

Are we righteous enough?

I normally write from the perspective of oneness with Jesus Christ, in all that He is I am...however that is strong meat. God wants us to journey with Him in our understanding and faith. We are free to camp where we are, and not move at all though Father would gently nudge us and entreat us. He is so patient with us gently leading us. If we decide we do not want to move from our comfort zone of understanding he will wait.

I have found that His spirit in me prays dangerously.

Surely you yourself can recall many times asking Him to show you the truth and having to wait until one day, suddenly the answer arrives.

For most of us we come into Christianity and begin to learn the doctrinal statements and creeds of the Church we attend. Some may even go to College and gain a diploma or degree in Theology, such is the hunger in their heart to know more of God.

I have met quite a few who have gained theological degrees and they tend to lack a great deal in revelation revealed by God personally to them.

I respect them as elder brothers and receive them as Christ.

Yet the apparent struggle that they have with certain things pulls upon my heart! I long to show them what He has taught me over the years, but their ears are shut to me and their hearts are closed off. Whether that is because I am younger, or uneducated, or not ordained in the church, or whatever the reason...I do not know. I can not share with them the joy of my discovery. I have none that rejoice with me in the knowledge of God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

This of course is a common experience for many...and no doubt

necessary training from our Father, but it is still a sorrowful thing to me.

You see, to me this is not about doctrine, but about the heart. Where do your teachings lead to? Where do mine?

I was recently involved in a conversation about Righteousness. The brother is an ordained minister and a lot older than me. He expressed the frustration of his heart by saying that-

' if he was more righteous, more like Jesus, then God would answer his prayers...then he would do the things that Jesus did and greater.'

He was asked 'So then, there is more work to do then?' To which he replied, 'yes a lot more'. Since I had already shared my joy at being one person with Jesus I did not answer back at such a message of unbelief but could only inwardly grieve for him and the many who think like him.

More righteous?

Just today I saw someone's link to their preacher who had titled his message, "This is the time to be more righteous." The other brother above also wanted to be more righteous..

I know we are to "pursue righteousness" as Paul instructed Timothy.

1Ti_6:11 But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness.

2Ti_2:22 Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

Consider that this is Paul, who said in 1Co 1:30

But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption—1Co 1:31 that, as it is written, “HE WHO GLORIES, LET HIM GLORY IN THE LORD.”

And again...Paul taught we are joined to the Lord and are one spirit...not 2 but 1!! 1Cor 6:17

The idea that we can become more righteous by trying to be more righteous is against the New Covenant. Christ is our righteousness-period!! Christ is our sanctification(holiness)-Period! Christ is our Redemption(forgiveness)-Period! He is all in all to us, and through us, and as us!

If by some strength of will we manage to be righteous(as in not sinning as much?)for one day..can we boast about that? I guarantee you that if we do try to get through the day without “sinning”, we will be boasting inwardly about it.

God has done away with self effort for good. He has put us to death and raised up Christ as our life in us. Who is more righteous than Jesus Christ? Is he not your only LIFE? Are you still alive alongside of Jesus in you? NO, NO, NO!

You died with Christ, YOU NO LONGER LIVE!

“And the Life I now live in the flesh, I live by the Faith of the Son of God ..Gal 2:20

I died , I now live, but it is Christ who lives as me!! I live by HIS faith, His Holiness, His righteousness, His wisdom...in me and as me. Be yourself, do not try to be like Christ.

God put you to death, so stop trying to be righteous and accept the judgement of God upon your old man.

The Jews had the same problem as all of us...they thought that God required them to become more Holy, more righteous.

May God open your eyes to the truth.

*Rom 9:30 What shall we say then? That Gentiles, who did not **pursue righteousness**, have attained to righteousness, even **the righteousness of faith**;*

Now remember Paul told Timothy to pursue Righteousness...here he says that the Gentiles did not pursue Righteousness but have attained righteousness by faith! Which is it? How do we pursue Righteousness?

Again...see above, where Paul says "Christ is made unto us Righteousness..."

We do not pursue righteousness as if we do not have any. We have Christ therefore we have righteousness with God. So to pursue Righteousness means to believe we have it already. We call those things that be not as if they are. AND THEY ARE!!

This walk is all by faith until we receive our glorified body...even then it is still by faith. Faith is the SUBSTANCE of things hoped for, the EVIDENCE of things not seen. If we listen to the religious mindset, the devil or whatever you want to call it- accusations...we will look at ourselves as unrighteous and in need of more righteousness.

But God who is rich in mercy!!!While we were still sinners HAS MADE US THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD IN CHRIST JESUS!! HALLELUJAH!!

He has accepted us in the Beloved.

We are righteous enough for God to answer our prayers.

That is if you are trusting in Jesus to be your ONLY RIGHTEOUSNESS.

If you are perchance, trusting in your efforts to be holy and righteous..then no, you have set aside the grace of God and

are regarding iniquity instead of Christ in you.

Psa 66:18 If I regard iniquity in my heart, The Lord will not hear.

If you want your prayers answered, you must only see Christ when you look at yourself. When you think of yourself you must think Christ your only life. This is a faith work...this is the unveiling of who you really are...if you are willing to accept it that is. 

Rom 9:31 but Israel, pursuing the law of righteousness, has not attained to the law of righteousness.

