

nov 30

as i sat this morning, without a clue of what i was supposed to talk about, this scripture came to my mind. "therefore i run thus: not with uncertainty. thus i fight: not as one who beats the air." 1 cor 9:26 what does this mean and what is the Spirit trying to say?

are you certain Jesus is real? then, are you certain you are prepared? perhaps it means we should not be hap-hazard about our commitment. that usually only happens when a person doesn't put enough value on a thing. have you ever stopped to evaluate the things you treasure most? is God at the top of that list? if He is not, then i humbly suggest you have things in the wrong order.

there are many who, perhaps even unknowingly, put their loved ones above their God. i am reminded of tozer's description of abraham's sacrifice of isaac. "God let the suffering old man go through with it up to the point where he knew there would be no retreat, and then forbade him to lay a hand upon the boy. to the wondering patriarch he now says in effect, "it's alright abraham. i never intended that you should actually slay the lad. I only wanted to remove him from the temple of your heart that I might reign unchallenged there. I wanted to correct the perversion that existed in your love. now you may have the boy, sound and well. take him and go back to your tent. now I know that thou fearest God, seeing, that thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son, from me."

the perversion that existed in his love? God will not

allow any idols in our lives. whether it be comforts or security or health or even those we hold most dear. we often use the phrase, "lay it on the altar". it means keeping our hands off and our heart right. in doing so, we are placing something entirely in God's hands. that doesn't mean one is "washing their hands of the matter". we persist in prayer and intercession for them, trusting God the whole time that He will accomplish it. but it does mean stopping our interference in the matter.

getting rid of the idols in our lives is just the beginning. we then proceed to bring all things into subjection to Him. "but i discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when i have preached to others, i myself should become disqualified." 1 cor 9:27 we have to lay aside that sin that so easily besets us. this is to be serious in our pursuit of God. one needs to be persistent in a matter; to keep our eyes on the goal set before us. if there remains that sin that persists, we ask God to help us. we must be willing however, to really give it up.

it really all boils down to this. what do you treasure most and where is your treasure stored. hopefully in that place where thieves cannot break in and steal.

yes, it means to feel again that first love you felt when you first came to Christ. your joy was in pleasing Him and you had a fervent desire to be around Him; in His presence. (if you have never come to Christ, this is the joy that awaits you - when you feel the burden of sin removed) that is the "first love" that God not only desires, but requires of us. as the

song goes, "nothing between my soul and my savior."

no one can give it to you. you must get it for yourself. perhaps jealousy what another has may induce you to pursue. then you must begin your own race. or reenter it if you will. run that you may obtain the prize. run as if your very life depended upon it. because it does. "i do not even judge myself. for i know of nothing against myself, yet i am not justified by this; but He who judges me is the Lord." 1 cor 4:3-4 there is a judgement awaiting all of us.

finally, on another subject. i would solicit you all to visit our current website. we usually update it once a month with a new article. this time we have also made a few changes, including an archive section in the storehouse, where you may review any daily writings you might have missed and still wish to read. it is scheduled to be published sometime later this evening.

i am uniquely aware that my daily writings are not always as inspired as i would have them be. i seek not to magnify myself, but the Lord. i am, however, also aware of my current circumstances and i believe the Lord has given me an outlet that i might still serve Him.

just glean what you feel is from the Lord, and toss the rest. Jesus is returning soon and we all must prepare ourselves. the urgency is being felt by many other than myself. if one misses the rapture, they may still be saved, but at what cost? martyrdom? heaven or hell lie in the balance and each must decide!

linda