



Refuse GUILT

A PLACE IN YOUR LIFE

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As we move into new seasons of life...seasons of increase...seasons of harvest, it becomes very important to set things right (or remove harmful things from our life).

- * Faith over fear...quit letting fear rule.
- * Operate in covenant relationships...quit thinking you can do it your own self.
- * Ask big, believe big...quit asking small controllable prayers.
- * Do it already...quit waiting for that special moment to start obeying God and His Word (when things get just so).
- * Do something fresh, new, different, bigger...quit doing things the same way and expect different results.

Today, we step into the final area of this series...one of the more detrimental areas that we need to let go of or correct:

Stop Carrying Guild over Things God Has Already Forgiven

BELOVED: Guilt is an area that has *paralyzed more Christians* from moving into God's best than a lot of areas.

"Guilt" - painful mental (soulish) suffering arising from the belief that someone has committed a wrong, leading to a conflict over self-appraisal and self-worth...causing remorse or distress.

- * I have messed up.
- * There is no way I did that...did it again.
- * I should have done this...I knew it.
- * I shouldn't have done that...I knew it.
- * I should know better by now.
- * (Brittany Spears) – "Oops I did it again."
- * What will people think of me?
- * How could God ever use me again?

When guilt has moved in...WE CARRY the burden of guilt, instead of letting God do what He said He did.

BELOVED: That is too heavy a burden for us to bear.

BIG PROBLEM: We end up setting our focus MORE on what we've done (or not done) than what Jesus did for us.

We begin focusing on what we are NOT (in ourselves)...but our focus needs to be on what God is...what He has done for us...what we are in Him.

2 Corinthians 5:17 – "Therefore if any *man be in Christ*, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

a.) **Old things are passed away...all things become new.**

What kind of new?

2 Corinthians 5:21 – “For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.”

Because we are in Him...we now have been MADE righteous.

“Righeousness” – right standing; position; rightness

How righteous? The same rightness that God has with Jesus.

We are not trying to get righteous...we are righteous.

PERHAPS talk about grace (God’s ability in us to do what we can do on our own). But that grace operates in us by the next point...

b.) **In Christ is a position...location.**

How close can you get to a person...cut them open and be inside them.

And we are not near Christ...we are IN HIM.

c.) **How do we see ourselves?**

It is ESSENTIAL for us to see ourselves IN CHRIST...

Him as our substitute...

He took the death penalty so we wouldn’t have to.

Our new identity is NOT GUILTY!

d.) **God knew what He bought when He bought you.**

“Bought with a price” (1 Corinthians 6:20; 7:23)

ILLUSTRATION: The car that Ryne sold. Great car...could use some TLC.

ILLUSTRATION: Tractor we sold...great tractor...could use some TLC.

Guilt and Conviction

NOW: Guilt originates with what we’ve done in the flesh...it comes in as a thought (soul) and becomes a feeling (soul) and we end up making decisions based on those carnal feelings.

We know how harmful that can be.

That is why we are told to CAST DOWN VAIN IMAGINATIONS that exalt themselves against what God has said! (2 Corinthians 10:5)

IMPORTANT: It is wise to have a healthy grief about our mistakes. It keeps us from repeating them as much.

That is why we need to understand this...

Romans 8:1 – “There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.”

NOTE: There is conviction of the Holy Spirit (John 16:8).

“Conviction” – convincing

NOTE: Conviction begins with who God is...what HE has done...so it starts in our spirit and moves into our soul.

Many Christians ignore conviction because it makes them feel bad...there is no condemnation, I shouldn’t feel bad.

BELOVED: Sin or disobedience should leave a bad taste in your mouth. If it doesn’t...that is NOT good.

HOWEVER: When that bad feeling begins controlling you, instead of the spirit of God, that is where GUILT has taken over and will destroy you.

It will keep you from obtaining God’s best for your life.

It will keep you as a bottom feeder, instead of moving from glory to glory.

We are God's Children

Luke 15 tells the account of the two sons.

- * The one son asked God for his inheritance and ended up leaving dad's house to do things his own way.
- * He ended up spending all that he had (which was stupid...and he knew it).
- * Famine hit the lands and he was stuck (without dad).
- * He comes to the conclusion that he will go home and tell dad..."oops, I did it again", but I am no longer worthy to be called your son...make me your servant.

UNDERSTAND: Guilt robbed him of his understanding of who he was, what was rightfully his...I can be anything except what dad had planned for me.

Luke 15:20-23

- 20 And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.
- 21 And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.
- 22 But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet:
- 23 And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry:
- 24 For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.

UNDERSTAND: He just changed his position (in dad) and dad restored the plan.

BELOVED: ILLUSTRATION: My children don't always do things the way I like or agree with, but they are always my children. They all have bedrooms at our house...they all have access to our fridge... they all have access to our time and supply.

When they lived in our house: mom and dad paid for the house, their room, their bed, their televisions, their clothes, their cars, etc –no matter what they did, we didn't take it away.

That is the way it is with Jesus...He paid it all so we have access to all His promises.

Psalm 103:1-5 (we love this passage)...but there is more!

- 1 Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name.
- 2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:
- 3 Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;
- 4 Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and **tender mercies**;
- 5 Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.
- 6 The LORD executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed.
- 7 He made known his ways unto Moses, his acts unto the children of Israel.
- 8 The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.
- 9 He will not always chide: neither will he keep his anger for ever.
- 10 He hath not dealt with us after our sins; **nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.** (same word in Isaiah 53:5,6 – iniquity (guilt))
- 11 For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him.
- 12 **As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.**
- 13 Like as a father **pitieth** his children, so the LORD **pitieth** them that fear him.
"Pitieth" – same word as "tender mercies" – love of a father
- 14 For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust.
"Frame" – how we are made, shaped

Our Guilt is on the Cross

Isaiah 53:5,6

- 5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.
- 6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

NOTICE: This is what Jesus took for us on the cross. They are no longer ours to carry!

He took our sins (transgressions).

QUESTION: What can we do to get rid of our sins on our own?

He took anything that will rob us of peace.

QUESTION: What can we do to provide our own peace?

He took our poverty (shalom also identifies prosperity).

QUESTION: What can we do to prosper?

He took our sicknesses, disease and pain.

QUESTION: What can we do of ourselves to make us healed?

NOW: The answers to all of these is really nothing. We can't be good enough to get them or enjoy them. We can just get IN HIM and live in relationship...do what He says.

"Iniquities" – guilt

YES: Beloved we were guilty...we had a whole list of stuff written to our account.

Colossians 2:14 – "Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;"

QUESTION: What can we do about that guilt in ourselves?

ANSWER: Nothing! The best we can do (the world does) is to cope with it, deal with it, learn how to handle it so it doesn't become debilitating!

HOWEVER: The blood has washed that guilt away. Never to come upon us again. We are a new creation IN HIM.

***As long as we are IN HIM...
He will nudge us and correct us, when we get off...
because He is a loving Father,
Who has NOT changed His plans for us (Romans 11:29).***

BELOVED: It is time to put our failures to bed...

- * cast down those thoughts that tell us God is done with us...
- * find our spot IN HIM (relationship and security)...
- * spend time IN HIS Word, learning His ways, understanding our righteousness and enjoying His grace...
- * learning that still small voice that directs us and leads us

THUS, moving into God's best for us!