

**Miracles that follow the plow :: A Clean Heart Is Possible****A Clean Heart Is Possible - posted by roaringlamb (), on: 2006/5/19 16:33**

Beloved I post this to urge on those who are after a pure heart, and having the Lord Jesus live through them.

I have been a Christian for almost six years. Oh at first it was wonderful !!! Jesus was wonderful, I could not wait to tell everyone about Him. I moved to Santa Cruz to tell people about Him. Yet for the last at least six months, I have had no joy, no peace, no holiness. I struggled with lust, with the praise of man, bitterness, envy, gossip, oh you name it and it was there before me and God.

It had gotten to the place where I was very dry, withered I would say. I could barely pray, I could not really read the Scriptures, yet I went on every Sunday preaching to people about how to live above these things. Yes I was a hypocrite, and I carried this guilt day by day. It affected how I interacted with my wife, and with everyone else. I was putting on a show basically, a show of learned behaviour that I learned from reading good books and listening to good sermons, yet I was miserable.

Today, oh about 10 minutes ago, I know for certain that I received Christ and His Spirit. My heart is clean, and I have been crucified with Him. It is more than a feeling, it is like a deep truth in me, I know that I am in the vine now!!!!

All this is to say that we cannot toy with sin, and walk with God when He is so willing and able to cleanse us. Oh let us labour to enter into His rest.

Hallelujah!!!!

Re: A Clean Heart Is Possible - posted by habakkuk3 (), on: 2006/5/19 17:13

Amen, I'm glad to hear that you have prayed through to victory as the old-timers would phrase it. It's a work of the Spirit and I praise for what He has done in your life.

I've been blessed this week by a wonderful website entitled (<http://www.enterhisrest.org/>) enter His rest. I was also blessed by something else I saw authored by the Wesley brothers (I'm not sure if it's a hymn or not) from (www.authenticchristianity.net) Authentic Christianity.

My heart is at the point of crisis as to entering this rest as penned by Brother Seymour from Azusa Street but I trust that Jesus is going to do this work in my heart as well. I pray that the Holy Spirit will quicken these words by John and Charles Wesley. Blessings to you brother.

Part One

Lord, I believe a rest remains
To all Thy people known;
A rest where pure enjoyment reigns,
And Thou art loved alone.

A rest where all our soul's desire
Is fixed on things above,
Where doubt, and pain, and fear expire,
Cast out by perfect love.

A rest of lasting joy and peace,
Where all is calm within:
'Tis then from our own works we cease,
From pride, self-will, and sin.

Our life is hid with Christ in God;
The agony is o'er,
We wrestle not with flesh and blood,
We strive with sin no more.

From every evil motion freed
(The Son hath made us free),

On all the powers of hell we tread
In glorious liberty.

Safe in the way of life, above
Death, earth, and hell we rise;
We find, when perfected in love,
Our long-sought paradise.

Within that Eden we retire,
We rest in Jesu's name:
It guards us, as a wall of fire,
And as a sword of flame.

O that I now the rest might know,
Believe, and enter in!
Now, Saviour, now the power bestow,
And let me cease from sin!

Remove this hardness from my heart,
This unbelief remove;
To me the rest of faith impart,
The Sabbath of Thy love.

Part Two

I groan from pride to be set free,
From wrath to be released:
Take me, O, take me into Thee,
My everlasting Rest.

I would be Thine, Thou knowest I would,
And have Thee all my own;
Thee, O my all-sufficient Good,
I want, and Thee alone.

Thy Name to me, Thy Nature grant;
This, only this be given:
Nothing beside my God I want,
Nothing in earth or heaven.

Come, O my Saviour, come away!
Into my heart descend;
No longer from Thy creature stay,
My Author and my End.

The bliss Thou hast for me prepared
No longer be delayed;
Come, my exceeding great reward,
For Whom I first was made.

Come, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
And seal me Thine abode!
Let all I am in Thee be lost;
Let all be lost in God.

