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| jOB 42:12 |
| BORN FOR HEAVEN MINISTRIES |
| TEACHINGS |
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| **“YEAR OF ABUNDANCE”** |
| **1/1/2010** |

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| TEACHINGS ON SIN AND FORGIVENESS,GOD’S GRACE AND HIS LOVE |

**THE CASE ABOUT SIN**

Sinis what separates us from God, without sin there is no separation, hence we need to be free from sin, so that we can be closer to God. If we are free from sin, we are more joyous happy and prosperous; Gods desire is that we be free from sin; because he is sinless, the problem is we continue on sinning even when we don’t want to. When a person is in sin, he becomes condemned; thus when a person is condemned he feels guilty and will in essence also condemn others. Now, the Devil is called the accuser of the brethren and his job is to accuse God’s children. Yet when we condemn others we are in essence fulfilling the Devil’s job description! When we condemn others we are helping them feel unworthy, and thus we are not helping them but breaking them, and this is not what God intended us to do. We as children of God, must not break others, but build them. We tend to be satisfied when others have been hurt by our condemnation but it is not God’s will for us to be so. In her book: “a revelation of hell” Mary Baxter speaks about a place in hell where people are continually scratching one another, that is because of the guilt and condemnation that people feel while there. What then is the solution to all this?

* We need to analyse ourselves and understand that we won’t respond to God as a group but as individuals and therefore we need to make peace with God ourselves. When we have peace with God, we will then stop condemning others and in return help them to be free! Jesus came to set people free, and if he sets you free you will be free indeed! If he sets you free, he will then use you to set others free, you will start showing them the way to God instead of being the Devil’s agent. We must deal with those sins that so easily entangle us:

**Forgiveness** Peter once came to Jesus and asked, how many times we must forgive,7 times? Jesus said not seven but 7 times 70! Meaning that there is no limit to forgiveness. But you may ask: if I have to forgive continually, people will take advantage of me and continue on doing evil to me knowing that I have to forgive them every time. Well, remember that you are not forgiving them for their sakes but for your sake. If you don’t forgive them, you are the one in sin and you can lose your salvation because you have not obeyed Jesus command to forgive. You however can go towards the person, and tell them that what they are doing is wrong and if they won’t listen to you, the bible says that you must call someone else and tell the matter to the third person so that it can be solved, yet if the person does not hear you, then the bible says you treat him as a tax collector, or ignore this person. It does not mean however, that he is no longer a human being. It only means that you can avoid certain contacts that will only build up more tension. It is your responsibility to forgive that person anyways, because with time he or she can still repent and if they one day come asking for forgiveness you will be able to say: but I forgave you long time ago! However, if you continue holding grudges against that person and continue wishing evil and talking evil of that person with unforgiveness in your heart, you will not be able to forgive that person if they repent one day, and you will be the one in sin. It is not God’s wish that you live in sin. It takes time for people to change and you will not be waiting for 14 to 50 years for that person to change, but you will continue moving on with your life and when the person changes, you can welcome him back, you will be able to see if it is a genuine repentance. Remember that God is the judge of both of you and you are both just trying to enter heaven. There are many other sins that God will tell us about, and we need to forsake them when he tells us to.

**Competition:**  one day the disciples were walking with Jesus and behind them each was telling them how greater he was to the other: when they came close to Jesus he rebuked them and told them that if anyone wanted to be greater they should be the servants, competition is mainly rooted in pride. Sometimes we want to show others that we are greater than they are thus we compete against one another without actually knowing that in God’s eyes we are doing nothing! Remember that we are living for God and not ourselves, when we compete we sometimes go to the extreme of hurting others so that we can win the race! We climb on top of other people’s heads to accomplish what we want and not what God wants, this should not be so. As children of God we are not made to compete with each other but to complete each other, we need to respect the one next to us, knowing that we have different talents and abilities and therefore will never be able to outdo one another. Eve was a woman and Adam was a man, they could not compete but only complete due to their different abilities. Peter was a man of faith and John was a man of love, they could not compete due to their respective differences, Paul was called to preach to the gentiles and Peter, James, John and the others were called to preach to the Jews, they had different responsibilities! We cannot compete, we can only complete each other’s ministry and fulfil the cause of Christ. We are all workers in Christ’s mega corporation, the one who serves is the greatest. You may ask? Why serve why not be served? Jesus said it is more blessed to give than to receive, God considers you more blessed when you serve than when you are served. But you might say, when I serve I feel like I am being used as a slave. You are nobody’s slave but Christ’s slave that is who you are, after all, it is those whom God thinks well of that are approved not those who think well of themselves. This is not to say that people should use you for anything they want in the pretext of servant hood, but rather it must be wholesome Christian service, it is actually a blessing when you are really serving from the heart and not just because you are forced to.

