

apr 13

the missing link

"the young man replied, 'i've kept all these. what am i still missing?' Jesus said, if you want to be complete, go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor. then you will have treasure in heaven. and come follow me.'" matt 19:20-21 ceb

no - i'm not talking about the evolution of man. i'm talking about the revelation of man. the hebrew word for repent means "to turn" or "turn back." over and over the prophets proclaimed, "turn back to God and He will turn back to you!"

but repentance was not only the theme of the hebrew prophets. it was the foundation of Jesus' own message (the kingdom of God is near. repent and believe the good news! unless you repent, you too will all perish.) without repentance and faith, no one can be saved.

repentance means spiritual revolution. strongholds of sin are demolished. a lifetime bondages are overcome. hardened hearts break open to the love of Christ. satan's grip is undone. repentance sets the prisoners free! this is what salvation is all about; not just a saving from the wrath to come - it is a rescuing from the bonds satan wants to capture us in now. it is only our limiting of God's abilities that gives satan his unlimited ability to bind.

what did Jesus tell us? "whatsoever ye shall bind on

earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." matt 18:18
these are not words merely asking satan to let go.
these are words of power and authority; power purchased at a costly price and given to us to wield.

the early disciples walked in that power. they exercised the authority given to them. not given to them alone. "for the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call." acts 2:39

the trouble is, christians have taken the narrow way and widened it. it's not come as you are and stay as you are. it's go and sin no more. bring forth acts worthy of repentance. it's not just the wholly delivered that have access to this power and authority. it is the wholly committed. that all it takes. everything. is one little lifetime too much to pay for endless time?

yet many of our leaders have implied, "you can have Jesus as Savior before you have Him as Lord. Jesus already died for your sins, so don't even think about that junk. just confess Him with your lips, believe in your heart, and it's done!" it sounds so easy. too easy.

yes, that will get you into God's graces. He loves us that much. the question is: how much do you love Him? is that all you want from Him? does your heart not hunger and thirst for more so you might draw closer to Him? not just in the next life, but in this life. in the here and now.

what is the missing link? it's the link that allows you to connect to God in this life. it's a daily living in His presence and it is a joy unspeakable. the cost? it will cost you everything. it is that pearl of greatest price you sold everything to possess.

things that once were wild alarms
cannot now disturb my rest,
closed in everlasting arms,
pillowed on His loving breast;

oh, to lie forever here,
doubt and care and self resign,
while He whispers in my ear
i am His, and He is mine;

while He whispers in my ear
i am His, and He is mine.

you know, i call these dailies my "God whispers." God is whispering all the time. it's just whether we are listening or not. He has whispers He wants you to hear. you only need to get still and listen. "a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice." 1 kings 19:11-12

is there a missing link in your life? link up today. don't put it off for another day that may not come; or

another day when He may have already come.