

ENEMY WAYS

Hello I'm Jim Fuller. I like to share a few thoughts and some scriptures with you.

Do you remember the story of David and Bathsheba in 2nd Samuel chapters 11 and 12?

I'll quickly summarize it. When the armies of Israel went out to battle, David stayed behind in the palace. As he was walking on the roof top he saw a beautiful woman bathing. He had her brought to his house and slept with her and she became pregnant.

Her husband was Uriah the Hittite, one of David's army officers. David brought him back from the battle hoping that he would sleep with his wife and cover David's sin. Uriah did not sleep with his wife out of loyalty to his troops in the field. So, David had him sent to the front of the army, and had his own troops fall back so that Uriah would be killed.

God was not at all pleased with what David had done. He sent Nathan the prophet to confront David.

It seems odd that David, who was called, a man after God's own heart, would willingly do something that he knew was wrong and contrary to God's word.

But please notice that when Nathaniel spoke God's word to David, he didn't say, I can't believe you slept with that woman and killed her husband to cover it up. He said why have you despised the word of the Lord?

David's victory over Goliath, his exaltation to be king, and every possession and authority that he had was because of God's covenant with him. Everything about David's life was because of God's doing. God was upset that he chose to do his own will and ignore the Covenant.

The word despise, doesn't mean, an open hatred for God. David loved God very much.

Here is one of Webster's definitions of the word despise: to regard something as negligible, worthless, or distasteful.

David decided at that moment, that God's covenant wasn't that big of a deal and proceeded to do what his own senses were compelling him to do.

The Apostle Paul, in Romans 6.16, explains the principle, that whoever you submit yourself to that's who servant you really are.

And Jesus stated in Matthew 6.24 that, No man can serve two masters. He will either love the one and hate the other. Or he will serve the one and despise the other.

It seems today, that in modern Christianity, there is a major misconception about the role of the Holy Spirit in our lives. He's often painted as a spirit that sneaks around trying to catch us in specific sins and hidden acts of unrighteousness.

Let's go to the scriptures to clarify His role.

Jesus explained in John 16.8 that, When He comes, He will convict the world concerning sin, and righteousness, and judgment, concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me, concerning righteousness because I go to the Father, and you no longer behold me, and concerning judgment because the ruler of this world has been judged.

The Holy Spirit was not sent to convict us of specific sins. Those acts are the fruit of the spiritually dead nature that we inherited from Adam and Eve.

The word translated as sin, means: the brand of sin that emphasizes its *self*-originated (*self*-empowered) nature – i.e. it is not originated or empowered by God (i.e. *not of faith*, His in worked persuasion).

The main ingredient of spiritual discernment is the ability to determine what's of God and what is not of God. The origin of the thing is always the determining factor.

Jesus told Nicodemus and John 3.6, whatever is born of the flesh is flesh, and whatever is born of the spirit is Spirit.

The Holy Spirit has come to give us revelation about the difference between our own carnal nature and our new spiritual nature that was given to us by God

Romans 8:6 amp says, the mind of the flesh, which is sense and reason without the Holy Spirit is death, death that comprises all the miseries arising from sin, both here and hereafter. But the mind of the Holy Spirit is life and soul peace, both now and forever.

Verse 5 says, Those who are according to the flesh and are controlled by its unholy desires, set their minds on and pursue those things which gratify the flesh, but those who are according to the spirit and are controlled by the desires of the spirit, set their minds on and seek those things which gratify the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit's other function is to convict us of righteousness. He has come to reveal to us the reality of the new spiritual nature that is now ours because God put us in Christ. So that whatever happened to Christ, happen to us also.

Romans chapter 6 explains that because we were in Christ, we shared His death, His burial, and His resurrection from the dead. We can now consider ourselves alive from the dead and have unbroken fellowship with God.

His other function is to reveal to us that Satan has been defeated in our lives. We can now walk and exercise the victory of Christ over him.

Romans 6 declares that our old nature was crucified with Christ. God considers it dead.

So, the misconception that the Holy Spirit is constantly focused on our flesh's weaknesses, sins, and character flaws would mean that He was focusing on something that God already considers dead.

The Holy Spirit's main focus in our lives is to renew our minds to the reality of Christ's perfect sacrifice for us and to transform us into the image of Christ.

This is confirmed by Romans 12:1+2 and 2 Corinthians 3:17.

1st John 5:11 declares God's testimony. He has given to us His eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has that life.

God has already paid in full the penalty of our sins and has sent the Holy Spirit as the guarantee of our inheritance. Colossians 1.12

After reading this story of David and Bathsheba it would be very easy for us to call him an idiot for doing something so stupid. Let's look for a minute at our own experience today.

Because of God's incredible work on our behalf, here are just a few of the realities that are ours now.

God has allowed us to be born into his own family. John 1 12

Because we are in Christ, we are New Creations. Old things about us have passed away, and all things are new for us. 2 Corinthians 5:17

He has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in Heavenly places in Christ. Ephesians 1 3

His power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness

And

He has given us his Divine and precious promises that by them we would become partakers of the divine nature. 2 Peter 1.1-4

And if that wasn't enough, he has committed to us things that our eyes have never seen, our ears have never heard, and our hearts have never even comprehended, those things which God has prepared for those who love him.

1 Corinthians 2:9

God has made all of this available to every Christian on this planet. Yet, we still wake up every day and put on our old nature inherited from Adam and Eve and try to do the best we can to serve God with the old nature that God has paid to set us free from. When we consider that, David doesn't seem that stupid.

The scripture says now these things happen to them as an example, and they were written for our instruction, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. 1 Corinthians 10:11

Here are the last 2 scriptures in conclusion.

Hebrews 12 1 + 2

Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance, and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and Perfector of our faith.

Therefore, there is now no condemnation, No adjudging guilty of wrong, for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law on the spirit of life, which is in Christ Jesus, the law of our new being, has freed me from the law of sin and death. For God has done with the law could not do, it's power being weakened by The flesh, the entire nature of man without the Holy Spirit. Sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, God condemned sin in the flesh, He's subdued it, overcame it, deprived it of its power, over all who accept that sacrifice. Romans 8:1-3 amp

Let's learn from David's mistake, and not despise the perfect Covenant sacrifice that Christ made for us.

God bless you.

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