

**"THE WORDS OF THE LORD ARE PURE WORDS, LIKE SILVER TRIED IN  
A FURNACE OF EARTH, PURIFIED SEVEN TIMES.  
YOU SHALL KEEP THEM, O LORD, YOU SHALL PRESERVE THEM FROM  
THIS GENERATION FOREVER." (PSALM 12: 6 & 7)**

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## **“SEPARATION”**

### **Part Two**

***"Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or else make the tree bad and its fruit bad; for a tree is known by its fruit. Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks." (Matthew 12:33 & 34)***

***"To the wicked God says: 'What right have you to declare My statutes, or take My covenant in your mouth, seeing you hate instruction and cast My words behind you?'" (Psalm 50:16 & 17)***

***"An oracle within my heart concerning the transgression of the wicked: There is no fear of God before his eyes." (Psalm 36:1)***

After the issue of spiritual rebirth is settled, I am totally persuaded that the single most important issue facing the child of God, is his separation from the world – its systems and its things. As long as a professing believer in Christ fails to set his or her will to be in agreement with Him, and separate themselves from the world, they are attempting to mix the world of Lucifer and the Kingdom of God. It will not work!, as evidenced by our current state of spiritual bankruptcy. Man's good standing before God is in direct proportion to the degree of his hearts separation from the world.

Dear reader, please remember that the issue of separation is not one of being "in" the world – that is, being subject to its systems and coming into contact with its things – all of us who are currently alive are "in" the world. The issue that our God is concerned with, is whether or not we are "of" the world. This is ultimately a heart issue. God judges us by our heart.

***"The Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." (1 Samuel 16:7b)***

***"For as he thinks in his heart, so is he." (Proverbs 23:7a)***

***"As in water face reflects face, so a man's heart reveals the man." (Proverbs 27:19)***

Before God, man is either condemned or pardoned, not by his church membership, not by his works, not by his doctrine or theology, nor by the words of his mouth – No! – man is

either condemned or pardoned by what is in his heart. What is the heart's relationship to God – not the mind's (intellect) relationship – but the heart's relationship. Do I love God with "all" of my heart (Matthew 22:37)?; that is the question man must ask of himself or herself. Better we ask it of ourselves today, rather than have our God ask it of us in "That Day" which nears for each of us.

So, I ask you dear reader; what is the condition of your heart as it relates to God, to His commandments, precepts, and judgments? What is the current condition of your heart as it relates to God and the world, its systems and things? What is the condition of your heart as it relates to God and your family members, your church, your ministry? Are you certain! – absolutely certain! – that your heart is right with God? Before you answer my question, may I remind you that it is written:

***"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?" (Jeremiah 17:9)***

***"He who trusts in his own heart is a fool, but whoever walks wisely will be delivered." (Proverbs 28:26)***

I, personally, do not trust my own heart. I do not! "Self" (Man's flesh) is a most powerful force. The heart of man, when measured by our Father's word, is found to be spiritually anemic. There is a natural propensity in the best of us to be defensive of ourselves and secretly complimentary of ourselves. Man's heart tends to gravitate toward those things, people, religious beliefs, etc., that appeal to his or her affections, rather than gravitating toward the Truth. We are quite convinced that we are "right." As long as we remain under the lordship of our own heart, we are severely limited in our spiritual growth; in fact, you might say we are spiritual cripples. As it is written, so it is:

***"You are not restricted by us, but you are restricted by your own affections." (2 Corinthians 6:12)***

In writing on the subject of "self-judgment," A. W. Tozer writes: *"It is one of the supreme tragedies in religion that so many of us think so highly of ourselves when the evidence lies all on the other side; and our self-admiration effectively blocks out any possible effort to discover a remedy for our condition. Only the man who knows he is sick will go to a physician."*

I could not agree more with brother Tozer; our current self-confidence as it relates to our good standing before God, is indeed a supreme tragedy. When God defines the wicked as those who set His word aside (Psalm 50:16 & 17), and who do not fear Him (Psalm 36:1), and at the same time they express confidence in their good-standing before God; is that not indeed a supreme tragedy? I can almost hear our Lord as He looked over His people in Jerusalem, who were also confident of their good standing before God; and He wept! Listen, as He spoke through tears ---

***"If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes." (Luke 19:42)***

When God's people lose their fear of Him, they will always set His word aside in favor of what they think, what appeals to them; and then they become more and more like the world until you cannot tell them apart from the world, except by the words of their mouth as they

profess their belief in Jesus Christ and their love for their church. This describes what is commonly called the church in our present day. May God have mercy on us all!

