



Church of Christ

April 13, 2003

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Heart to Heart...

From the beginning to the end of Scriptures, we find God is against man's sinfulness. You find over and over where He poured out His judgments on man's sins. One day, in Christ Jesus, He will judge all the generations of mankind in connection with their wickedness. Many don't like to hear this, much less believe it. People are willing, in their own sinfulness, to "let bygones be bygones" as far as their sins are concerned. Many just don't see sin as that serious.

When Adam and Eve sinned in the garden (Gen. 3), it was rebellion against God. They "earned" condemnation! From that day forward, man has followed in the same order of sin (Rom. 5:12). What we need to realize, we are held accountable for each and every act of lawlessness (which is sin – I John 3:4). What's worse, we aren't just "one time" sinners. We sin over and over and sometimes to the point that it is easy for some not to think anything of the sins they commit. They just accept them as a normal part of life. The more we sin, the easier it becomes to sin and we add our contribution to the world around us, which makes it easier for others to sin. We need to realize when we practice sin, we help pollute our own society.

Sin weakens us and makes one hard in heart. Sin makes people uncaring and harbors bitterness. It creates hate in the heart. Sin makes people fake their lives before others, not wanting to be found out about. It takes one into depths of mental anguish and pain, leaving people confused. Sin will take one to the pits of hell eternally.

God is hostile toward our sinfulness. What we need to grasp is in the midst of God's judgment, He executed His Son for our well being. "*Who gave Himself as a ransom for all*" (I Tim. 2:6) Jesus was "*pierced through for our transgressions, and was crushed for our iniquities. By His scourging we are healed.*" (Isa. 53:5) "*...but the Lord has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on Him.*" (Isa. 53:6) John tell us in Rev. 1:5, "**To Him who loves us and released us from our sins by His blood.**" The Hebrew writer tells us that "*He put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.*" (Heb. 9:26) Paul reminds the brethren that "*we have redemption through His blood.*" (Eph. 1:7) Peter tells us we were "bought back" "*by the precious blood of Jesus.*" (I Pet. 1:18-19) He goes on to tell us that "*He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross.*" (I Pet. 2:24) The Roman's were told that "*He was delivered over because of our transgressions.*" (Rom. 4:25) Our coming into the presence of God, having a relationship with God came "*through the death of His Son.*" (Rom. 5:10)

There are just a few verses in teaching the damnable horror of sin and what it cost God and Jesus to bring us into a relationship with Him. God is One who provided a way in His own presence. It is Himself who makes it possible for us to approach Him. We don't bargain with God or impress Him for a relationship. It's only through Jesus. So...how do you really feel about Jesus? Have you gotten where sin is just shrugged off, with little thought about your actions? Do you not feel the prick in the heart when you sin? Sin makes you insensitive toward sin and Jesus Christ. Think about it!!!

Brent