



"And this is the commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also." 1 John 4: 21

Sunday – June 7, 2009

## Heart to Heart...

When one reads the book of Hebrews they discover the great richness of Christ Jesus. The Jewish Christian's were leaving Christ Jesus and the assembly of the saints (Hebrews 10:19-25). Some had drifted far away and it was next to impossible to get them back because their heart had grown indifferent and cold. Brethren were becoming dull of hearing and had no real stirring within to move them forward. They were more content to go back to what they had practiced in their former lives than what Jesus offered them. How were they going to be brought back to their senses?

Let's note one important factor. The writer did not use a 'pep-talk' to fire them up! The writer didn't introduce some new idea of a program to get them excited about their relationship to the Lord. There wasn't brought in some really eloquent or entertaining speaker to spark their interest in the Lord. It was simply Christ and His position He holds for them! Those saints were reminded that if they didn't take to heart who Jesus is and what He offers them, they would lose everything. Abraham, Moses, Enoch and Joseph, just to name a few, were used to show they trusted in the word of the Lord, looking to His promises that were fulfilled in Jesus! They had a heart for the Lord and His word and it motivated them.

We can see that when people get 'bored', or their faith grows a little stale, there is only one reason for that. The Lord Jesus Christ, their Savior has ceased to make an impact on their heart that He once had. Many times in the church today, we take the same attitude that things have grown dull, old and the same things over and over. Our weak, human flesh begins to lead us and we think we need something to get us excited again. Let's build a new building or start new programs. Let's get a new preacher or the elders have lost their vision. (If the preacher isn't preaching Jesus and Him crucified and what that means, he needs to go!) We look to blame others for our lack of desire but that only deceives us and covers up what is the real problem. The problem is we have backed off the Lord and our faith erodes day by day.

Jesus made us whole and perfect. He is what we aren't! That's what the Hebrew tells them. When people grow dull and weary, that's an alarm that something is taking our faith away. Jesus is the answer to our lives, our difficulties and He is our perfection! It's Him alone that should stir the heart and cause us to move forward with zeal and encouragement. It's through Him that God will take us all the way to the end and give us the strength to carry out His will at the present. ***"Now the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep through the blood of the eternal covenant, even Jesus our Lord, equip you in every good thing to do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen."*** (Hebrews 13:20-21) Think about it!!!

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