*Tuesday, September 4, 2012*

**Slice of Life**

Hebrews 8:7-9 For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. (8) For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: (9) Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. (KJV)

God has provided mankind with a new covenant so that we could walk in a newness of life. The old was harsh and stringent, and very hard to walk in. I mean after all, would you like to have to build an alter in your backyard and try offering up blood sacrifices? How about circumcision and observing the Sabbath? Yet as farfetched as this may sound it is not that far off when observing many today who still hold to old laws and rituals. Given the fact that our Lord said that He provided a new covenant for His people; wouldn’t you want to get in on that?

Galatians 5:1-4 Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage. (2) Behold, I Paul say unto you, that if ye be circumcised, Christ shall profit you nothing. (3) For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law. (4) Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace. (KJV)

What Paul is saying is that if you decide to put any of the law back into play, well then you’re a debtor or obligated to fulfill all of the law. The truth is that those who go back to these dead works are basically telling God that His Son didn’t do a complete job of fulfilling these when He walked this earth. You know, if God accepted the sacrifice of Jesus Christ as enough to pay the price, why hasn’t the Church followed suit? Thump, yeah that is the sound of another Christian biting the dust falling from grace.

Hebrews 9:13-15 For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: (14) How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? (15) And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance. (KJV)

Back in the day these sacrifices would cover sin for a season but not remove it. The sacrifice of the Son was able to wash away sin so that we could be a new creation in Christ.

Hebrews 10:19-22 Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, (20) By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; (21) And having an high priest over the house of God; (22) Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. (KJV)

There are many commercials today which advertise many different cleaners for certain stains. There is only one Spiritual living water that can cleanse our conscience. Are you aware of this newness of life that is available, or are you unconscious to the realm of the Spirit?

Hebrews 12:22-25 But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, (23) To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, (24) And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel. (25) See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven: (KJV)

That newness of life is above, seated at the right hand of our Father, speaking words of life to His church. You know what happened to the children of Israel when they ignored the commandments, so don’t ignore that voice from above.