianity Today
(<http://www.christianitytoday.com/tcw/7w6/7w6046.html>) When Homosexuality hits home
Diane

Re: Homosexuality and the kingdom of God - posted by rookie (), on: 2005/9/7 12:41

Brother Lawry wrote:

Quote:

-----Now, we see some of all of us in this scripture, so let's not go off on the homosexual alone here, if you don't mind.

I see Paul warning the congregation that those who practice lawlessness will not inherit the kingdom of God. Listen to the words of Jesus.

Matt. 7:21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. 22 Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' 23 And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

And again,

John 8:34 Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. 35 And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever. 36 Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.

Do you hear that in verse 35 that a slave does not abide in the house forever?

Rom. 8:12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors—**not** to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

Only those who submit to the leading of the Holy Spirit can put to death the deeds of the body. It is only through the increase that comes from God that one is enabled to overcome the flesh and death.

The warning of lawlessness must be preached because it is the Life of Christ that saves those who live by faith. The Life is that abundance that overcomes Satan and this world.

The OT examples are given so that we might not stumble as many of them did. Sodom and Gamorrah represents man without grace. The evidence of God giving them over to vile passion because they rejected Him is given to us as an example. Christ also judges.

Psa. 1:1 Blessed is the man
Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly,
Nor stands in the path of sinners,
Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;
2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD,
And in His law he meditates day and night.
3 He shall be like a tree

Planted by the rivers of water,
That brings forth its fruit in its season,
Whose leaf also shall not wither;
And whatever he does shall prosper.
4 The ungodly are not so,
But are like the chaff which the wind drives away.
5 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment,
Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.
6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
But the way of the ungodly shall perish.

Christ is the Life for those who obey the Spirit and Christ is the judge for those who do not put to death the deeds of the body.

In Christ
Jeff

Re: - posted by rookie (), on: 2005/9/7 13:14

The California Legislature on Tuesday became the first legislative body in the country to approve same-sex marriages, as gay-rights advocates overcame two earlier defeats in the Assembly. The 41-35 vote sends the bill to Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger.

This is a sign of the times in which we live. This is reality. How then must we live?

2Th. 2:13 But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth,

Salvation comes through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth.

In Christ
Jeff

Re: - posted by rookie (), on: 2005/9/7 14:28

Upon reflecting on this issue I would like to be more precise on my comments.

First, can God save someone who is homosexual? Yes!

Secondly, is God's grace sufficient to heal such a man or woman from being a slave to this sin? Yes!

Thirdly, can one who continues to practice homosexual behavior enter the kingdom of God? No

Fourthly, can one who practices homosexual acts remain in fellowship with the believers? No.

What is Paul's teaching on removing the leaven from the body of Christ?

1Cor. 5:1 It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and such sexual immorality as is not even named among the Gentiles—that a man has his father's wife! 2 And you are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he who has done this deed might be taken away from among you. 3 For I indeed, as absent in body but present in spirit, have already judged (as though I were present) him who has so done this deed. 4 In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, 5 deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

1Cor. 5:6 Your glorying is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? 7 Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. 8 Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with

h the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

1Cor. 5:9 I wrote to you in my epistle not to keep company with sexually immoral people. 10 Yet I certainly did not mean with the sexually immoral people of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or idolaters, since then you would need to go out of the world. 11 But now I have written to you not to keep company with anyone named a brother, who is sexually immoral, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or an extortioner—**not even to eat with such a person.**

1Cor. 5:12 For what have I to do with judging those also who are outside? Do you not judge those who are inside? 13 But those who are outside God judges. Therefore **“put away from yourselves the evil person.”**

Paul not only talks of sexual immorality but also those who are covetous, idolaters, reviler, drunkards, and extortioners.

You see if we say we are of Christ and yet the evidence of our faith reflects otherwise, we blaspheme the Holy Spirit. We say to the world that there is no hope in the transforming power of our God who sent His Son to the cross in that He might heal those that are His. We make His promise a lie for the world to witness.

17 Therefore

**“Come out from among them
And be separate, says the Lord.
Do not touch what is unclean,
And I will receive you.”**

18 **“I will be a Father to you,
And you shall be My sons and daughters,
Says the LORD Almighty.”**

This is His promise, the question is do we mix faith with what we hear?

In Christ
Jeff

Re: Quote's: by Lahry and roadsign. - posted by ellie, on: 2005/9/9 18:26

Quote by Lahry:

Now, we see some of all of us in this scripture, so let's not go off on the homosexual alone here, if you don't mind.

Quote by Lahry:

“Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.” (1Cor. 6:9-10, NKJV)

My Response: for the two quotes:

As you very well know, the certain sin such as Homosexuality is in need of deliverance. Without going into detail, of this particular deliverance. As has been said is for those who want to turn from this activity in their life and receive freedom through Jesus who we all know died for all.

Quote by Lahry:

Then how dare we single out one particular "sin group" as "different" from us?

My Response: for one quote:

Lahry and roadsign, You! have Singled out Homosexual's as a subject to talk about, in your postings in the Lounge. Members have simply responded.

Quote by Lahry:

And gloat that we are "not like that man".

My Response to the quote:

In our Threads we do not, gloat that we are "not like that man".

Quote by Lahry:

and cast the first stone?

My Response to the Quote:

Here, I have added further Scripture to your quote.

After her accusers left, after saying to Jesus, 'this woman was taken in adultery'
Jesus said to woman accused.

'Woman, where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee?

11. She said, No man, Lord.

And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.'

Quote by roadsign:

As you say, until we UNDERSTAND our own fallenness, we will never be able to understand the fallenness of other sinners.

My Response to the Quote:

This! (our own fallenness) I believe, we do UNDERSTAND!

Quote by roadsign:

Our role: demonstrate that "something better" through our lives. We can only do that if we actually HAVE IT - God's mercy and love.

My Response to the Quote:

Only God can fill his people with Mercy and Love in his people.

He does that very thing, to me for other people. Over and over. As I am sure he does in many people, who are His.

He fills me with His compassion, His Mercy and His Love.

I don't pity, I don't have sentiment.

The following is to try to make you understand, that the intimate act between man and women is normal, in and under the correct circumstances.

It is not meant, for misuse.

So, what should we do with the people, who steal children, for perverted sex, drugging them, torturing them, and killing them for videos? For the pleasure of sick minded, people who want to see this, for their own sick desire. And all manner, of other activities of... ..

We need to wake up, to what is taking place in this WORLD!

Of 'all manner of suffering'.

PRAY.

Go into our closet's, so to speak.

