

Articles and Sermons :: What do you cling to**What do you cling to - posted by silverspoone, on: 2007/4/9 19:21**

WHAT DO YOU CLING TO?

What keeps you from complete surrender to Christ?

What holds you back from complete submission and obedience?

What do you cling to instead of Father God?

1 John 2:15-17

15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

Rom 12:2

2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Rom 12:9

9 Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.

When we place things in our lives ahead of God, and we don't go to God with our problems and trust Him to take care of them His way, we are disrespecting Him greatly. We are telling Him that He isn't able to take care of our situations, our lives, and that we can do it better.

The trouble is, we soon find out that we cannot do it better.

And when we put people, places, and situations ahead of God, we are telling Him we don't love Him.

We are telling Him that Jesus sacrifice was in vain.

Because we the creation, are telling the creator of all the universe and everything in it, that He cant do the things in our lives we need help with.

What do you place ahead of God? Your pets? Your children? Your husband? Your job? Your car? Your sports? Your friends? The Internet? Are you addicted to the "victim" mentality? Do you want recognition and popularity with people of the world, or even your Christian friends and your Church, over and above Gods friendship, and Gods desires for you? Do you place God last in the day, instead of First? Do you go to people first instead of God? Or do you pray first, and then get confirmation? Do you complain about your situation, or do you do what GOD says to do in His Word?

Rom 12:9-18

9 Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.

10 Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;

11 Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;

12 Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;

13 Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.

14 Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not.

15 Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

16 Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.

17 Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.

18 If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

We are not to be of the world, or act like it. When people do us wrong, we are not supposed to try to attack, and spread evil words about them, we are not to judge them. We are to love them, and pray for them, and bless them. Its when we do this, that God moves on our behalf. As you see below in the scripture.

Rom 12:19-21

19 Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

20 Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.

21 Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

When we act like the world, we are not showing Jesus. We are showing our immaturity.

We can be saved decades, and still be a babe in Christ, if we haven't learned a deep dependence on GOD for all our needs and wants and desires, and put HIM first, and stop

Judging the world and its behaviors towards us.

What we find is that the devil is after us, God wants to perfect us, and the world is trying to persecute us. But we should be wholly dependent upon God at this point, to get through these trials and tribulations. Jesus never said it would be easy. He never said we wouldn't be persecuted or have it tough.

Matt 5:10-12

10 Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

12 Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

John 15:20

20 Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also.

John 16:33

33 These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

So we know that we will have persecutions, trials, tribulations, and heartache and pain and suffering as we grow and mature in our walk with God. Its how we react to all this that is the reason for this sermon.

We need during our times of intense need, and things going increasingly wrong, to really totally depend on GOD and ask HIM for help, and to rely upon Him, because HE is the ONLY ONE that can give us the perfect way out, and perfect answer to all that we are going through.

Sometimes He sends others to speak a word of truth in our lives, but we don't always receive it. Because we think we know more, or our pain is more intense than anyone else's...but how are we to grow and mature if we get self centered and selfish in our lives? When we cling to our own understanding, and think we know it all, we lose out on some absolutely wonderful inspiration, revelation and deliverance from God!

Prov 3:5-7

5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

7 Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.

James 4:7

7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

1 Peter 5:5-7

5 Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.

6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:

7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

We need to put GOD first in our lives. He should be the first one we tell we love, He should be the first one we pray to, and love on, and He should be the first one we run to when things get out of control in our lives.

If we are not doing that, how can we expect Him to help us when we truly need Him?

We have to also go to Him even when things are going RIGHT, not just when we need His help!

We need to show Him we trust Him, and love Him, in the good times as well as in the bad. And not get angry at Him when things we don't understand are happening in our lives.

I know as well as anyone does, that bad things sometimes happen, and those we love turn on us, or persecute us, or run from us, and there are some times when we think that God isn't listening or doesn't care.

The truth really is, HE DOES CARE!

We just don't give Him proper reverence and respect, and love!

When things are going right, PRAISE HIM!

When things are going wrong, PRAISE HIM!

When you don't understand what is going on, PRAISE HIM!

When you don't hear Him, PRAISE HIM!

Sometimes when the Lord is moving on your behalf, you don't always "feel" His presence. You don't always hear Him, and sometimes He is moving on others hearts

For the situation to change, and we need to have patience as He works things out for

Us. We don't always get instant pudding when it comes to situations at hand.

When you plant a field, you don't get instant vegetables, so why do you expect God to give instantly all the time?

He has to move on hearts, in order to change some situations or open doors.

We need to thank Him BEFORE the answer, and put HIM first in all things, no matter

HOW we feel.

The last thing I need to discuss, is this, we need to also be in OBEDIENCE to the last thing HE told us to do. If we are not in obedience, we open the door to the devil to attack us, and he will have the legal right to do so when we are in disobedience. If the Lord told you to do something, then it's a good idea to do it.

He will ask us sometimes to do some strange things, but its ok.

We are a peculiar people and Gods ways are not our ways and His thoughts are not our thoughts, and so we just have to trust Him, even when our world seems out of control

He sees the end from the beginning and nothing is impossible for Him.

He breathed life into us all, He created the universe out of nothing.

What is too big for HIM?

NOTHING!

What is too small for Him to bother with?

NOTHING!

He loves you!

Cling to GOD!

Not the world!

And you will see victory in your life!

In Jesus Name

Sheila Hall

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