*Thursday, August 9, 2012*

**Slice of Life**

Galatians 2:18-21 For if I build again the things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. (19) For I through the law am dead to the law, that I might live unto God. (20) I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. (21) I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain. (KJV)

If you go back through the New Testament you can see and hear for yourself how Jesus Christ lived when He walked this earth. You will find that He lived by faith, hearing and then acting on what His Father in heaven was speaking and not falling for the father of lies. Many Christians today are frustrated in their walk, just like many Americans are with the economy who desire to work but end up unemployed. Many of God’s people return to the works of the old law, whether it manifests in the form of water baptisms or carnal communion services, all are a waste of time.

Ephesians 2:8-10 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: (9) Not of works, lest any man should boast. (10) For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. (KJV)

A verse that is so simple yet so misconstrued by many who try to combine faith with works. What mankind is telling God in essence is that His Son didn’t do a complete job on our behalf, and apparently there is something we think we can add to the mix. God has already done what was necessary for our reconciliation, and now all He is asking of us is to walk the path that He ordained for us to walk. When you apply for a job here on planet earth you agree to do the work for the owner of the company, otherwise you won’t get hired, let alone last too long. Well that same scenario holds true in heaven as well.

Hebrews 6:4-6 For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, (5) And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, (6) If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame. (KJV)

The impossible part is in the fact that the believer has now fallen back into the realm of the flesh, many times through the works of the old law. Once you have stepped out of the realm of faith and back to what I will refer to as religious works, well as you see clearly illustrated at the end of verse 6 it definitely is not something that is well pleasing to your Father in heaven.

Galatians 3:10-12 For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them. (11) But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith. (12) And the law is not of faith: but, The man that doeth them shall live in them. (KJV)

Many question, and even accept things that result from the curse of the old law, claiming that it was God’s will for these things to happen to them. Rather than look and examine their own lives they put the blame on God. Many begin in the Spirit and then think that they can perfect their walk in the flesh, or according to what they think. However, we see that whatsoever is not of faith is sin. Many of God’s people put themselves back into harm’s way when they profess to know God, but with works resulting from the law, deny Him.