Being led by the Holy Spirit in Earnest PRAYER, Intercession, on Behalf of, standing in the Gap for, not seen to be doing this, but doing it in private with God.

We can be seen to praying at times, as sometimes we are in prayer groups. Or praying for people, who are present in person.

God is the I AM.

ellie

Re: - posted by rookie (), on: 2005/9/12 12:41

Sister ellie wrote:

Quote:

-----Quote by Lahry:
and cast the first stone?

My Response to the Quote:

Here, I have added further Scripture to your quote.

After her accusers left, after saying to Jesus, 'this woman was taken in adultery'

Jesus said to woman accused.

'Woman, where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee?

11. She said, No man, Lord.

And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.'

Many Christians hear the first part of Jesus' teaching. Yet few hear what Jesus truly is teaching here about sin. Yes Jesus does not condemn this woman, but look to His command,

"sin no more."

There is forgiveness but there is also something much greater in this story and most do not understand it. Jesus says to the woman, "**sin no more.**"

Now listen to what Jesus does next,

John 8:12 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."

This is the only way given that would enable this woman to obey Jesus' command. Jesus promised her and everyone around them that, He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

Paul teaches in Romans 5 that we are reconciled to God even when we were still enemies of the kingdom by the blood of Jesus. But **much more we are saved by His life.**

This is the good news, not only the blood but the Life is given to those who follow through faith.

In Christ
Jeff

Re: prayer first - posted by roadsign (), on: 2005/9/12 13:45

Quote:
-----Go into our closet's, so to speak. Being led by the Holy Spirit in Earnest PRAYER, Intercession, on Behalf of, standing in the Gap for, not seen to be doing this, but doing it in private with God.

Thank you Ellie, for these helpful words. Sometimes we focus on the sins of others and forget to pray first and foremost - esp for God to work in us.

Just recently a friend told me:

Quote:
-----Too often we try to control what we can't and fail to control what we can.

In other words, we can't fix other people because we have no control over them, but we CAN give ourselves to God and let him work within us. I think that's the only way we can be used by God to love and influence homosexuals or any other sinners.

Here is an article that helped me understand the homosexual, and how the church can help:
(<http://www.ctlibrary.com/12076>) The Not-so-Gay lifestyle from Christianity Today
Diane

Re: - posted by rookie (), on: 2005/9/12 15:04

In the article suggested by Sister Diane:

Quote:
-----4. Would they benefit from professional psychological or psychiatric care? Proper diagnosis and treatment of psychological or psychiatric needs can be a critical factor affecting change from many sexual struggles. There are those in the church who think a pastor ought not to make such a recommendation. Certain psychological and psychiatric conditions can interlock with a sexual struggle. Until these are properly treated, there may be a discouraging pattern of reverting into old sexual patterns in an attempt to medicate an untreated condition.

I do not accept this view as this represents the empty philosophies of men.

The man in the article revealed that he was given a choice. We all are given choices by God to obey and walk the narrow path or disobey and walk the broad path that leads to destruction.

The witness chose Life over death. There is no other way. Jesus is the light of life and those who follow Him will not walk in darkness.

In Christ
Jeff

Re: - posted by roadsign (), on: 2005/9/12 15:25

I think that you raise a valid concern, for we can all too easily depend on man rather than God.

If the church was good at understanding what's beneath the surface of people, and would minister to them appropriately, then there would be less need for the mental health profession. Sadly that is not the case. In fact, the opposite tends to be true. The mental health profession has to help set people free from damage they incurred in religious environments. (as you will see if you read further testimonies)

Mental Health Professionals can see things that their clients cannot see in themselves - things that block them from moving forward - including trusting Christ. But as long as they are locked up, they cannot move forward. It is the person's responsibility to choose Christ - but the reality of the journey cannot be denied.

Each person is very different from another. It is no different for homosexuals. We can't just lump them together as if their one problem that counts their sex life. Some are really messed up, as the article points out

Diane

Re: Homosexuality and the Kingdom of God, on: 2005/9/12 15:28

Hi rookie,

If you don't mind, I'd like to ask you to think more deeply about what you just said in response to your quote from the article:

Quote:
-----Proper diagnosis and treatment of psychological or psychiatric needs can be a critical factor affecting change from many sexual struggles.

Quote:
-----I do not accept this view as this represents the empty philosophies of men.

because I used to think exactly the same way.

What I want to put to you is this - that if a person knows the Lord, and is in need of psychological healing, why shouldn't they prayerfully enter the consulting room and work with a professional who is trained to speed up their deliberations?

When using the phrase 'empty philosophies' are you telling us you've examined the philosophies and you find them empty, or are you generalising from a position of less rather than more personal knowledge of them?

If some psychological therapies work (such as there being a right way to do some things), on what basis is their efficacy? (ie Why do they work?)

(I do realise there are good and bad psychologists and psychiatry is a completely different field of endeavour which uses drugs (where psychology does not - although a psychiatrist can refer a client to a psychologist....) and, that a person who did not already know God would be in a completely different psychological *need-set*, from a Christian - and the non-Christian might indeed be in danger from the 'empty' philosophy of man.)

Re: Homosexuality and the Kingdom of God, on: 2005/9/12 15:40

'It is the person's responsibility to choose Christ - but the reality of the journey cannot be denied.'

This is a very important truth.

If you read the testimony of Ernest O'Neill, he describes a process which took years. He was a minister of a church before he received the Holy Spirit. Yet, that was God's leading...

Are we unrealistic with each other - expecting the kinds of change that even *God* doesn't expect?

It is in the reality of the journey, that God binds us to Himself with a love we cannot deny and, which strengthens us for His next call on our commitment. 'The journey' should be valued for all the by-products He manages to extract from it; and we should respect each other in our individual struggles, not offering happy-clappy fixes, because *we* feel uncomfortable about another's discomfort. Just how *do* we expect to bring the flesh in line with the will of God IN REALITY! - ***painlessly???***

Here I would add... the adult who was cultured into homosexuality from childhood, is not in the same 'freedom to choose' category, that an adult or even an adolescent might be, who had never been molested.

Re: Dear roadsign, Thank you for your kind thoughts towards me. - posted by ellie, on: 2005/9/12 17:07

Dear roadsign,

Thank you for your kind thoughts towards me.

I have to admit that I get upset about certain matters.
I can associate with only the smallest amount, of what these people suffer.
As I have not lived their kind of life.

I have been subject, to other people thinking that they knew best for me.
And all the while they didn't.

