



"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 5, 2011

Heart to Heart...

Are you really convicted about the word of the Lord? If you listen to some, you would think it is their word, their thought process that moves themselves and others forward. Here we are saints, justified and redeemed yet we don't put a lot of emphasis on the word of the Lord. It is the promises from the word of the Lord that brought us our standing. The problem is without the word of the Lord, there is NO faith built and NO true foundation on which our lives can rest.

Jesus had the same problem during His day and time. The religious teachers, the ones who claimed God as their Father put too much thought into themselves and little in the Lord's word. Jesus often asked: "***Have you not read...?***" (Matthew 12:3,5/19:4/22:31/Mark 12:26) "***Have you never read...?***" (Matthew 21:16) "***Did you never read in the Scriptures...?***" (Matthew 21:42) Sure they had read the Scriptures but they put no faith in them to direct their lives! Their usage of God's word was nothing more than read and it was forgotten. They didn't believe them because there was no uniting with faith in their heart with what they read. These are just a few times Jesus called the hands of those professing God as their Father, teachers of His word, and it showed how little the word of the Lord meant to them.

We know well that "***faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.***" (Romans 10:17) You can't get around it. You want to grow in faith? How well do you hear? Are we really a people convicted in the word of the Lord? If a person carries a trusting conviction in God's word, then they will allow His word to speak and inform, not their own thoughts or some 'fanciful' slogan. The word of the Lord becomes part of who they are and allows the Lord to lead, not their personal thoughts! Paul even reminded the preacher Timothy that the things from God are only advanced by faith not by creating speculations (I Timothy 1:4). When one deviates from God's design you rob others spiritually who are listening. You rob yourself of strength and security. Some people like the ear ticklers because they have no true conviction in the Scriptures. Some people like fruitless discussions because they can talk about a lot of things that go nowhere, which reveals their lack of understanding, but it had good discussion. Some people have little interest in Scriptures as their heart isn't set on God. David of old said he meditates on the Lord's word (Psalm 119:23). In fact, one that walks wholly with the Lord is one who: "***But his delight in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night.***" (Psalm 1:2) Paul instructed the saint to be transformed by the renewing of their mind (Romans 12:2). How does one renew? It must come from the word of the Lord.

How do you honestly feel about the word of the Lord? Do you see yourself as one who trembles at His word? Do you hold the word of the Lord as sacred and faith building? It doesn't take much to watch how people react at the reading and teaching of God's word. Listen to the Lord speak through Isaiah: "***But to this one I will look, to him who is humble and contrite in spirit, and who trembles at My word.***" (Isaiah 66:2) Does the Lord look to you? Think about it!!!

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