

The Bishop's Corner

Let the Living Water Flow

Praise the Lord Saints,

“In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, ‘If any man thirst, let him come unto Me, and drink. He that believeth on Me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.’ (But this spake He of the Spirit, which they that believe on Him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified) (John 7:37-39 KJV).”

God wants us to allow the Holy Ghost to flow out of us, and when we drink of Jesus, out of our bellies (inner being) shall flow rivers of living water. God gives us His word first to change us so when we preach it to others, the word will give them life (2 Corinthians 3:18). We can't draw people to God by acting like we're holy; we must allow the Holy Ghost to help us become holy.

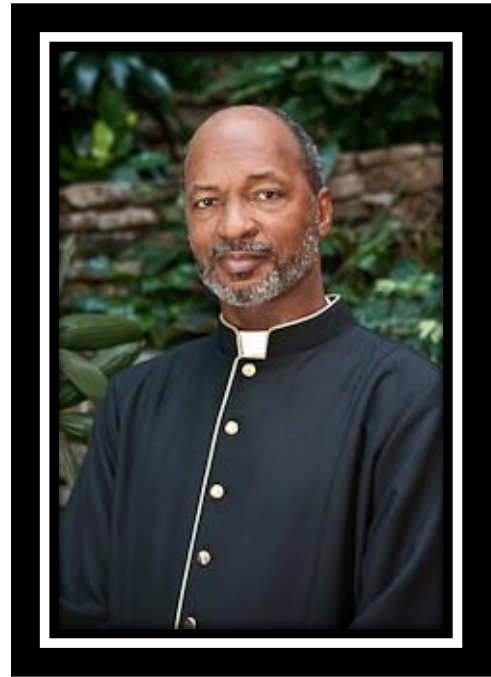
The only reason for preaching the gospel is to get people saved (1 Corinthians 15:1-2). People can get riches on the earth, but they can get peace and salvation only from God (John 14:27, Acts 4:12). The word of God keeps church leaders holy and on the right track and from falling into cult-like tendencies. Therefore, we should not be afraid to read, study, (2 Timothy 2:15) and meditate on the word of God so we can rightly divide the word that's preached because we are all living by faith and trusting in God to make it to heaven.

It wasn't that Adam just ate of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the garden; (Genesis 3:6) he became a sinner. From his sin, we were all born in sin (Romans 5:12). God blots out our sins (Isaiah 43:25-26) when we get saved because He doesn't need our past sins for us to go to hell. He just waits for us to sin again and not repent, and that's enough for us to go to hell. God is merciful and just to forgive us when we sin if we repent (1 John 1:9).

If we want the right mind and attitude, we need to let the living water flow out of us. When we as preachers stop allowing the living water to flow from us, our preaching becomes dry, and we begin to repeat ourselves. We must continue to pray and study God's word so that the living water can continue to flow from us and others can be saved.

God bless you,

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For more of Bishop Smith's teachings, go to the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Website at <http://www.gulfcoastclgi.org> and click on "Encouragement" then "Teachings."