This caused more suffering to me.
I attended a church for a very long time; they had no understanding of my unwellness. I would have things said to me that caused even more damage.
I know what fear is, total isolation, bereft of human company, even Christian company. I was untouchable.
I did go forward for prayer, a lot.

The saving grace, help, comfort, has been From Our Lord he is the one I relied on constantly, being in a position of no other help. Finding that He was my help.
He is my Father.

Sympathy is something that I don't look for. Yes, I have to admit that being acknowledged as a person, who is as entitled as any other person, to be simply treated like a human being. Having people, notice improvement is also a great encouragement.

Not thought of as untouchable or a waste of time because, their prayers are not answered immediately. Or she must be doing, not according to your will God and that is why the prayer has not been answered. Must not go there as that could cost me time and she is not, you know. Just want a comfortable Christian walk. I saw it happen to particularly, two others.

To not be able to go to Church for four years and not to be called on by the church to see how I am. Well it was probably a great relief that I was not in the midst, you know might bring the reputation of the church down. You have depression

n and you are classed as odd. How wrong they are.

I will add here that the churches very much need, to have there eyes and ears opened to what the revival will bring into t here churches. The revival they are asking for.

Now being more well without the tablets that had been making, me very ill. He has led me to a church that preaches, wh at the revival will bring into the church.
Thank you almighty God.

And all the while that I have been unwell. God is the only one who stood by me and of course my brothers and my Moth er and others who my Mother knows, who also pray for me.

The fact road that you have a heart for these people is amazing and quite wonderful There are those who will have a ver y complicated, to be unravelled life.
There will be different levels, in these people's lives.
Its the same in anxiety, fear, pain, suffering, I know some of the depths.

The main thing that a Christian can do is Pray into the situation. We may pray for some years before we see the fruits of the praying. Sometimes we will never know what God has done for all the People, Community, and Country etc that we pray for.
I find so much privilege in praying to Him in the Gap for others. He entrusts so much to us.

I have learnt that there is so much that I don't know. Human beings are the most complicated commodities we can ever come across, including ourselves.
Although we do have some whom God has refined. That have less complication who are given understanding and know ledge by God who leads them, being willing to be led by Him.

I found early on in my faith to rely on God and not man. This has led me to pray to Him, he knows everything about me. It is He who does the most revealing to me, about me, this is a very Good thing because it is God alone who is judging me. Some of these things might be made known to others as we seek prayer or for testimony etc.
There are of course, sometimes words of wisdom that God gives, from one Christian to another.
He chooses how he will reveal, that which I need to know.

Although I have had a lot of physical suffering, I have caused some of this by un forgiveness and all other words that att ach to that.
I have to let go, I have to forgive, I have to do a lot, of things.
I need the help Of God. God is most of all, who we need.

I need to be led by him and to let go of self, leading.
I actually feel that, I can't let go of my leading because I see life at the other side of this, to be empty, dark, void. I think t his is because the thing that is familiar to me is for me to lead, in make decisions, paying the bills etc. I am afraid to let g o totally because I don't know what is at the other side.

It's like jumping in the deep end when your not a strong swimmer and having the fearful thought that you will not surviv e, but that you will sink. The unknown.

You could liken much of what I have said, to Gay people. Complex and complicated and the need for God to do his Mig hty works in their lives. As we pray for them, standing in the Gap. Humanly coming alongside as God leads, talking with them. God will choose people who he can gift with the ability, to come alongside these people.
Your heart roadsign, seems to be maybe a heart and life that God can equip to meet the needs of these people.
I know that my main calling, is in another area.

To speak on my behalf, I have done and continually look to Him. He has done mounds for me, Glory to you Almighty Go d. He is mine and I am his. Amen

Help me dear Lord to let go of many things. Amen.

ellie

Re: They churches role re homosexuals - posted by roadsign (), on: 2005/9/12 17:07

While I think a valid concern has been raised - re the use of mental health workers, I posted the article mainly to give us, the CHURCH, some information for how WE can help. The more we learn how WE can help, the less there will be a need for those outside of the church. IMHO.

The church has a hard task cut out for her. Unfortunately her ungodly behaviors over recent years -ex: angry protest marches and unloving responses to gays have marred her credibility. So now we have a big dividing wall between two opposing people groups.

Unfortunately even the church is polarizing into opposing camps. Some respond to the harsh judgmental responses by going the opposite way - thinking that they love the homosexual by telling them that they are fine the way they are. That is hopeless.

(Mind you, implying to any church attenders that they are good Christians when they are still lost in their sins is most unloving. There is no hope in that!)

If we can, at least, try to break down the barriers of hostility, then maybe we can be better able to win the trust of those homosexuals who would like to be set free. Many feel hated and undeserving of God's forgiveness. Oh, how desperately they need to see that Christ loves them!!! Who's going to show them? Is that not the function of the church?

It seems that the evangelical church's failure to be as Christ to homosexuals enables all kinds of opposing forces to gain momentum.

I think the article above put out by Christianity Today for church leaders demonstrates a step in the right direction.

Diane

Re: Thank you Ellie - posted by roadsign (), on: 2005/9/12 17:30

My dear Ellie!

Your testimony brought tears to my eyes. As I was reading I kept thinking: If I was suffering the shame and pain of rejection - ex homosexuality, and was craving for healing and a connection with a loving human, it would be Ellie. I would know now that you would walk with me, weep with me, listen to me, pray with me, and not judge or reject me. You would tenderly touch my brokenness and give me hope. You would be as Christ to me.

You may not feel called to a ministry as such, but, I suspect that God would not hesitate to bring someone to you who may need that kind of human touch. Your own trials might just be your richest assets - in God's economy.

God bless you. And thank you for sharing!!!

Diane

Re:Thankyou roadsign. I was in tears as I wrote my thread. - posted by ellie, on: 2005/9/12 19:00

I was in tears, as I wrote my thread.

I constantly cried to God about the Church. What they did not realise was how much God, was present in my life and how much I revered him which I still do.

After posting, I saw, you had all been busy writing threads.

My Experience. With Psychiatric doctors nurses. Etc.

I have been under Psychiatry and I was not listened to. I was wrongly diagnosed; if they had reduced the tablet I would have got better, instead they gave ECT.

They realised two years later, while I was still suffering.

That instead of giving me ECT, that all they had to do at that time, was reduce and then remove the tablet that they said I had to take.

I was made more ill through three tablets, misdiagnosed, given ECT, and suffered to the extreme with physical debilitation and short-term memory amnesia, I felt constantly suicidal, I could not go anywhere I was too ill, for more than 4 years. Until they finally took notice, of my even more worsening physical condition.

One Psychiatrist, who is supposed to be one of the top psychiatrists in the country, did all of this to me.

