

CHAPTER 10

Walking with God



A NOTE OF JOY AND PRAISE ECHOES IN THIS MAN'S VOICE as he guides our minds further into newness of life.

“And thus being born anew we enter another phase of spiritual life and embrace another biblical term called ‘sanctification.’

Justification is a holy work done *for us* and granted in a moment, whereas sanctification is a holy work done *in us* continuing throughout our natural lifetime.

...the inward man is being renewed day by day. 2 Corinthians 4: 16

*...being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a **good work in you** will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ... Philippians 1:6*

While justification made us right with God, sanctification keeps us right in God, being sanctified by His truth and walking in His sanctifying Spirit day by day.

There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. Romans 8:1

But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth... 2 Thessalonians 2:13

Jesus said, ‘And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth.’ John 17:19

‘God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.’ John 4:24

...according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ...: 1 Peter 1:2

...to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints... 1 Corinthians 1:2

...sanctified by the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:16

Thus sanctification is a work of holiness permeating our entire lives, keeping us safe within the love boundaries of God's truth and law.

...who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works. Titus 2:14

...if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments. Matthew 19:17

*Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may
have the right to the tree of life. Revelation 22:14*

*Now he who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in Him. And by this
we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us. 1 John 3:24*

'If you love Me, keep My commandments.' John 14:15

*'He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who
loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and
I will love him and manifest Myself to him.' John 14:21*

...love is the fulfillment of the law. Romans 13:10

*Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not
puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no
evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes
all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails. 1 Corinthians 13:4-8*

*...giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge
self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to
godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. 2 Peter 1:5-7*

Yes, dear ones, by doing our part and co-operating with God's Spirit through loving
obedience, day by day our characters grow in His holiness. God's thoughts become our thoughts,
His ways our ways. And in our lives He works out His good purpose.

*And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God,
to those who are called according to His purpose. Romans 8:28*

*But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of
the power may be of God and not of us. 2 Corinthians 4:7*

And let me tell you this, God working in us, and us always looking to God in faith, is the
most powerful combination we will ever experience in this sorry world of sin."

Breathing nature's sweet fragrance and poised at the crossroads of our lives, an essence of
victory swells within our souls. Could this be the working and meaning of faith? Now This Man
nods his head in agreement and raising his hand towards heaven, with the power of a preacher
he says,

*"...looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the
joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and
has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God... Hebrews 12:2"*

His voice still glowing with spiritual power This Man explores the meaning of a lively faith
in God.

"Indeed having a lively faith is essential if we want a spiritual experience with the great
King and His Son. And believe it or not They have generously given each person a measure of
faith for building a spiritual relationship with Them.

For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith. Romans 12:3

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. Romans 10:17

Faith is taking God at His word and laying hold of His promises until they become a living reality in our lives.

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. Hebrews 11:1

True, we cannot see or hold a legal document which grants God's salvation.

But through faith we can hold the written account of the Son's sacrificial death in our hearts and minds - and this becomes our living salvation. Yes, that's right. Day by day we can live in God's salvation, and day by day His grace becomes a visible power in our lives, in how we think, act and speak. That my friends, is living faith.

...through the righteousness of faith. Romans 4:13

Now the just (saved) shall live by faith... Hebrews 10: 38

...without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that he is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. Hebrews 11:6

But wait! There is more.

For you see, faith glows brighter still when empowered by prayer and the study of God's living word.

And the power of prayer and the study of God's word are the lifelines that keep our souls and minds connected to God.

*Evening and morning and at noon I will pray, and cry aloud,
And He shall hear my voice. Psalm 55:16-17*

Prayer is opening our hearts and souls to God in conversation and meditation. And through His Spirit God speaks to our hearts and minds.

*“Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying,
‘This is the way, walk in it,’
Whenever you turn to the right hand
Or whenever you turn to the left.” Isaiah 30:21*

Give ear to my words, O Lord, Consider my meditation. Give heed to the voice of my cry, My King and my God, For to You I will pray. My voice You shall hear in the morn-

ing, O Lord; In the morning I will direct it to You, And I will look up. Psalm 5:1-3

'So I say to you, ask, and it will be given you, seek and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.' Luke 11:9

This poor man cried out, and the Lord heard him, And saved him out of all his troubles. Psalm 34:6

And most importantly, God's word written in the Bible nourishes the mind with spiritual life.

...Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. Matthew 4: 4

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness...2 Timothy 3:16

...For Your word has given me life. Psalm 119:50

Yes, indeed without the power of prayer and His word in the Bible anchoring us to God, very soon we would be buffeted by Satan and swept upon the jagged rocks of non-sanctification. Separated from the great King and His Son we shall perish in the murky depths of non-justification.

Be sure of this. If we are not walking with God, then we are walking apart from Him and are no longer protected under His umbrella of justification and sanctification.

But if we faithfully walk with God down the highway of life, justification and sanctification are His lifesaving hands, guiding us in His righteous ways.

We are no longer under the sway of Satan's power of sin.

We know that whoever is born of God does not sin; but he who has been born of God keeps himself, and the wicked one does not touch him. We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one. 1 John 5:18-19

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world – the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and pride of life – is not of the Father but is of the world. 1 John 2:15-16

Our focus of life is constantly upon the great King and His Son, and wanting others to know of this amazing free gift of salvation. Yet in a moment of temptation if we slip off the path and into sin, we need not lose heart, all is not lost. For by God's grace we can confess our wrong to Him and, through repentance and forgiveness, step back onto the spiritual path.

