*Monday, August 15, 2011*

**Staying Alive**

John 12:24-25 Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit. (25) He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal. (KJV)

Actually our new life in Christ is all about staying alive and well in the realm of the Spirit; which means that we need to do a total one eighty reversal from the way we used to operate according to our limited carnal minds. What used to be an empty pursuit in the realm of the flesh, thinking something carnal would ever bring life or satisfy our spiritual need, is now discarded if one is truly going to go the distance and remain alive and well Spiritually.

Williams New Testament translation for 1 Peter 4:3-6

3. For the time that is past is enough for you to have accomplished what the heathen like to do, leading lives that are steeped in sensuality, lustful desires, drunkenness, carousing, revelry, dissipation, and idolatry that leads to lawlessness, 4. They are astonished that you are not still rushing hand in hand with them into the same excesses of profligate living, and they abuse you for it; 5. but they will have to give account for it to Him who is ready to judge living and dead. 6. This is why the good news was preached to the dead too, that they may be judged in their physical nature as men are, but live in the Spirit as God does.

1 Peter 4:3-6 For the time past of our life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we walked in lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, revellings, banquetings, and abominable idolatries: (4) Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of you: (5) Who shall give account to him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead. (6) For for this cause was the gospel preached also to them that are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit. (KJV)

We were deadbeats in the past when we walked according to the flesh seeking peace and contentment in that realm. However, it takes a total transformation to continue in the faith grounded and settled, and not get moved out of the realm of the Spirit and back to sin again.

Romans 6:11-13 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. (12) Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. (13) Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. (KJV)

Spirit and the flesh are totally contrary one to the other, and it is not something that you can mix and match. In order to stay alive and well in the Spirit you need to put a cease and desist order on that old nature that you used to pursue. That old mindset needs to be discarded as well, so that you can be open not only to hear those things from above, but then to actually step out and walk in a newness of life.

1 Corinthians 15:20-22 But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. (21) For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. (22) For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. (KJV)

Jesus Christ is risen and is now sitting at the right hand of His Father, and our Father also if we choose the new life that He was dying to give mankind. The only way that you can have life and have it more abundantly is when you start seeking those things above where Christ is seated.

Romans 5:7-8 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. (8) But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. (KJV)

You can’t have a resurrection without a death first, and it is not until you are willing to die to sin that you will experience a new life in Christ. In conclusion I would like to say that Christ was willing to die and go to hell for us, so that He would not have to go to heaven without us. Are you on board today?