Apparently the day staff on the day ward did give their opinion, I believe this differed from the Psychiatrist's, who went ahead with ECT. I now have a problem with my recall memory, which I already had through taking, one of those tablets before ECT.

I am also now at risk because of the tablets, of developing other brain debilitating disease. We just have to wait and see if my brain deteriorates. It is serious but I thank God that I can also laugh at these ridiculous circumstances, under the name of medical care and of course the Manufacturers of tablets.

Please God I truly ask you that these terrible things will not happen and that you will heal my brain of any damage. And restore to me life in abundance. Amen Glory to you

All this is why I have asked, as a Christian I am allowed to sue NHS Service.

This was not just a mistake.

My GP is in shock because. I actually went through many more side effects than I have written about.

Two good Christians here in my home Town, who are reliable, have said yes I can sue
Another has said no.

I have no trust, whatsoever in the, Department of Psychiatry. They have too much, un-questioned authority. They are a regime, they are in charge.

There is a Retired Christian Psychiatrist up North here and I believe more in the country. Who saw a lot, of patients in his time and trained a lot, of people to Council many kinds of problems. Perhaps Christian people might consider this kind of profession. To enable, people to come into the faith with Christian biblical way input I am not sure if fees have to be paid for this. I did not get to see any of them, as I could not get to the place where they hold this.

ellie

I look forward to the time, when God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and me, are going to have a wonderful journey. Hallelujah.

Re: - posted by ZIONSLAVE (), on: 2005/9/12 21:51

The sin of homosexuality is nothing compared to the awesomeness of God. Psychiatry is a hoax. Its a mans attempt to be like God. No human will ever be able to heal anyones mind. Depression, anxiety, mental disorders, etc. are all results of sin on the part of the person or someone who has affected that person. Sin. There was no need for anti-depressants in the garden of eden. The Lord does not need us to fulfill his tasks. We are placed on this planet for one reason alone. That is the total surrender of our lives in love and pure adoration and worship to him. Once we begin to think we deserve any kind of help besides what he offers we are being selfish and sinful. Purity and joy comes from redemption and sacrifice of our lives. Homosexuality is an abomination. Jesus had no patience for sin. Neither should we. Dont enable people. Dont make them believe they have time to start a "healing process" healing comes immediately when you renounce your sin. We are not promised tomorrow. The only way you can show love to people is by sharing truth. Dont coddle sinners. Be clear to them in love. There are no excuses that make sin "understandable" to God. Everyone has sin and excuses. Everyone has someone to blame. We are commanded to be lights. A light does not shelter darkness. It disperses it. To some it will seem that I am being col. Im not. I am being clear. Thats where a lot of Christians fail there neighbors. We MUST love people to the kingdom. That however does not involve making them feel good about their evil lives. We are commanded to HATE sin. Did you know that? LOVE the sinner HATE the sin. Be Honest. Jesus is not a pushover.

To Ellie, - posted by roadsign (), on: 2005/9/12 22:39

Quote:
----- I thank God that I can also laugh at these ridiculous circumstances, under the name of medical care and of course the Manufacturers of tablets.

Wow! Ellie, If you can laugh about it all, you must be filled with a lot of forgiveness.

Several years ago our family went through a time of complete collapse- multiple illnesses, emotional exhaustion, educational collapse, etc. I'll spare the details at this time, but I will say that early on in that "adventure" when I sensed that we would be involved with a lot of medical /health/educational/social professionals, I prayed a very silly prayer - rather spontaneously:

"Lord may man fail, but may YOU get all the glory for what you are going to do in my family."

And God did a thorough job answering my prayer. He put us into a position where even the best helpers in the world could not help. In subsequent months just about every person failed us who could fail us - professional's health workers, friends, relatives, church, pastors, teachers. Each time someone failed me, I remembered my prayer. That made it easier to forgive. And, yes, I too discovered that the church (esp leaders) was nothing that I had assumed. They did not have the answers, and were unable to understand what was happening.

And through it all I found out for real that God could fill in every single role that exists: father, husband, physician, counsellor, advocate, friend, comforter, shepherd..... and there are many more.

I do not regret going through those times, and I do not regret our involvement with anyone – even the ones who failed. They all had something very important to contribute.

Experiences like this makes it possible for our lives to dovetail with others who are struggling – including those who have such a despised sin as homosexuality. My trial helped me see that I was just as sinful as them, because I too was depending on my flesh.

PS: God, please work a miracle in Ellie's brain. May Ellie have the mind of Christ, filled with your peace as she rests in your care.

Diane

Re: ZIONSLAVE on 2005/9/13 2:51:29 - posted by ellie, on: 2005/9/13 0:53

Looka here, ZIONSLAVE

There is something you havent got about this healing etc. If there is a mound of life happenings for God to heal, I have heard it said that it would kill that person, if he healed all the layers at once. Meaning painfull layers, all at once would be a very giagantic pain to release, the person's physical being, could not withstand that much in one go. It depends on how many layers have got bunched together and also entangled with other matters.

If that had been available, to be healed in one go. I would have welcomed that. then I would have had no need for ongoing healing of the layers. But then, I would not have learnt, about so many things that I now know.

God wants you to learn to recieve his love and his commpassion, this will change a lot of what you believe. He is a Loving, careing, mighty God who loves you very much. Amen

Live a bit more life and then come back and give us the lowdown on what happened and how you then feel about God and your walk with him.

Take it easy look the way God looks upon his people he really cares, loves, can be so leanient, he is patient, its when you actually have real life living experience, through trials that you begin to appreciate his Love and his understanding of our circumstances. etc.

He loves all of us. Amen.

ellie.

Re:, on: 2005/9/13 11:48

ZIONSLAVE,

Quote:

-----Dont make them believe they have time to start a "healing process" healing comes immediately when you renounce your sin.

Brother, do you really really believe that? I was totally unaware that there are dear brothers and sisters who do not believe in a healing process until today and this saddens me a lot.

When i came to the Lord i became very much aware (after repentance) that i am saved but what i came from i was deeply scared and needed healing but believe me ZIONSLAVE this did not come immediatly! It has taken a long time to get over what happended to me hence it being a "process".

I will pray that God will give you this revelation.

In His Love Geraldine :-)

Re:, on: 2005/9/13 12:34

Ellie,

I identified with some of the things you wrote via what a friend of mine went through.

Here is a poem (one of many) that a dear sister wrote. I didn't know which to put but this one (the longest :-)) won the vote;

This Little Poem!