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That about sums it up. The Holiness group continue to deny that they sin. We all still have the blood of Adam in our veins, and until the rapture the Holiness that we have is imputed to us by Christ, it is "put on" us by Him when we believe in CHRIST as LORD.

When they asked God what they could do to "work" the "works" of God, Christ responded that the "works of God" amounted to "BELIEF" in Him.

- 28. Then said they unto him, What shall we do, that we might work the works of God?
- 29. Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.

Christ is the righteous one, Christ is the sanctified one. When we believe in Him, His righteousness and His sanctification is imputed to us. By our belief in Him, Adams inherited sin no longer stains us and we are no longer "in" Adam. We are now "in" Christ, and until the rapture, only have the down payment of the Holy Spirit in our Hearts. The big problem is that we still have flesh and blood in our veins, and the blood is that of Adam.

1st Cor. 15:50-53 tells us:

50. Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

51. Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

52. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

53. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

God bless,

Stever :-)

Re: - posted by roaringlamb (), on: 2006/5/19 18:35

I don't understand what you are getting at?

Re: - posted by Ruthiepoothie (), on: 2006/5/19 19:07

Thank you so much for your testimony roaring lamb! I am so encouraged. To him that overcomes.....Praise God! I have been a Christian about the same amount of time, and have experienced the same.

Thank you for posting the poem habakkuk 3 you have no idea how much it blessed me today.

Remaining in His Faithful Grip,

(edited the part about the word rapture not being in the bible out. You're right! another topic)

Re: A Clean Heart Is Possible - posted by Tears_of_joy, on: 2006/5/19 19:25

roaringlamb, thank you for sharing your heart!

It was blessing to me!

God bless you.

Kire

Re: - posted by Scroggins (), on: 2006/5/19 19:25

Amen though Bro. Stever.

Rapture is another topic... that could fill an entire forum on its own I believe.

Also, I think it not wise to discuss "sinless perfection." It only causes division.

Re: - posted by roaringlamb (), on: 2006/5/19 19:32

I hope you all realize that I am not talking "sinless perfection", but simply a clean heart and conscience before God. Basically Romans 8 in its fullness. I am not seeking to bring division at all, but hope to the hopeless who feel they can never be free from sin. As Brother Ravenhill would say, "a man with an experience is never at the mercy of a man with an argument."

I can only testify that Christ has cleansed me, and set me free!!! Make of it what you will, just don't make it a point of argument.

To you for Him,
Patrick

Re: - posted by myfirstLove (), on: 2006/5/19 20:20

AMEN, roaringlamb!

we share the same testimony! i went thru the same exact things you went thru. praise God for this freedom! Lord Jesus thankyou for setting us free and making away for us to draw close to You!

Re: - posted by roaringlamb (), on: 2006/5/19 23:23

Quote:

-----we share the same testimony! i went thru the same exact things you went thru.

Oh there were as John of the cross aptly called them "dark nights of the soul", yet I have come through. Praise our God for He is able to save to the uttermost them that come to Him through Christ!

There was a time that I never thought this possible, and Christianity meant only to go on in the roller coaster of spirituality. Only now it seems that He has definitely taken residence, and Lordship of my all!

Re: - posted by Compton (), on: 2006/5/20 5:25

Quote:

-----Oh there were as John of the cross aptly called them "dark nights of the soul", yet I have come through.

Roaringlamb, how interesting that you would mention "Dark Night of the Soul." Tonight I had just read from that very book... I came across these words that fit so perfectly with your wonderful testimony.

"Oh, how happy a chance is this for the soul which can free itself from the house of its sensuality! None can understand it, unless, as it seems to me, it be the soul that has experienced it. For such a soul will see clearly how wretched was the servitude in which it lay and to how many miseries it was subject when it was at the mercy of its faculties and desires, and will know how the life of the spirit is true liberty and wealth, bringing with it inestimable blessings."

Often this discussion can become focused on the "removal" of sin with the emphasis on being sinless...but I think writers like John of the Cross would remind us that a pure heart is not achieved when the heart is devoid of sin but when the heart is filled with the love of God.

