*Tuesday, October 22, 2013*

**Not of Works**

Romans 4:3-5 For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness. 4 Now to him that worked is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt? 5 But to him that worked not, but believeth on him that justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness. (KJV)

Have you ever heard the one about giving to God and then He owes you something in return, like a hundredfold on your investment? Sounds kind of creepy and weird when we say it that way doesn’t it? Well, there are those who actually have the gall to think that when they have done something first then our Lord responds to their works; but in reality God sent a Savior our way, His own Son so that things would get done right the first time and would last for eternity. It’s when man gets a hold of things that it becomes distorted and doesn’t turn out the way it was intended.

John 6:27-29 Labor not for the meat which perishes, but for that meat which endures unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed. 28 Then said they unto him, what shall we do, that we might work the works of God? 29 Jesus answered and said unto them, this is the work of God that ye believe on him whom he hath sent. (KJV)

The Lord knows what your carnal needs are and has them covered. What He would like to see His people attend to is the spiritual path that will lead them away from dead works. The Son has done a complete work on our behalf so that we could be complete body, soul, and most importantly Spirit. However, many have let the enemy tell them that the outward is more important than the change that should be taking place inwardly and thus the reason why so many are dull and lifeless.

Philippians 3:1-3 Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you, to me indeed is not grievous, but for you it is safe. 2 Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers, beware of the concision. 3 For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh. (KJV)

The reason many lose confidence in the Lord is because they don’t cast their care upon Him, and then leave it there. Many will put their hand to the plow, but keep looking back thinking something behind them can be changed. Those that have confidence in the Lord are those that have left their cares and concerns of this life with our Lord and believe that what He has promised them He is more than able to deliver. God is not moved by your tears or constant prayers for things that are not beneficial to your walk. He is moved by faith, when you come to the place when you are willing to walk by what He is says, and less by what your flesh is trying to dictate.

Romans 7:22-25 For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: 23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. 24 O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death? 25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin. (KJV)

Why not give the flesh a vote of no confidence and send it packing? The law of God, also known as the law of faith, will not work until you get yourself out of the way. The flesh and the Spirit are totally contrary one to another and will not work in unison, it’s one or the other. We are either with our Lord or against Him. Where are you today?

God bless dearly loved, and have a prosperous day in Christ Jesus our Lord.