

great imposter

"one sows and another reaps.'I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors." john 4:37-38

have you ever felt like you were a fraud? i have. you see, i am a composite of everyone who ever touched my life, for good or for bad. knowingly or not, my actions and reactions have been pre-programed by them.

even when it seems something beautiful, original and unique has come from me - yes, especially then - i know that it did not originate in me, instead coming from God. "and what do you have that you did not receive? now if you did indeed receive it, why do you boast as if you had not received it?" 1 cor 4:7

"for i know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells." rom 7:18 as hard as i believe i try to give glory to God and credit to others, i still feel within myself that i am an imposter; a fraud seeking to draw credit from someone else's work.

you see, the "touching stories" i tell are not my own. i am not that creative. they are gathered hither and yonder from around the internet; things anyone could easily gather if so inclined. even in supposedly "original" writings, thoughts and ideas are gleaned from various sources. hopefully i have reworded them to my own vernacular, but they flow verbatim too often without accreditation.

then there are those times when i really feel like a

fraud. times when something real inspiring, and apparently original, seems to come forth. i write them as though they originated with me when i know it was placed there by the Holy Spirit; my precious whispers from God

i think some might consider me as if i were real "spiritual," a scholar and student of the word who is constantly digging into the word to discover some new, unrevealed truth of God. in truth, i have my own battles to fight and cross to bear. i sleep too often and eat too much. i may try to give cause to old age. indeed this body is breaking down but much fault goes to me. i fail in so many ways to treat my body as the temple of God it is; a dwelling place for the Holy Spirit. yes, i feel like a fraud so often, in many ways. so i willingly confess to you and all that i am a fraud - but for Jesus!

"i have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer i who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which i now live in the flesh i live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." gal 2:20

grace is not only something given by God,  
but it is God Himself coming to us;  
grace is not only something given by God,  
but it is God Himself doing things for us.

perhaps we all should admit that we are frauds. frauds pretending to be sons of God. pretending only in the sense we have not yet become fully manifested; to others and ourselves. i am being crucified a little more each day. as we take up our cross and allow Him

to have His way, we are being transformed from glory to glory.

it is not my actions or study that determine what i am. it is the blood of Jesus that determines what i am and someday will make me like unto Him. He's still working on me. we are all a work in progress in this life - completed by faith in the next.

"God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should repent. has He said, and will He not do? or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?" num 23:19 "seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession." heb 4:14

"and He said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.'  
therefore most gladly i will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me." 2 cor 12:9  
fraud though i may feel at times, i know my Jesus is real.