Sensuality's self love can not be dislodged and forced out leaving the heart like a sanitized vacuum sealed tight with human will power; carnality's pollutants can only be displaced with a greater overflowing and abundant volume of God's Spirit!

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So seeking sinlessness will achieve nothing but an empty house that is spacious and inviting for sin to re-enter. I think what we are talking about is nothing less than our soul's continued abiding fellowship with God. It is our union, our communion, with God that drives out the darkness. So often I talk in terms of removing the old and wretched when what I really need is a flowing and constant filling of the new and pure.

"I need Thee every hour, in joy or pain;
Come quickly and abide, or life is in vain."

Amen!

MC

Re: A clean heart is possible, on: 2006/5/20 7:09

Patrick said

Quote:
-----All in all, it just comes down to wanting Jesus to show you all the sin within, and let Him cleanse you. No more making excuses, or blaming others, but really getting down to business with the Holy Spirit

I think this is a place of bravery which many of us procrastinate to embrace, yet, once pushed towards the final step (which turns out to be the first of many final steps), we find ourselves in God's presence, with a reality which cannot be disputed - as you said - by the person who experiences it. Praise God. He is SO real and SO willing to meet us..... where we are. Glory to His NAME!

Re: - posted by roaringlamb (), on: 2006/5/20 12:38

It is glorious!! But do not think that the flesh, and the very enemy of God will not try to coerce us into avoiding this very stripping and filling.

Compton, I would have to agree with you about the filling of the love of God. For is not holiness simply Christ living through us? Is that not 1 Corinthians 13, or the fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5?

It is not so much that I am sinless, as that I am full of God.

Truly the sin that self loved, or had no power not to commit has been made horrific in the sight of Him, and His love.

Let us not get hung up on terms, let us simply look unto Jesus, and believe there is a "highway of holiness", but it comes at a price. :-D

Re: - posted by Scroggins (), on: 2006/5/20 17:04

Bro. Patrick your testimony is great. Praise GOD.

Amen. Lets not get caught up on terms. I did not mean to imply that we were talking about "sinless perfection" here, as I dont believe in the pursuit of it.

Therefore we should focus on the giver of all gifts rather than the gifts themselves. And get on that "highway of holiness" as you say.

Praise our Holy and Loving GOD! Let us bask in HIS Glory!

Re: - posted by Compton (), on: 2006/5/20 18:13

Great conversation.

Quote:
-----Let us not get hung up on terms

In the case of our most common and vital terms, maybe a little hang up now and then is profitable to the body. ;-) Sometimes, what is deeply and profoundly meaningful to some, remains mere pious platitude to others.

For instance, what do we mean experientially with the oft used phrase "Christ living through us? It may be that we each have various pieces of this most practical mystery that could benefit one another.

MC

Re: - posted by myfirstLove (), on: 2006/5/20 18:17

Psalm 18:23-25 (New King James Version)

23 I was also blameless before Him,
And I kept myself from my iniquity.
24 Therefore the LORD has recompensed me according to my righteousness,
According to the cleanness of my hands in His sight.
25 With the merciful You will show Yourself merciful;
With a blameless man You will show Yourself blameless;

Psalm 24:3-5

3 Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD?
Or who may stand in His holy place?
4 He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
Who has not lifted up his soul to an idol,
Nor sworn deceitfully.
5 He shall receive blessing from the LORD,
And righteousness from the God of his salvation.

Psalm 66:18

18 If I regard iniquity in my heart,
The Lord will not hear.

these verses shows that it is possible to have a sinless heart before God, not saying that you will never sin again after that. you will always have that possibility, especially when you are not abiding in the Lord. but when a person who understands and lives from 6 does sin, that person will quickly confess and get right with God that his heart may not harden and become blind to that one sin causing more sins to follow if correction from the Lord gets unheeded. for sure, one who is a disciple of Christ has no habitual (practices) sins.

read 2 peter 1:1-11

God has given us His divine power (grace) to live in godliness and escape the corruption of this world thru lust thru the knowledge of him (knowing Him). peter says if these things abound in you (His fruit) you will neither be barren or unfruitful in the knowledge of Him. peter says if you do these things (obedience) you will NEVER STUMBLE, but those who lack those things (diligence, virtue, self control, brotherly kindness, FAITH) WILL BE SHORTSIGHTED, EVEN TO BLINDNESS AND HAS FORGOTTEN HE WAS CLEANED FROM HIS OLD SINS.

