



"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 – November 13, 2011

Heart to Heart...

God is against our sinfulness! God is against sin period!! We don't see sin as serious. When Adam and Eve took of the fruit in the garden, it was rebellion against God. They *earned* condemnation! From that day forward to today, man has followed in the same order of rebellion (Romans 5:12) and death has occurred to all. Every act of lawlessness and every unforgiven sin will be judged. We aren't just "one time" sinners.

Sin surrounds us. Sin is normal. The more one sins, the easier it becomes to sin. Every act of sin that is committed adds to the world of death making it easier for others to sin. Sin pollutes our society and hearts. Sin weakens and makes us hard hearted. Sin makes people uncaring and harbors within the heart bitterness. Sin creates hate in the heart. Sin divides people. Sin divides homes. Sin divides the church. Sin is deceptive. Sin lies and is arrogant. Sin will take one to the pits of hell for eternity!

God is hostile toward sin. In the midst of all this, we hear God speak: "***Who gave Himself as a ransom for all.***" (I Timothy 2:6) A "*ransom*" was paid because we sinned. The ransom was paid because sin holds people hostage and in slavery. "***He was pierced through for our transgressions, and was crushed for our iniquities. By His scourging we are healed.***" (Isaiah 53:5) It took Jesus' suffering to free us from the consequences of our sins. The Hebrew writer speaks for God: "***He put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.***" (Hebrews 9:26) John reminds the saints in Revelation 1:5: "***To Him who loves us and released us from our sins by His blood.***" The saints in Rome were told: "***He was delivered over because of our transgressions.***" (Romans 4:25) Our coming into the presence of God, being holy and blameless all came as the result of the death of His Son (Romans 5:10). A great price was paid for each of us.

Sin is horrible in the eyes of God. Sin is damnable! Sin cost God His Son in order to bring us into a relationship with Himself. God provided a way to Him but it took a substitute on our behalf. It is God who makes the way into His presence through Jesus. We don't bargain with God, make deals or impress Him. It's only through Jesus we are saved. The question is asked: how do you really feel about Jesus? Do you not take sin too seriously? Do you feel the prick in the heart when you sin? Does the death of Jesus on your behalf tender your heart? Is Jesus your world? Why do you worship with the saints or choose not to worship with the saints? Sin makes one insensitive toward Jesus Christ and it's only through Jesus we will make it! That's a heart of love revealed for each of us which should make us shout with joy and willingly leave the path of sin. Think about it!!!

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