My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. 1 John 2: 1

The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, And He delights in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down; For the Lord upholds him with His hand. Psalm 37: 23-24

Although we might feel heavy-hearted and wretched about our wrong words, actions or thoughts, we are upheld by God and can take another step down the spiritual path of righteousness, continuing our walk with God toward His heavenly paradise home.

Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:12-14

*...that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man... Ephesians 3:16
I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Philippians 4:13*

So now we have seen all the deathly forms of sin and we have learned how to receive God's gift of salvation through our repentance and confession of sins. And we have seen how we are to avoid sinning, and how we must keep God's law in all godliness, goodness and love.

Now, think on this: Each person faces the Eden test in reverse. Through God's spiritual power a person can stop partaking of the unrighteous fruit growing on the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. And that same person can turn from death and partake of the righteous fruit growing on the tree of life and thus abide in God's commandments.

Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, 'I know Him,' and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked. 1 John 2:3-6

And so we are left with this outstanding conclusion:

If sin is the transgression of the law, and sin causes us to be condemned and separated from God, then surely when we are made right with God through His Son, we will choose to keep the law to avoid sin.

If we willingly continue to break God's law then we drive our selves away from Him and throw ourselves back into the chasm of everlasting death with all the consequences. Nothing is gained. All is lost.

GOD HAS IMPLANTED EVERY SINGLE PERSON BORN ON THIS PLANET WITH A MUSTARD SEED OF FAITH! (Matthew 17:20) But what about human made body implants? You may have one - a dental crown, or maybe a hip replacement?

Amazingly, there are implants for almost any part of the body, from head to toe. A successful vision implant went on the market in 2011, enabling blind people to see hazy outlines, and in 2015 researchers are working with a bionic eye implant for humans. Researchers over the globe are printing patient-specific body implants on 3D printers, using the patient's own stem cells with a special printing material. And researchers in the USA are working on a brain implant as thin as a human hair which can alter brain chemistry wirelessly and remotely - no medication, or dietary stimulants required!

Of course implants are not without side effects. Recall the many news articles about cosmetic breast implants leaking, and early hip replacement parts from the 1950's causing metal poisoning.

But what of future technology? Tiny computer chips, no longer than a grain of rice and slimmer than a toothpick, are routinely implanted into pets for identification. But the same sized microchip can be surgically implanted, or injected into human beings. Tott News, an Australian news website says this:

“The US firm VeriChip obtained approval to do this type of procedure more than a decade ago. The VeriChip human implant is a glass-encapsulated RFID microchip designed for implantation in the human body. The VeriChip is designed to remain permanently embedded under the skin, and consists of a RFID integrated circuit, a capacitor, and an antenna wrapped around a ferrite core. These components are sealed in a capsule of medical-grade glass. The glass capsule is partially coated in a porous polypropylene substance called Biobond in an effort to prevent the device from migrating within the body.”

Anyone can buy these complete microchip implant packs online! These RFID (radio frequency identification) chips can be programmed to open electron-

ic doors, operate coffee machines, work the office photocopier, instantly transfer information into computers. As at August 2015, people across the globe are excited at the prospect of using technology to “biohack” their bodies with microchips or magnets, to become “better than human.” I wonder what God thinks about that?

In Australia at least one quarter of people interviewed, said they would be interested in having an implanted chip for paying for purchases. More recent research shows these chips are being tested (or already in use without public knowledge) to alter behaviour and emotion. Far fetched? Maybe. But microchips implanted in people is already decades old. Consider that prisoners in Sweden have been implanted with microchips since 1973 and Swedish nursing home residents since the mid-1980’s.² What comes next?

You see, in our world today, the far fetched soon becomes reality. Consider that just 20 years ago mobile telephones were as big as a brick and used solely for making telephone calls. Today a mobile telephone is smaller than a hand span and is a multi use computer. Researchers say people will be ready for the leap to an implanted “all in one” chip which can be used like a computer but controlled by thought alone.

Each tiny chip can be encoded with information, and radio frequencies can be manipulated to change emotions and behaviours. Just imagine for a moment that you have offered a microchip. The possibilities of being safer, and not having to carry a wallet or debit/credit card seem quite enticing. Depending on who is offering you this chip implant may depend on the information stored in your chip. Your health records, your banking records and bank account numbers, your address, occupation, passport information. What is the dark side? If access to your data is possible, then it stands to reason that your privacy has just been eliminated. As Dr Luukanen-Kilde reported in SPEKULA magazine in the year 2000:

“The mass media has not reported that an implanted person’s privacy vanishes for the rest of his or her life. S/he can be manipulated in many ways. Using different frequencies, the secret controller of this equipment can

even change a person's emotional life. S/he can be made aggressive or lethargic. Sexuality can be artificially influenced. Thought signals and subconscious thinking can be read, dreams affected and even induced, all without the knowledge or consent of the implanted person."

Thus, if our governments or banks or employers offer individuals some version of "technological advancement" for our "own good" - should we accept without question? Or should we take the Bible's advice:

"Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man." Luke 21:36

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