I am your workmanship
the creation of your hand,
when i ponder this truth
i begin to understand,
Your very own poem
written upon your heart,
before the foundation of the world
this poem,
You began to start.

Every word, every verse
carefully chosen by You,
to form your masterpiece
with your glory shining through,
uniquely put together
no poem quite like it,
from the beginning to the end,
this poem,
is no misfit!

Why have You made this poem
with no other to compare?
that's set within the heavens
for all creation to share,
who can fathom this mystery
that You, who rule on high,
would take the time to create
me, your little poem,
written upon the sky.

I can't fathom this mystery
but stand back with glee,
that you, Almighty God
would do this special thing,
for someone like me,
Now i see the miracle
the miracle so sublime,
that this little poem
makes Your kingdom shine!

In your great anthology
this poem finds her place,
along with your others
she finds her allotted space,
the place of Your choosing
her rightful destination,
that you prepared before
amongst Your great creation!

Ephesians 2:20

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should

walk in them.

Re: - posted by rookie (), on: 2005/9/13 12:35

Sister Diane wrote:

Quote:

-----If the church was good at understanding what's beneath the surface of people, and would minister to them appropriately, then there would be less need for the mental health profession. Sadly that is not the case. In fact, the opposite tends to be true. The mental health profession has to help set people free from damage they incurred in religious environments. (as you will see if you read further testimonies)

I believe much of today's church is as it was before judgement came on the tribes of Ephraim.

3 The crown of pride, the drunkards of Ephraim,
Will be trampled underfoot;
4 And the glorious beauty is a fading flower
Which is at the head of the verdant valley,
Like the first fruit before the summer,
Which an observer sees;
He eats it up while it is still in his hand.
5 In that day the LORD of hosts will be
For a crown of glory and a diadem of beauty
To the remnant of His people,
6 For a spirit of justice to him who sits in judgment,
And for strength to those who turn back the battle at the gate.
7 But they also have erred through wine,
And through intoxicating drink are out of the way;
The priest and the prophet have erred through intoxicating drink,
They are swallowed up by wine,
They are out of the way through intoxicating drink;
They err in vision, they stumble in judgment.
8 For all tables are full of vomit and filth;
No place is clean.
9 "Whom will he teach knowledge?
And whom will he make to understand the message?
Those just weaned from milk?
Those just drawn from the breasts?
10 For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept,
Line upon line, line upon line,
Here a little, there a little."
11 For with stammering lips and another tongue
He will speak to this people,

Those who lead, those who say they know, only speak with stammering lips because they do not know about the **healing promised to those who follow. Listen to the promise.**

Job 33:

14 For God may speak in one way, or in another,
Yet man does not perceive it.
15 In a dream, in a vision of the night,
When deep sleep falls upon men,
While slumbering on their beds,
16 Then He opens the ears of men,
And seals their instruction.
17 In order to turn man from his deed,

And conceal pride from man,
18 He keeps back his soul from the Pit,
And his life from perishing by the sword.
19 "Man is also chastened with pain on his bed,
And with strong pain in many of his bones,
20 So that his life abhors bread,
And his soul succulent food.
21 His flesh wastes away from sight,
And his bones stick out which once were not seen.
22 Yes, his soul draws near the Pit,
And his life to the executioners.
23 "If there is a messenger for him,
A mediator, one among a thousand,
To show man His uprightness,
24 Then He is gracious to him, and says,
"Deliver him from going down to the Pit;
I have found a ransom";
25 His flesh shall be young like a child's,
He shall return to the days of his youth.
26 He shall pray to God, and He will delight in him,
He shall see His face with joy,
For He restores to man His righteousness.
27 Then he looks at men and says,
"I have sinned, and perverted what was right,
And it did not profit me."
28 He will redeem his soul from going down to the Pit,
And his life shall see the light.
29 "Behold, God works all these things,
Twice, in fact, three times with a man,
30 To bring back his soul from the Pit,
That he may be enlightened with the light of life.

The things spoken of above speak of the ways God chooses to heal those who would listen. Meditate on what the Scriptures say about God's work in man.

Today we believe we have to depend on professionals trained to heal the mind or body because the priests of this generation are broken cisterns with stammering lips.

Out of time
In Christ
Jeff

Re: True healing comes from God, on: 2005/9/13 13:56

Dear brother Jeff,

I loved your answer to Diane.

Quote:
-----Today we believe we have to depend on professionals trained to heal the mind or body because the priests of this generation are broken cisterns with stammering lips.

There are just two problems. One is that the priests don't know they don't know. And the other is - and this is the answer to a question I asked you - is that the *only* 'psychology' which *WORKS* is that which follows in the style of God's own dealing with people. I could say more about that but, in principle, that's why good mental health professionals are successful. (Remember, some of them are real Christians, too)

The UK has done a study (this millenium - like the one published in the Readers' Digest in 2000), on the usefulness of 'f

aith' to mental health patients, and discovered a truly economical connection between Christian faith and health, in that those with a faith do much better.

I'd just like to say, that I was truly converted to the usefulness of professional support for those with mental health needs, (altho there is plenty of testimony as to how useless it is or can be) because, at no time did I relinquish my control over how I proceeded. But, they delivered a high standard of care to me as a community contact, which tipped the balance between my being able to access my need for healing, and continuing to deny it.

I think, between the denial in some churches that some people **need** healing and the ignorance that goes on the side of those who need healing, there is a place for co-operation between mental health services and Christians. Leanne Payne now advises that wherever possible, they work together as a team. This has to be an option. I'm not saying it should be compulsory.

Lastly, in the realm of recovery for those with sexual dysfunction, the latest thinking is changing all the time - to something better than it was - and, it is understood that some clients will need a *team* to support their life (not lifestyle) while they go through several years of changes. I'm all for Christians *doing* this for each other, and making the necessary time commitment over years, but, not all are called to it, and it seems a bit mean to leave a Christian to rot, just because their particular church group has little or no understanding of their mental health issues. Fair comment?

Re: Please hear what I am not saying - posted by roadsign (), on: 2005/9/13 14:49

Quote:

-----at no time did I relinquish my control over how I proceeded.

Dorcas, These words grabbed me. I have come to learn that good therapy, whether from a professional or a friend, Christian or not, always respects a person's freedom to choose. It is not controlling. That is important, because, as was mentioned in the thread, The Devil Made me Do it, damaged people have lost their ability to choose. In order for healing to proceed, they must regain freedom of their will. And that takes time and a lot of loving, encouraging people in their lives - people who accept them where they are and don't push them.

