



"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 – October 31, 2010

Heart to Heart...

If you were asked, "Who is your god?" how would you answer that? Would you say Jehovah God of heaven and earth? Many claim the God of our Savior Jesus Christ. Many can recite something they have learned about the eternal Father from Scriptures but who really is your god?

The God we speak about and the god we serve can be two different gods. Just look when the super bowl comes around: The cancelling of services or changing our times to accommodate the football game. We see it in many other things like this. *A person's god is what he cares about the most!* Whatever you prize and rally around is your god. What you serve on a daily basis and place your money and efforts into is your god.

In the days of Rome, the Romans worshiped *Mars*, the god war. Today we would consider such as nonsense and empty, but is that really true? We have made our nation to be great because of all the high technology of our war machines and bombs. It brings us a false security. It is God of heaven and of earth that allows a nation to stand or fall! The Romans worshiped *Bacchus*, the god of wine, drunkenness and sexuality. What do many serve today? Look at what we watch and allow our children to watch. Drinking has become a norm in our society for relaxation. Some in Christ invite it into their lives! Alcoholism continues to be a major problem in our day and time. The goddess of *Aphrodite* was the goddess of sex. Look how many are obsessed with sex and pornography. The Internet has become a warehouse of enslavement and is affecting many a marriage. There was *Venus*, the goddess of beauty. Look at our obsession with youth and looks: body enhancements and work done to retain a youthful look.

It was Jesus who taught that no man can serve two masters. It is impossible! (Matthew 6:24) The God we speak of and the god we serve can be very different. The apostle Paul instructed the church that Jesus must have first place in everything (Colossians 1:18). If Jesus doesn't have first place in everything, we serve another god. Paul's life was wrapped up in Jesus and the life he lived, he lived for Jesus (Galatians 2:20).

We have many needs in our lives. We have even more desires but our needs and desires were never intended to be our gods. To expend energy in the pursuit of education, recreation, literary achievements is not sinful when kept within their means but for many all their efforts are expended toward these things and they take first place in many lives. To build our lives around anyone or anything else but the Lord God is an empty, failing pursuit. I've known people who start a business and that becomes their pursuit. They give up their worship of God to make it a go, never realizing it is God who will determine the blessings of the business. The God who died for us calls us to choose Him, to follow Him with our whole heart. He forbids us to follow any other god whether it is a desire, need, person or object. He calls us to make Him the center of our thoughts, actions and desires. Why? Because He is our sustainer in this life and the life to come! Think about it!!!

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