

The Bishop's Corner

We must choose God to be chosen

Praise the Lord Saints,

“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved” (Romans 10:13). “But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name” (John 1:12)

God chooses those who ask Him to save them. When God saves us, we can make it to Heaven because He gives us the Holy Spirit. However, we must remain saved and choose God daily by doing His will and having the mind of Christ. “To this end was I born and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth” (John 18:37).

God does not crucify our mind, but the Holy Spirit has to put it to death. We must change our will, renew our mind, and lay aside the sins and weights that will slow us down and stop us. “That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lust: and be renewed in the spirit of your mind” (Ephesians 4:22-23).

We should live our lives as though we are dead to the world, set our affections on things above, and allow the Lord to change us. “If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead and your life is hid with Christ in God” (Colossians 3:1-2). We can do this because Jesus spoiled principalities and powers and triumphed over them when He was raised from the dead (Colossians 2:15).

If we do not make up our mind that our old man is dead, we will allow things to remain in our affections that are not pleasing to God and that we will not ask Him to deliver us from; therefore, we will neither draw closer to God nor grow in the Spirit. We must decide that we are done with those things that are in our affections and be willing to give them up because God is not going to take those things out of our affections for us. “Wherefore, seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us” (Hebrews 12:1).

Let us learn to love the things that God loves: prayer, praise, worship, and studying His Word. We were created to live holy, and our purpose is to glorify God. “Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved” (Ephesians 1:5-6).

God bless all of you,

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