Sadly this is where the church has caused perhaps more damage than in any other way. Zealous Christians have tried to push people into immediate outer conformity to godly ways, while leaving the inner soul in bondage. As long as the church is stuck there, it will never be able to help those with bondages like homosexuality.

This short article by C Finn is very powerful - indeed very stirring. If only everyone could see what people hide underneath their tough outer shells, then they would have deep compassion.

(<http://www.thewayback.net/articles/pleasehearwhatiam.htm>) Please Hear what I am not saying

Re: - posted by rookie (), on: 2005/9/13 15:13

Sister Dorcas

I did not have the time yet to respond to your questions properly. My days are split up into coffee breaks and lunch breaks.

The focus of the article spoke of those seeking help and it also spoke of testimonies which described people who grew to have strong loving relationships within heterosexual ordinances. The affirmation of health was based on a man being fulfilled through the relationship he has with a woman. I do not seek to minimize this testimony nor any other which describes this healing process. Yet what I have not heard much is how the love of God overcame sin. It is the love of God that cries out Abba Father in our hearts, this love only can free us from the bonds of sin.

Again listen to Job 33:

25 His flesh shall be young like a child's,
He shall return to the days of his youth.
26 He shall pray to God, and He will delight in him,
He shall see His face with joy,

For He restores to man His righteousness.

I keep hearing of testimonies which speak of striving to have one's sexual desires satisfied by unnatural or natural sources. We know that fornication, adultery, and unnatural desires are outward manifestations of sin. We also know that Scripture teaches us that Satan tempts us through the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life. All three of these methods can be applied by Satan to destroy us.

Paul cries out, 24 O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

What is Paul's solution? Romans 8

2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.

You see if all that we seek is to satisfy our sexual desires there is still emptiness. Jesus said to the woman at the well, you have had 5 husbands and now you are living with another. Jesus is pointing out to her that she will always find emptiness when she seeks fulfillment with the things of this world. Jesus promises her that if she drank of the water that He had to give her she would thirst no more.

Sister Elle also spoke of men failing her. I believe God works in all who live by faith to separate us from putting our faith in another human. I believe God continually works to decrease our faith in other men and women. What is the result of this work? We learn to take His yoke upon us. We learn of His humble and peaceful Spirit. We experience a love that overcomes Satan and this world.

The very center of the Holy Scriptures say this to those who are being "called out of this world."

Psalm 118:

8 It is better to trust in the LORD
Than to put confidence in man.

9 It is better to trust in the LORD
Than to put confidence in princes.

The only man that will never fail you is this man Jesus Christ.

In Christ
Jeff

Re: thankyou to all - posted by ellie, on: 2005/9/13 16:27

Hi,

Thankyou to all for such encouraging scriptures and all.
In all the recent threads, from you all.
Amen. Praise you God.

ellie.

Re: - posted by ZIONSLAVE (), on: 2005/9/13 17:49

Quote:
-----Dont make them believe they have time to start a "healing process" healing comes immediately when you renounce your sin

I believe that this statement was misinterperated and for that I am sorry. Here is the scripture verse that backs up my statement.

2Cr 5:17 Therefore if any man in Christ, a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

I also want anyone who is angry with me to understand that I probably have more knowledge of living than you realize. I do not think age is a factor in what portion of wisdom is given to Jahs children. I am not proud to say that my knowledge of the Holy is very much sharpened by my past experiences with the unholy. Sometime I will share my testimony on this site. I will not do that tho as a way to defend myself against attacks from people who are being so judgemental.

Just to further clarify I will say that I understand that when we are affected by sin that there are things that will be a reminder of that later in life. I am not foolish enough to think that once we are redeemed that we will never be tempted again or that we will never again have struggles! Here is a passage from Paulus that may give you some clarification of The Almightys affect on a man who is filled with the Holy Spirit.

Phl 3:12-15 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but one thing, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.

Heres an example of what this is saying....

A boy and his father were buliding a table. When the boy had an opportunity he drove a nail into the wrong spot of the table intentionally just for fun. When the father saw it he was not pleased. He asked the boy why he did this thing. The boy could not answer because he was swept with guilt for his wrong doing. He began to cry. The father, seeing the boys emotion of repentance took the boy up in his arms and wiped the tears from his eyes. He then pulled the misplaced nail out of the table. He showed the boy that even tho the nail was removed there was still a tiny hole where it had been. He told the boy that he loved him and they completed thier work. One day a man caome to purchase the table. He asked the boys father about the tiny whole and the father told the buyer what had happened. The man then accepted the table into his house and as soon as he did the whole dissappeared.

The nail is an example of a human regarding sin in thier heart. The father removing the nail is an example of Christs redemption through his Blood. The tiny hole is the example of the stains of sin left in our flesh after redemption and turning from that sin. The dissapearence of the hole in the buyers house is an example of our new bodies that will be given to us in Glory.

Re: Homosexuality and the kingdom of God, on: 2005/9/13 18:05

Brother Jeff,

I apologise for not waiting longer for you.

Also, let me say I do 'hear' what you're saying about the centrality of a relationship with God.

Let me tell you, I wanted a secure relationship with God and I hung around sometimes attending good charismatic house-church for as many as 5 times a week, attended conferences, worked my socks off in church activities and also ministered in other ways. I conformed outwardly. I had been given the Holy Spirit and gifts. But, I remained unhealed because no-one preached healing. If they did, the listener was supposed to know they had a reason to respond. I can't emphasise more strongly, how entirely I felt my difficulties in reaching peace with God were my own fault. The concept

of healing was not associated in the preaching (or my mind) with any fault on the part of another. The kind of healing being talked about was things like - physical pain eg headache, the speeding up of normal healing after surgery, miraculous healing of cancer, or of pregnancy not going well, alcoholism, drug addiction, depression. NO-ONE talked about emotional abuse, domestic violence, sexual molestation, betrayal of trust, demonic accusation, national disaster. What I would like you to take away from this post is, it is not 'either-or'; in many cases, it is God and man working together which produces the desired result.

Specifically on the matter of being sexually normal....

Quote:
-----I keep hearing of testimonies which speak of striving to have one's sexual desires satisfied by unnatural or natural sources. We know that fornication, adultery, and unnatural desires are outward manifestations of sin.