*Rom 9:32 Why? Because **they did not seek it by faith, but as it were, by the works of the law.** For they stumbled at that stumbling stone.*

*Rom 9:33 As it is written: **"BEHOLD, I LAY IN ZION A STUMBLING STONE AND ROCK OF OFFENSE, AND WHOEVER BELIEVES ON HIM WILL NOT BE PUT TO SHAME."***

Israel did not attain righteousness because they were trying to be righteous before God with their many rituals and works of religion. All of which Paul said was DUNG to him and something he had left behind for good that he may be found NOT HAVING HIS OWN RIGHTEOUSNESS WHICH IS FROM THE LAW(self effort), BUT THAT WHICH IS FROM GOD THROUGH FAITH IN CHRIST!!!! phil 3

I am, yelling because this is fire that burns the chaff in our stubborn minds.

God has made righteousness ONLY available by faith. Read that again!

God has made righteousness(and holiness and redemption) ONLY AVAILABLE THROUGH FAITH.

So you want to be more Righteous, more Holy, so that God will answer all your prayers for people? You have a heart touched by God, but a mind still clouded by the traditions of man.

God has made this issue a stumbling block—"BEHOLD, I LAY IN ZION A STUMBLING STONE AND ROCK OF OFFENSE, AND **WHOEVER BELIEVES ON HIM WILL NOT BE PUT TO SHAME.**"

Friend that "believing on Him" covers every day! Not just when you die!

Are you believing in Jesus as your Righteousness today?

Then you will not be put to shame. God hears your prayers. His face is always towards you for He dwells in you in all His fullness.

Christ Jesus is the Righteousness of God. Accept Him and you are as He is.

But if you think, "Well, I believed in Jesus long ago and got born again...now I must be righteous for God to hear my prayers.." then you have been deceived. That is okay...it happens to us all!

Christ is offensive to the religious mind, the flesh-mind...So much of who we think we are depends upon our performance, when in fact who we are is established only in and as Christ Jesus.

How can I get through to you?

*Rom 10:3 For they being **ignorant** of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have **not submitted to the righteousness of God.***

*Rom 10:4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to **everyone who believes.***

Over and over Paul tells us we are righteous already by a gift

from God. That Gift is Christ Himself! He is now your righteousness, living fully inside you and as you!

Christ is the end of trying to be righteous for those who believe that He is enough.

He is enough. You are as He is- RIGHTEOUS. If you go further on in Romans 10, you will see that the whole thing is about you **already being righteous** through believing and confessing(faith) it to be so—as I am doing right now. 

You have misunderstood the whole thing...God did not come to live in you so that you can now try very hard to please Him. You died.

Reckon yourself to be dead unto sin- **but alive to God in Christ** Jesus. You are alive to God in RIGHTEOUSNESS! You are not in the flesh, not in sin, not in law, BUT IN CHRIST WHO IS YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS every moment.

The Accuser does a number on us, and points out some fleshy thing we do, and urges us to try not to do it anymore. He convinces us we are not good enough, not right enough...if we were we would be raising the dead...Rubbish!

I should insert in here right now, that believing in Jesus is not like an equation whereby belief =miracles. Jesus did nothing of Himself. For 30 years He knowing who he is does no mighty miracle. Think about how many people died or suffered in sickness while Jesus the Christ does nothing about it. There is a right time for everything. Unless we abide in Him and He in us we can do absolutely nothing. That is really the question...not whether we are righteous enough, but are we actively abiding in Him?

Ok..the passage causing all the trouble is in John 14:12 I believe. You will find when you study the verses preceding it that righteous actions are not the prerequisite for miracles and healings etc...

Joh 14:8 Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us."

Joh 14:9 Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

Joh 14:10 Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works.

Joh 14:11 Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves.

*Joh 14:12 "Most assuredly, I say to you, **he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.***

Joh 14:13 And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

Joh 14:14 If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.

"He who believes in Me" is the prerequisite for having your prayers answered and doing the greater works.

Not just believing in some historical figure named Jesus...but as He said to Phillip in the verses I underlined...the Jesus who is in the Father and the Father in Him...**BELIEVE IN THAT JESUS.**

Where is that Jesus right now my friend?

NOT UP THERE SOMEWHERE, please don't say that.:(

Where is that Jesus who is in the Father and the Father in Jesus? Where?

Joh 14:20 At that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and **I in you.**

HE IS IN YOU!!!

Read John 14:12 again...but this time realise by faith, that The Father is in Jesus who is in you and you are in Him...You are ONE with Him...all that He is YOU ARE,,,,right now!

That! is how you will do the greater works my friend...when you come to see and own the faith-fact, that you and God are one person in Christ right now, this side of heaven...right now, you **are** the righteousness, the holiness, the redemption of God in Christ. He is in you in all His completeness and fullness so that as you believe in your heart that **it is so**, and confess with your mouth THE LORD JESUS...you shall be saved/sozoed!

If you regard only Jesus when you consider yourself...not listening to the Accuser, who continually points to the **shadow** of the Old man, as if he were still alive, but is dead...you can know that He hears you and answers you.

1Jn 5:14 Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.

1Jn 5:15 And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.

The confidence that we have in Him...in other words the confidence that comes through being IN HIM. When we know that we are not separate from Him, but ONE in Him, then John 14:12 is normal living for us...for Christ is our ONLY LIFE..it is only Him who is heard by Father...and guess what..that is who you are!

Blessings

Your friend Dennis