***"Why do you call Me Lord, Lord, and not do the things which I say?"  
(Luke 6:46)***

We have no right to call Jesus Christ "Lord" if we do not obey His commands. Just because we believe in Jesus does not mean that He is our "Lord." In fact, we could believe in Jesus and end up spending eternity in the company of demons. Before you disagree with my statement, please listen to Father's word.

***"You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe – and tremble!" (James 2:19)***

***"More than that, blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"  
(Luke 11:28)***

***"For not the hearers of the law are just in the sight of God, but the doers of the law will be justified." (Romans 2:13)***

***"But on this one I will look: On him who is poor and of a contrite spirit, and who trembles at My word." (Isaiah 66:2b)***

In the very beginning of man's relationship with God, as recorded in the book of Genesis, man chose to set God's word aside in favor of the word of the Prince of Darkness who rules the world, its things and its systems; spiritual death followed – and, so it is, even now. The vast majority of those of us who call Jesus Christ "Lord," no longer fear God, have set His word aside, and have embraced so much of the world that we can no longer tell the difference between the clean and the unclean – the holy and the unholy (2 Corin. 6:17, Lev. 10:10). Like so many of our forefathers, we have turned away from what God says in favor of what man says that God says. The spirit of rebellion that found a willing host in Adam and Eve, has now found an untold number of willing hosts in those who simply cannot believe that God's way is, in reality, narrow, difficult and hard to find; even though it is written:

***"Narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it." (Matthew 7:14)***

On the one hand "God says!" and on the other, the "spirit of religion says." To our flesh, the voice of the spirit of religion is much more appealing. It is more appealing because it tickles our ears and allows us to embrace those parts of the world that we have become so comfortable with. God's way is the way of separation (2 Corin. 6:17); God's way is the narrow way (Matt. 7:14); God's way is the way of the Cross (Matt. 10:38); God's way is the way of Obedience to His word (John 14:21 and 1 John 2:4); God's way is the way of Unity (1 Corin. 1:10); God's way is a way of Love – beginning with a total Love for Him (Matt. 22:36 & 37); God's way is the way of Holiness (Hebrews 12:14 and 1 Peter 1:15 & 16); God's way is the way of Persecution (John 15:20 and Matt. 5:10); God's way is the way of meek Humility (Matt 5:3 – 5); God's way is the way of Reverential Fear (Matt. 10:28 and 1 Peter 2:17); God's way is the only Way (John 14:6).

After carefully studying "God's way" as detailed in His word, and then honestly evaluating our present generation of professing believers in Christ, both by personal experience as well as the Barna Research Group's statistics, I have come to the following conclusions:

Instead of God's way, the current generation of professing Christians (except for a small minority of believers that Father calls His remnant) have chosen another way; I call it "man's way." Man's way is to become a part of the world's system and to indulge in its pleasures. Man's way is to avoid the cross and death to self. Man's way is rebellion and disobedience to God's word rather than obedience. God's way is the way of unity among believers; man's way is the way of division. Man's way is to talk much about loving God while in fact he loves "self" and denies his love of God through his disobedience (John 14:24). God's way is the way of persecution; man's way is to avoid persecution. God's way is the way of meek humility; while man's way is the way of religious pride. God's way is the pursuit of holiness (Hebrews 12:14); while man's way is unholiness. God's way is the way of Reverential Fear; while man's way is the way of disrespect, doubt, unbelief and contempt that springs from over-familiarity and dead religion.

When all is said and done, let it be known that God's way brings man into union with Himself; while man's way brings man nothing but loss of blessing, pain, suffering, God's judgment, and finally Death!

***"Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the spirit will of the spirit reap everlasting life."  
(Galatians 6:7 & 8)***

***"Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar." (Romans 3:4)***

I boldly declare, in the name of Jesus Christ, that when any man or woman speaks a word that is in opposition to God's word, that man or woman is a "Liar." They are a "Liar" before God and all of the heavenly hosts. It makes no difference if you be preacher, prophet, teacher, Pope, Bishop, etc.; you are nonetheless before God a Liar. That includes me, and it includes you, dear reader. May God have mercy on us all in these final days of dark deception and rebellion against God's word!