These outworkings of sexuality are important. What you seem to be missing is, the understanding that those who need psychosexual therapy, are living in a much more extreme place than the man or woman whose Christianity requires them to exercise self-control according to the Spirit which is able to bear this fruit in them. While bearing in mind what 'normal' means (attraction towards the opposite) there can be a very wide range of differences of 'gender' - that is, what the individual has been cultivated to 'think' is normal. The connections between the 'thinking' and the *being* (which a normal person has never had disrupted) do need to be examined (even if only in the presence of God privately) before He can fix anything. Always, there are reasons people end up thinking weird things. The problem is that they've come to *believe* them and function abnormally. This isn't Sunday morning material (although it should not be swept under the carpet); believers come together to worship the Lord and celebrate Him, and those on the edges of the fellowship who feel like lepers inwardly, need some legitimate point of contact where these realities can be safely explored. I'm not certain the rest of the 'body' (the church) *should* be protected from the 'pain' in their midst, but I am sure, the Lord intends to heal. The difficulty is in the individual making contact with the Lord (or, the Lord coming to them, if they are very incapacitated) when it is made very clear by leadership that the honesty required to do so, is not welcome there at church - or in public. I've been in a meeting where a lady was praying in such a way as to indicate she had been abused by both grandparents, whose needs were not unknown to the elders, but, she was being shooshed. What good is that? It's because of this sort of atmosphere, that people like her end up *requiring* community psychiatric support.

Re:God will lead you through. ZIONSLAVE - posted by ellie, on: 2005/9/13 22:12

Zionslave no one wants to hurt you we doall get missunderstanings and read differently into things

That is how people would have seen, my very youngest brother about 8yrs ago. who....
My brother 4yrs drugs and other years before, alcaholic, squatting, in squates freezing in the winter etc Holland.
Dreadlocks in his hair.
Cuts on the arms as well as despair, depression, dying.

Our fervent prayers were answered, truly a miracle. He stuggled for a year or so after. That was because of so much in li fe that he lived through since 8yrs old.
Dad Died. Two years later, Older Brother committed Suicide, we have brother with Bipolar. 10 years later another brother died. 4yrs later our nephew 21yrs old, died because of drugs. he was messed up with drugs in London where he lived. into allsorts. But his Dad, my Brother who commited suicide,when he was 5yrs old.

So my brother came to the Lord and has been living and working at a christian church in Devon UK for the last 8years, without pay he trust in the Lord for his needs.
He goes to do some work in Romania next Month.

I have many sad stories to tell about Family Of all kinds.

I am sure without any dought, that you have very much experience, including music things that are bad. My brother met demons in that life. Saw so much just LIKE YOU. God has brought you through, open your Heart, and your mind, and your spirit to God. And find the secrets he wants to impart to you. He has so much for to do, in this life for him. Let God prepare you.
Have you been filled with the Holy Spirit. When you stopped all the drugs etc.

He does say he will refine us, and that he will mould us, into what he needs, to lead us, guard us, guide us along. Your unique special Walk With Him, that he has for.

I don't know where you are taught about the bible.

Do'n't be shocked if something goes a little different, to what you think is happening. That is what I meant. If things change and you need us please, let us know some one here will relate to your needs.

Our needs don't end, all walking with God have come to know this, through many of life's experiences. That will come before us and God will lead you through.

We are not here to hurt you but to help you.

I would like to be one of the first to hear, what God has had you doing for him, as and when they happen. We look forward to your wonderful growth in Almighty God.

Amen, Hallelua, Glory, God of all Power and Majesty. I give to you ZIONSLAVE, who is so grateful for what you have done and are going to do for him and with him Amen.

ellie

Re: - posted by ZIONSLAVE (), on: 2005/9/14 19:17

Thanks ellie,

I actually was thinking of you this morning. Asking the Lord to search my heart. I still have much to learn. I want to give a pure picture of Christ and his work, and a strong picture of His power. I was asking the Lord to show me if I was wrong about my comments about His healing. I always try to ask for guidance during my posts. I know people search these forums for truth. They need it like they need bread. They want something real. They need true love. Agape love. It's here. I know it is because of the strong testimony of the healing blood of the only begotten.

Rom 5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Rom 5:9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

Rom 5:10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

Rom 5:11 And not only, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.

I am praying with you and your family. I appreciate you sharing that information about your struggles. Yes. The Lord is gracious. Christ is greater than all the demons and legions and realms of evil combined. The Spirit indeed is willing but the flesh is weak. It is easily baffled by the confusion of the lawless. However!!!!,.....WE ARE MORE THAN CONQUERERS! !!!!!!!! Much love to you and yours. Your brother needs prayer even now. What a place to serve! In the heart of evil. Selah.

Re: QUOTE:From. ZIONSLAVE - posted by ellie, on: 2005/9/14 19:24

QUOTE:ZIONSLAVE

Much love to you and yours. Your brother needs prayer even now.

What does the following mean, I don't understand?

Quote: What a place to serve! In the heart of evil. Selah.

ellie

Re: To Ellie, Ellie - posted by Nellie, on: 2005/9/14 21:34

Only Eternity will reveal how many people you have helped with your Testimony.
Thank-you for your Honesty.

Hopefully, one day, I too, will feel free to share.

Our God is Wonderful!
He is a God of LOve.

God Bless you, richly in Him.
Nellie :-)

Re: - posted by ZIONSLAVE (), on: 2005/9/17 21:33

It just means that I beleive Europe to be the continent that is the most evil of all. And that it is an amazing thing that the Lord has thought your brother faithful enough to preach there.

Re: - posted by rookie (), on: 2005/9/19 16:14

Sister Dorcas,

I agree with you, in that, God works through men and women to bring healing in all sorts of ways. I believe God uses non-believers to perform the things He has determined. This is all Scriptural. When I mentioned the thought of relying on the empty philosophies of men, I should have taken the time to be more clear.

Sister wrote:

Quote:
----- While bearing in mind what 'normal' means (attraction towards the opposite) there can be a very wide range of differences of 'gender' - that is, what the individual has been cultivated to 'think' is normal. The connections between the 'thinking' and the being (which a normal person has never had disrupted) do need to be examined (even if only in the presence of God privately) before He can fix anything. Always, there are reasons people end up thinking weird things. The problem is that they've come to believe them and function abnormally.

Psalm 119

57 You are my portion, O LORD;
I have said that I would keep Your words.

58 I entreated Your favor with my whole heart;
Be merciful to me according to Your word.
59 I thought about my ways,
And turned my feet to Your testimonies.

We all, we fallen and depraved individuals suffer from what is called rational thought. We are rational beings because we learn from one another. We experience fellowship with other fallen individuals. The "substance" of what we hope for is the product of what we do and think. This is the carnal man. The carnal mind cannot please God. The carnal mind makes us an enemy of God. Listen to verse 59.

"I thought about my ways and turned my feet your testimonies."

