

Monday, 22 May 2017 John 5:24

Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment but has passed from death to life.

I am finally beginning to understand that belief in a 'catch word' for the process which must take place so that my life no longer conforms to the ways of the world but is transformed into a life living in the righteousness, peace and joy of the Kingdom of Heaven. The steps of the process are confession and conviction, then commitment and obedience producing a life of faith and trust.

Unfortunately, the majority of the Church in the West believes that the process is complete after confession.

Tuesday, 23 May 2017 John 5:37-38

And the Father who sent me has himself borne witness about me. His voice you have never heard, his form you have never seen, and you do not have his word abiding in you, for you do not believe the one whom he has sent.

These two sections have a pattern of action accompanied by confirmation. True confession will always be accompanied by soul wrenching conviction. Any confession that does not convict one that he is an undeserving sinner in the eyes of the LORD, God, the Almighty is merely lip service intended to impress the audience.

Likewise, true commitment will always be accompanied by a need to hide that Word in the heart (Psalm 119:11) so that one can obey the Word of God.

Wednesday, 24 May 2017 John 5:43-44

I have come in my Father's name, and you do not receive me. If another comes in his own name, you will receive him. How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the only God?

How often and in how many ways does the desire for the approval of family or co-worker or neighbor or ... drive my witness and testimony? How can I claim to be a child of the King when I refuse to acknowledge Him and give Him the praise and honor due? Forgive me, Lord, I am a weak and sinful man.

Thursday, 25 May 2017 John 5:45-46

Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father. There is one who accuses you: Moses, on whom you have set your hope. For if you believed Moses, you would believe me; for he wrote of me.

The Israelites asked Moses to be their advocate with the LORD, God, the Almighty (Exodus 20:19) and to give them the Word of the LORD. But it was lip service; they were not convicted. There was no transformation. We may not have a Moses to speak directly to us but we have the evidence of the Creation; we have the clear testimony of Paul as he cites the evidence on all sides of us in Romans 1:18-21.

Friday, 26 May 2017 John 5:47

But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe my words?"

The Jews did not accept the words of Moses and certainly rejected Paul's writing. They did not accept the Word of the LORD, God, the Almighty as spoken by a member of the Trinity. Hearts of stone will always be hearts of stone until transformed by the Holy Spirit into hearts of flesh which will receive the Word written upon them (Ezekiel 11:19-20).

Saturday, 27 May 2017 John 6:28-29

Then they said to him, "What must we do, to be doing the works of God?" Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." "that you believe in Him whom He has sent" That is to

confess and be convicted, to commit and obey, thereby becoming men of faith and trust in the LORD, God, the Almighty in all aspects of life. This is the true sinner's prayer; it is not a litany to be recited upon request.

Lord's Day, 28 May 2017 Psalm 119:18

Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law.

This is an area where I need to see that my concern for Betty is an "all things" and is working for our good. Help me to see how to love her and support her, how to comfort her and lead her into Your peace and to do so in a compassionate manner.

VOICES TOGETHER

Daily Meditations from the Scriptures



May 22-28, 2017

Prayer of the week, based on Paul's prayer in: *Philippians 4:6-7*

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Forgive us, LORD, when we succumb to the sin of anxiety, to that grievous sin that represents trust in our own efforts rather than trusting in Your Word.

LORD, You have sent us out to carry the message of the peace of God into all the corners of the kingdom of man. We come to You seeking that guidance and discernment that will empower us to reach all those You have entrusted to our care and ministry; depending totally upon Your promise to guard our hearts and minds in You. **Amen**

Creational Theology hint for the week--*Creational Theology hint: Years ago I put a strip of aluminum flashing around an old red oak stump at the edge of the lawn and filled it with soil. It has served as a faithful planter with mountain pinks being the first herald of spring. Later it will serve as a home for marigolds and petunias which in their turn, will be replaced by a few mums. Now the slowly rotting stump is getting close to the stage where it will no longer hold the screws holding the flashing in place. But it will continue to be a constant reminder of the synergy of the Creation.*

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