*Friday, September 7, 2012*

**Slice of Life**

Titus 3:4-6 But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, (5) Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; (6) Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; (KJV)

Do you remember what got you into the kingdom of God and in good standing with Him in the beginning of your walk? No, it wasn’t because you got dunked in water or by any other silly carnal outdated ritual, it was because of your belief in what our Lord had done and accomplished on your behalf, that’s what got you in. Do you know what is going to keep you in good standing with Him today? Yeah, that would be the same simplicity of the gospel of Christ that many miss, because being saved by grace means nothing else works.

Romans 12:1-3 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. (2) And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. (3) For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. (KJV)

The change or transformation takes place when you no longer conform to man’s carnal rituals rather you step out in faith; walking in what you hear from above and away from what those below claim you need to do. You have been given the measure of faith needed so that everything God would ask of you today can be accomplished. I have found that the more I give ear to the doctrine of Christ the more it separates me from those who say different even though they may have a big following.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day. (17) For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; (18) While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal. (KJV)

In order for the new man to resurrect the old way of thinking has to perish. This doesn’t happen overnight rather it is a daily process that is not without some suffering. Sometimes you will hear something that you know came from our Lord which totally contradicts what you have heard from others, even those that claim to be of God. It is at that point that you have to decide to look within to the unseen realm, or hold to the outward.

Colossians 3:8-11 But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. (9) Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds; (10) And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him: (11) Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all. (KJV)

People have dreamed up a lot of titles and denominations that they claim are of God, but in the end it’s all about being Christ like. I have found even after my own conversion in Christ that I was my own worst enemy at times when I would entangle myself with the affairs of this life, letting the old man rob me of the new life that I had available in Christ, which is accurately described in verse 8.

Ephesians 4:22-24 That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; (23) And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; (24) And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. (KJV)

In conclusion this week, are you willing to be open to the things from above by the renewing of your mind, or are you just settling for second hand religious dead doctrines? With a new life that we have available in Christ why not let Him have a new influence on you today so that things never have to get old again.