God's testimonies are the "substance" which have replaced what was once hoped for by the writer of Psalm 119. Experiencing God caused him to consider his old ways. This man was enabled by God to see his own ways in light of God's influence in his life. The beauty of the truth is realized as one turns his feet towards God. This man also speaks of the hardships that come with salvation.

Psalm 119

65 You have dealt well with Your servant,
O LORD, according to Your word.
66 Teach me good judgment and knowledge,
For I believe Your commandments.
67 Before I was afflicted I went astray,
But now I keep Your word.
68 You are good, and do good;
Teach me Your statutes.

71 It is good for me that I have been afflicted,
That I may learn Your statutes.
72 The law of Your mouth is better to me
Than thousands of coins of gold and silver.
73 Your hands have made me and fashioned me;
Give me understanding, that I may learn Your commandments.
74 Those who fear You will be glad when they see me,
Because I have hoped in Your word.
75 I know, O LORD, that Your judgments are right,
And that in faithfulness You have afflicted me.

This man has been freed from that which once held him in bondage to the carnal mind. As we too travel along the path we too will experience God's judgments, commands, and afflictions. Listen to his testimony.

120 My flesh trembles for fear of You,
And I am afraid of Your judgments.

Listen to his prayer.

174 I long for Your salvation, O LORD,
And Your law is my delight.
175 Let my soul live, and it shall praise You;
And let Your judgments help me.
176 I have gone astray like a lost sheep;
Seek Your servant,
For I do not forget Your commandments.

Now a rational being without God's light will look upon this experience and ask how can this be good? He has not experienced the "substance" that is from God. A rational being cannot see that the "substance of what he hope for" is actually the very things that bind him.

So whatever behavior that is termed "normal or abnormal" is the consequence of rational thought. Scripture gives us various pictures of past generations. What seemed normal in one generation was an abomination in another generation and viseversa. I live in California. I have witnessed the efforts of those who seek to convince this generation that those who practice homosexuality are normal and healthy. It is said that this next generation here in the U.S. already accepts this precept. So what is abnormal today will be normal tomorrow. This manifestation in Scripture always preceded God's judgement.

Out of time
In Christ
Jeff

Re: - posted by rookie (), on: 2005/9/19 18:13

Psalm 119:

129 Your testimonies are wonderful;
Therefore my soul keeps them.
130 The entrance of Your words gives light;
It gives understanding to the simple.
131 I opened my mouth and panted,
For I longed for Your commandments.
132 Look upon me and be merciful to me,
As Your custom is toward those who love Your name.
133 Direct my steps by Your word,
And let no iniquity have dominion over me.

In this thought of Scripture, this man speaks of God's wonderful testimonies. The source of this man's joy comes from understanding how God delivers one from bondage. It is the existence of this testimony which changes what this man hopes for. The light that God sheds upon this man is the means by which this man overcomes iniquity in his life. God's grace fills and satisfies the thirst of this man. It comes by understanding how God delivers us from that which binds us. Having begun to walk the ancient path with God, having tasted the freedom that understanding brings give us the desire for more of Him. This man's heart cries out,

"133 Direct my steps by Your word,
And let no iniquity have dominion over me."

This man knows that within himself there is nothing that can free him from the bondage of the carnal life. He like Paul cries out, "24 O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?"

This precept is for every man and woman who enters into a relationship with God through His Son Jesus. God seeks to reveal His Son in us. The revelation of His Son, The Life, fills us with a love, a power that overcomes those things that separate us from Him. Abiding in Him will cause our hearts to cry out Abba Father. We learn by living with Him. As Jesus' heart cried out for His Father so will all who walk with Him. This is the predestined work of God in those who inherit the promise.

So can one who seeks help from those who don't believe in God help a believer overcome that which binds?

Is the "substance" for what they hope for found in seeking to build one's self esteem or is the "substance" found outside of our self?

Got to go
In Christ
Jeff

Re:, on: 2005/9/19 21:03

I haven't weighed in on this one, because the title had me a little leary, because of Katrina and all, I was still grieving so many deaths, etc. and sure couldn't handle much more talk about 'killing sinners'.

But today, I got up the gumption to read the 4 pg.s thus far, and was so blessed by everyone's response. Not only to each other, but by responses to the 'fallen nature' of man and God's healing abilities.

I blame the Pastor's in a way, and then the older sheep, for so much hurt and hurting in the Church.

IF, If, if, only the 'gifts' were abounding by so-called shepherds, then so many could be healed.

Or at least, if the Shepherds made a safe sheep-fold for the mature in Christ to be used in the gifts, this too could help the many.

A Church should be like a Hospital.

Anyhow, when I got saved and went through so much I went home to live with my parents for a while back then, and just picked a Church out of the yellow pages. (in 1978)

After a few Sundays there... the Lord spoke to my heart, that "that Pastor is going to help you".

I kept it in my heart, but he and I had never spoken or anything.

I think it was shortly after, as all were leaving the Church, and he stood at the back, when he shook my hand, he said, "I do Biblical counseling, if you want to make an appt."

I was shocked. There was no way on earth, that man could have known how broken up I was inside from my annulled marriage, because I was raised to be or at least 'look stoic'. Ha.

In two sessions with that man of God, my insides were healed. And Why ... because he was a very humble yet intelligent man, but 'mostly' because he actually had the gifts of the Spirit working in him and had the 'word of knowledge, wisdom and discernment' going on, all at the same time and was what the Word would just call, a Real Shepherd to his flock. Glory to God.

I pray the gifts become more manifest among us and that we can leave the intellect more in the back seat. Then we can hit the heart of the matter, individually and not treat all the same.

No two folks on here are the same, so each needs to be handled differently... but only God can show us which and how, etc. This I pray.

Thanks to all who've contributed to this thread.

It was nice to sit back and read.

God Bless you all.
me again.

Re: GrannieAnnie on 2005/9/20 - posted by ellie, on: 2005/9/21 9:32

Dear GrannieAnnie,

All that you have written is so, beautifully written and imparted to us of such a love of God, for us all. In that, his purpose being imparted to us, through the Holy Spirit of God, from God to us, for ourselves, and others.

It is true and yes, I agree the word 'Hospital' sums it up.

Your Testimony, of how God moved in your life that very day at the Church, is very moving and the simplicity of Gods love poured out to you.

Compared to, the world of Christians who can prevent, Gods Mercy and Grace to freely flow. Because of our own complicated thoughts and ways of how we think and to instead, place it all before the Throne of God. To wait on Him, to receive his ways and thoughts, His Will be Done.

Glory to god.

I felt the gentleness of God toward me, as I read your Thread.

ellie