During the past few years I have applied myself to researching past generations of professing believers. I have reviewed the historic record in some detail for the past 165 years. In addition, I have in lesser detail reviewed our forefathers back to the early 1300's; then in detail, I have studied the first and second century of the church which was initially led by the Lord's original Apostles. This does not make me an expert, nor do I claim to have made an exhaustive study of our past; I leave those claims to others to whom they may be deserved. However, I can boldly declare, based upon the factual record, that the church (those professing Christ as their Lord) of our early forefathers including those as recent as the mid and late 1800's, bear no resemblance to the present generation. They clearly reflected the likeness and image of Christ in the first few generations after our Lord went home. However, as time has passed, man began to drift slowly away from "The Way" and the Light grew dimmer and dimmer until only a flicker remains.

Today, most of our spiritual light is artificial (man made); most of the manifested power of God has been withdrawn, leaving us with powerless form. Faith in the purity of God's word today is as rare as a four leaf clover in a Kansas wheat field. Our present generation of

professing Christians has brought more shame and reproach upon the high and holy name of Jesus Christ and upon His word, than any other generation in the history of the church, since the day of Pentecost. Advanced technology has exposed our wickedness around the world as the heavens are filled with our rebellion. As it is written – so it is!

***"Therefore by their fruits you will know them." (Matthew 7:20)***

The fact that most of us are unaware of our present state of spiritual bankruptcy and are too lazy to search out the matter, or we know and simply don't care, because of our lack of fear and respect of I AM is a clear indictment of our guilt as presently charged. May our God have mercy on us as He applies His judgment to His people first. May God have mercy!

A few years ago my wife Judy and I attended a social function that was hosted by a couple who were friends and also active professing Christians. There were 50 or more guests in attendance and they too were professing Christians. The affair lasted several hours and included a meal. That was on a Saturday. The very next day, Sunday morning, my phone rang. A Christian brother, who was a deacon in his church and had attended the function the day before, asked me the following questions: Why is it that Christians get together for an extended period of time and talk about everything but our King, His Kingdom and His government? Why is there so little interest in the things above and so much interest in the things below?

I did not immediately answer my brother, rather I told him that I would think about it and call him back later, which I did. After hanging up, the answer came, loud and clear. It is written:

***"For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks." (Luke 6:45c)***

***"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Matthew 6:21)***

The answer to my brother's question was simple – professing Christians as a whole have not separated their heart from the world, rather we have allowed our hearts to be abundantly filled with the world, and in so doing we have mocked God's word. It is written:

***"If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth." (Colossians 3:1 & 2)***

Our hearts are filled with the world's fashion, the world's entertainment, the world's sports, the world's recreation; we have joined the world's private clubs that exclude the lowly as we openly mock God's word (Romans 12:16); we have joined ourselves to the world's secret organizations and allowed our children to do likewise; we have allowed ourselves to be consumed with the world's never ending lust for "more" – especially for "more money" and all that money can bring us – no longer content with our basic needs we mock God's word (Matthew 6:25 – 34 and 1 Timothy 6:6 – 8) as we continue to gorge ourselves at the world's trough of excess. For the most part, we are no different from the rest of the world, except in our vain imaginations. May God have mercy in this hour of such widespread deception.

In conclusion, I offer a solution that will, on an individual basis (Philippians 2:12), deliver you from the world and place you among those who have been set free.

***"If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed." (John 8:31, 32 & 36)***

First, you must acknowledge your guilt in this matter before God, even as Daniel did (see Daniel 9:3 – 19). Remember God's words in 2 Chronicles 7:14, they contain a promise for deliverance, but they are conditional.

Second, you must set your will to "turn away from the world;" otherwise your prayers mean nothing – they are in vain (Matt. 15:8 & 9). I challenge you to boldly and radically set your mind on the things above and turn away from the world. This is a process, it usually occurs over time, so don't be discouraged, but at the same time don't trust your own heart.

Third, feed on God's word. You cannot get too much of His word. It is alive and it reproduces after its own kind.

At least for a season, stop reading so many books written by man, unless they direct you to the purity of God's word. You do not need man's opinion of what God's word means – you need the revelation of Truth, and it cannot be acquired from any man nor from any book - but only from the Holy Spirit of God. It belongs solely to Him and He gives it to us as a gift. It cannot be bought at any price!

***"And do not be called teachers; for One is your teacher, the Christ." (Matthew 23:10)***

***"When He, the Spirit of Truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth." (John 16:13)***

***"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." (Romans 12:2)***

God Bless,

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Your Brother, Thomas

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**EVERY WORD OF GOD IS PURE; HE IS A SHIELD TO THOSE WHO PUT THEIR TRUST IN HIM. DO NOT ADD TO HIS WORDS, LEST HE REBUKE YOU, AND YOU BE FOUND A LIAR." (PROVERBS 30:5 & 6)**