



... Heart to Heart ...

“He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.” (II Cor. 5:21) Jesus became sin, our sin on our behalf. It’s hard for us to see the depth of love in this statement from God about Himself. We don’t see love for what it is. The love of God made His Son be sin so we could become His righteousness. Love that isn’t holy cannot be trusted! Love that just overlooks sin is not love, much less holy. I’m afraid we have made God to be some kind of “Heavenly Santa” or a “Heavenly Sweetheart” that just looks at us and says, “I know you didn’t mean to sin. It’s okay! I forgive you.” We need to grasp hold and realize God does not simply “overlook” our sinfulness! He has to deal with our sinfulness! His holiness doesn’t take sin that lightly.

When we repent of our sins, it’s not just a saying I’m sorry and it’s all forgotten. Many times we don’t do that as humans. Sometimes we are faced with our own sinfulness and it bears out the guilt in our minds. How do you really think God deals with our sins? God wants to forgive us. He longs to forgive us but His holy love and justice demands were all found in Christ, His Son. The only thing we have to offer God is His Son!!! “Although He was a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered. And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation.” (Heb. 5:8-9) Jesus identified Himself with us, and our sinfulness, to the depth that He submitted Himself to the horror of the sufferings of our sinfulness. Listen carefully; Jesus identified Himself with our humanity so that He could confess our confession that we have sinned against a holy God. The cross bears out He died our death; bore our sins, confessed our sinfulness before a holy, loving God.

The Jesus whom we speak of, preach of and put our trust in, He knew what God’s love and holiness demanded. Death is the price for sin, all sin. Holiness is the only thing present before Him. Nothing unholy gets close to God. God demanded it, Jesus demonstrated it on our level, and ascended back to the Father to show Him what His love fulfilled. God is holy and His love is holy and Jesus showed the depth of that by becoming our sinfulness. The result? We became His righteousness! God abhors sin, *all sin*, and the life lived with man and the sacrifice of His Son demonstrated that God’s love is a holy love that can be trusted. It’s not trivial to Him. Our freedom in Christ was not free. There was a cost, a holy, pure and innocent, loving cost! Reflect on who Jesus is on our behalf and think about it!!!

Brent