

DO YOU REALLY WANT ALL GOD HAS FOR YOU?

Romans 12:1-2

Introduction: Ever watch a little league ball game? Did you notice all the parents yelling and encouraging their children to hit a home run, catch that ball, throw that strike, run, slide and so forth?

Parents want their children to do their very best, to out perform all the others. Our text is a powerful challenge to Godly living, a ringing call for God's children to aim for God's best and highest. But do you really want all God has for you? Do you really want God's best? Quickly we say we do but most believers have never had God's best. They are living in spiritual lowlands, barely above worldliness and far, far from experiencing all that God has for them. Some try, in a mild sort of way but it is no more than a happiness without holiness, meager, tiny lives without ever experiencing the abundant life God has for them. For all who really want all God has for them, the Scripture reveals God's requirements for such a full life.

I. THERE MUST BE COMPLETE CONSECRATION

1. We must present our bodies to God for our bodies are the instrument of every vice and virtue.
 - How do we serve God? With our eyes, ears, voice, hands, feet and thoughts.
 - How do we serve the world and sin? With our eyes, ears, voice, hands, feet and thoughts.
 - How do we pay the penalty of our sins? With our entire body, for sin destroys the soul and the body. How does God judge us? The same way that sin does, body and soul.
 - It's like the soul blaming the body for it's lusts and the body blames the soul for it's lack of restraint. Consequently both perish.
2. We must present our bodies to God as living sacrifices.
 - It is the basis of our redemption for we are not our own but have been bought with a price, the blood of Jesus.
 - It is the basis of our participation in the life of Christ, to be partakers of Christ, as the branches of the vine, as imitations of Jesus Christ.
 - It is the basis of our relationship to the Holy Spirit as the Temple of God, the eyes of God, the hands, feet, and voice.
 - All bridges must be burned, all worldly habits and desires broken and left behind.

II. THERE MUST BE COMPLETE SEPARATION

1. ***"Blessed is the man who does not do what the unregenerate world does."*** (Psalm 1:1-3)
 - David, the Psalmist, refused to conform to the world and endured much pressure and ridicule.
 - Daniel also refused to conform to the king's ways and was a man of character, conviction, determination and survived all evil by God's grace. He refused to be conformed and was a much better man at the end.
 - Today is no different for we are no less challenged as was Daniel or David to not conform to the things of the world. We don't have to open the door for Satan because the doors are already open.
2. Blessed is the man who does not know the unregenerate world. God is against us knowing

some things. Remember, wisdom hurt Adam and Eve. The prodigal son wanted to go out into the world to "see" and experience it. ***"Be ye not conformed to this world..."***

3. Blessed is the man who lays aside every weight as well as the sins which so easily beset us.
 - Outright sin does not always fool us for we can fall "within" by the weight of sin, by partial indulgence, the little harmless things and therefore our testimony is muffled and limited.

III. THERE MUST BE COMPLETE TRANSFORMATION

1. We cannot transform ourselves. We cannot discern spiritual things. We can strain our eyes but we are helpless until God's grace shines in. We cannot change ourselves from sinner to saint or elevate ourselves to higher spiritual ground. Only God is able to do that.
 - A little boy who had never been able to see very much because of his bad eyes was given glasses and all at once what he could not see could now be seen and it was beautiful. Somebody else had to step in and help. Thus it is the same with us and God.
2. We cannot have the "fruit of the Spirit" without the Spirit. The "fruit of the Spirit" is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance and these come from a God filled heart. Similar traits can be found but like seed on a thorny ground, they can be quick to grow but equally quick to die.
 - Some trees bear fruit while similar trees bear only blooms.
3. We cannot have Godliness without God. ***"It is God which worketh in you both to will and to do His good pleasures."*** We can have a "form" of godliness but not the power. We just are not "alive" until we are filled from above with God's Holy Spirit.
4. We cannot have God without Jesus Christ. ***"...no man cometh unto the Father except by Me.."***
There are those who claim to know and have God (other religions), rituals, appointed times of prayer, but deny Jesus Christ. Therefore they have no spiritual lives, no peace, none of the things that comes with being transformed by the Holy Spirit.

CONCLUSION:

1. We can have an abundant life for our text tells us how.
 - Have you accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?
 - Have you "tasted" the abundant life?
 - Do you want all God has for you?
2. Then it is time to stop fooling yourself and consecrate yourself to Him. Get away from the world and sin and allow God to do whatever He wants with you, let Him transform you.
3. Most Christians are afraid to give themselves totally to God for they don't want to give up some things and want to remain in control of their lives. Are you one of these?