Jesus says that He came to save us FROM sin.
Matthew 1:21

21 And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins.Â”

yes, we are of flesh and flesh sin, but thank God for His Holy Spirit who is here to HELP us to be pleasing before God.

gal. 5:16

walk in the Spirit and you SHALL NOT FULFILL THE LUST OF THE FLESH.

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what does that mean? if you walk in Him you will not sin. so if you sin its because you are NOT walking in the Spirit, but flesh.

surely this is focusing on the Giver. without focusing on Him first and loving Him we cannot even walk in the Spirit.

for we should desire to walk in Him daily that we may truly glorify Him. it is when you walk with a pure heart and clean hands that you really glorify the Father. if we want to give Him the glory and not ourselves then we must walk with a pure heart, free from habitual sins. what hope is it to the world if they see christians struggling with the same sins? how does that glorify God?

Re: A Clean Heart Is Possible, on: 2006/5/20 20:51

Isn't it wonderful to know that our Saviour is ALL powerfull, ALL knowing, and in complete control of everything in heaven and on earth and everything we go through is for a reason? This is where I draw my peace from even in the mist of a storm.

He'll never leave us or forsake us no matter what the demons of hell might try and tell us. Satan is on a leash. He's defeated. Jesus has won the battle. Satan is a created being. He's not the opposite of God. He's created by God. We have victory through Christ if we will claim it.

Re: - posted by myfirstLove (), on: 2006/5/20 22:48

2 Timothy 2:12-14

12 If we endure,
We shall also reign with Him.
If we deny Him,
HE ALSO WILL DENY US.

13 If we are faithless,
He remains faithful;

He cannot deny Himself. (NOTE: paul is encouraging timothy to remind the church of this saying)

we must continue to pray and watch as Jesus says. for the devil roars about like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour. this is a warning to the church from paul. God allows us to go thru certain things, but many of us go thru many things that God did not choose for us, but we CHOSE IT, but thank God for His discipline if we take heed to His rod of correction (heb. 12:5-11).

brothers and sisters as john ends his letter to the church in 1 john, KEEP YOURSELVES FROM IDOLS

let us endure that we may reign with Him (2 tim 2:12)

peace and grace will multiply as we seek to KNOW HIM(2 peter 1-11)

may our one desire is for God to be glorified!
lisa

Re: true holliness - posted by pullpit, on: 2006/6/2 22:39

hi we can not say holy life is not possible that what the enemy wants us to thank it is through the blood of christ :-)

Quote:

roaringlamb wrote:

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Re: - posted by Nellie, on: 2006/6/3 11:08

Thank-you for sharing, Brother Patrick.
May we all enter in.
Enter in, into the Holy place
Enter in, and look upon His Face.
He is Worthy, He is Holy, He is Wonderful,
Enter in.
God Bless you
Nellie :-)

Re: - posted by deltadom (), on: 2006/6/3 11:25

I wish I had a clean heart aswell

Re: - posted by roaringlamb (), on: 2006/6/3 13:05

Quote:

-----I wish I had a clean heart as well

Dear brother, I know that you have and are currently going through much, but trust Him. Put away the books for awhile, get alone with Him, search the Scriptures, ask Him to cleanse your heart. Best of all the cleansed heart is part of God's promise read Ezekiel 36:25-27, Acts 15:9.

Bottom line is that if we are honest about our sin, He is able and willing to cleanse, not only our conscience, but our heart as well.

Oh yeah best of all, our old nature has been done away with Romans 6:6-7.
Be of good cheer brother, rejoice always, and seek Him with all of your heart.
:-)