**THE CASE FOR GOD’S GRACE**

In the past whenever somebody sinned, he was stoned immediately with evidence of two or three witnesses, that was terrible! Even the priests could not be guaranteed an exit whenever they entered the Holy of holies, they were tied with a rope and wrapped a bell around them in case they sinned and were struck by the power of God whilst inside. One day Jesus was outside of the temple and a mob brought a woman caught in the very act of adultery and they asked Jesus what they should do because the Law demanded that such a woman be stoned. Jesus ignored them and started writing on the floor, I can imagine the devil licking himself thinking “one more into my Kingdom” upon the nagging from the mob they required an answer, and Jesus had to give them one or else...

Jesus said: “him that has no sin amongst you let him cast the first stone!” They dropped their stones and left, form the oldest to the youngest, the woman was left alone with Jesus and he asked her: “where are those that condemn you”, and obviously they had scattered. He said Neither do I condemn you go and sin no more. Imagine all the devil, demons and imps confused not knowing what had just happened! Jesus came with a new law, it was the Law of grace Hallelujah! He pardoned the woman, and she could go free! No longer was she condemned, but clean, she was approved by God! Grace means **G**od’s **R**iches at **C**hrist’s **E**xpense! Jesus paid the price for our freedom! If we sin, we can be forgiven, what a relief! No more condemnation; once I was blind but now I can see! Glory to God you are a free man! You are a free woman! You are just as clean as somebody who never sinned before. Paul knew the grace of God and he understood that we can only live by the grace of God. Therefore he said we must stand fast in the Liberty that Christ has given us. You know, the woman experienced God’s grace before it was even paid for on the cross! I would like to call that greater grace! It is not customary to eat something before it is paid for, but that woman ate it, and it tasted sweet to be forgiven. Stand fast in the liberty Paul says, meaning that Satan cannot even remind you of your past sins, because they are erased! Jesus does not remember them, isn’t that wonderful? I mean no sin, White as snow!? God says we need to grow in faith. Satan cries when he hears people preaching about grace because for thousands of years people were in bondage to sin. Not even Moses could enter Canaan because there was no grace. Grace cannot finish, it can only grow, that is why God wants us to grow in it. With grace we are no longer slaves but free! No longer servants but friends and co-heirs with Christ. We can expect miracles that the old testament people could only dream about, we need proclaim this new freedom although we will be opposed by many who do not believe in it. When Martin Luther read Ephesians 2;8 that we are saved by grace through faith, his eyes were opened, and when he started proclaiming it, the devil knew his days were over, there was fierce persecution yet grace always prevails! We are all saved as a result of what was proclaimed, we need to give glory to God for that. Different people understand grace differently but Paul understood it well enough because Jesus had forgiven him! Grace does not give us freedom to sin it give us freedom to enjoy God’s benefits without too many efforts, it gives us freedom to experience God in a new dimension, it helps us save the unsavable and allows us to be free without fear of anyone judging us, actually Jesus said the one who has been forgiven much loves more, and the one who has been forgiven less loves less. When the woman poured her alabaster jar on Jesus feet filled with expensive perfume it was due to the grace she had experienced, none of the disciples experienced that, let alone Judas. When Judas started complaining about how expensive the perfume was. Jesus said leave the woman alone! God says to our accusers leave the man alone! Leave the woman alone! Those who experience Gods grace will never stop telling others about what Jesus had done for them, because it is beyond their imagination. Jesus healed ten lepers and only one came back to say thank you, nonetheless he was a foreigner. He came back because as a foreigner he was not entitled to it yet the others who went simply thought they were entitled to it. Let us grow in greater and greater grace. God’s grace is sufficient in our sufferings and in our pains, by grace we can pass through our struggles and come out smiling, it is by grace that we receive strength when we are weak. Through grace our prayers are answered, without many efforts, before we even start praying miracles start happening and unusual miracles such as those that were being performed through Paul start happening. The dead will resurrect by God’s grace because you will understand that you don’t need to be special for you to receive a miracle, but all are special under grace, Jesus wants you to enjoy the freedom you have been bestowed, you don’t need to suffer because by grace he has already suffered, you don’t need to be condemned for he was condemned on your behalf. All you need to do is to walk in and activate it in your life. Understand it and live it, if you ever think grace will someday end you are in for a surprise, because for as long as we are in this period we will live by grace until he comes and raptures us to heaven, there we will experience something greater than we are experiencing here today. Actually if you are not living in grace you are living in the law and if you are still living in the law you are sinning! The law has been dealt with long time ago it is useless and doesn’t work. Christ paid for a new law, the law of grace. Enjoy his grace, believe in it and you will experience things you never experienced before!

Until then, enjoy your life for nobody else will do it for you!

God is good and let the whole church of Christ say amen to that!

We live by him, through him and for him, because he made us for himself, woe unto the devil for he has been discarded from his place and you have been created to replace his position, his place is the lake of fire burning with sulphur, your place is in heaven with all the angelic beings worshiping and praising God! Tell this Good news to everyone!

HALLELUJAH! AMEN!