

mar 9

are we all children of God

"you are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do." john 8:44

a while back a person of prominence spoke these words: "we are all God's children" and "there is a spark of divinity among every person on earth, and we all have to recognize that as we respect the dignity and worth of every person." she spoke that statement when members of the ms-13 gang were referred to as animals; a gang who gleefully hack people to death with a machete.

i think one of the reasons we don't "see" evil is because we find it so difficult to believe that evil individuals actually exist. we can't imagine someone deceiving us with no conscience, hurting others with no remorse, spinning outrageous fabrications to ruin someone's reputation, or pretending he or she is spiritually committed yet has no fear of God before his or her eyes.

but evil does exist and often it rules in the hearts of others. evil hearts are experts at creating confusion and contention. they twist the facts, mislead, lie, avoid taking responsibility, deny reality, make up stories, and withhold information. they would gladly entangle you in their web.

they are experts at fooling others with their smooth speech and flattering words. you must judge them by

their fruits. evil hearts crave and demand control, and their highest authority is their own self. they make up their own rules to live by. they will gladly play on the sympathies of good-willed people - they have no conscience, no remorse. they do not struggle against sin or evil. they delight in it, all the while possibly masquerading as someone of noble character. they delight in dealing pain and believe their horrible actions should have no serious or painful consequences.

if you cross paths with someone who exhibits these characteristics, it's important that you confront them head on and not acquiesce in their behavior. yes, the bible tells us to turn the other cheek. it tells us to overcome evil with good. it also tells us to not be overcome with evil.

grace is not always granted for clemency. "before i was afflicted i went astray: but now have i kept thy word." psalms 119:67 the bible warns us saying, "let grace be shown to the wicked, yet he will not learn righteousness; in the land of uprightness he will deal unjustly." isaiah 26:10 the bible tells us that talking doesn't wake up evil people, but painful consequences might.

remember, "satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light." 2 corinthians 11:14 he knows more true doctrine than you or i will ever know, but his heart remains wicked in spite of it. why? because although he knows the truth, he does not believe it or live it. he has willingly chose to rebel.

please know it was not easy for me to write this. i

have struggled with God about it for days. i feel so inadequate to discuss such a topic but i can only trust my Lord to take over and convey any message or warnings He wants to impart. these are perilous times we live in and many "baby" christians need a mother hen to crawl under and be protected from the slings and arrows being tossed; from the lies and deception. evil is out there and it is destroying as many lives as it can.

my heart always wants to see the best in everyone, but sometimes there is no best to see. judgement is not ours but discernment is. we know that, "though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. for the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds." 2 cor 10:3-4 to be forewarned is to be forearmed. we wield the sword of the Spirit: "piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." heb 4:12

no we are not all children of God. we are all His creation, but not all His children. we have fallen too far into darkness. but there's good news to be had. "as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name." john 11:52

in closing, let me add: "many shall be purified, made white, and refined, but the wicked shall do wickedly; and none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand." dan 12:10 be wise! we pray God to open their understanding and bring them into the light. far be it from me that i should sin against the Lord in

ceasing to pray for them - but neither will i cast my pearls before swine. lead us, o Lord. lead us in all your ways. thine be the power and the glory forever and ever.