

Drop The Dead Weight

When a wooden ship transporting cargos through a rough sea is about to sink, the crew members will be faced with a hard decision of either getting their less valuable goods tossed into the sea or rather sink to death. If they scale through without any lives lost, well they can't regain what was lost in the sea, unless they work hard for it over again, and if they are unfortunate next time, they'll continue in their hard work and heavy losses, their struggle, unless they think a way out of their predicament.

Take Jonah for example, when he was running away from God, he carried away with him the sin of disobedience into a ship. And suddenly there was a serious storm caused by the Lord Almighty, that the crew men prayed to their gods with no result and had no other option but to toss their cargos into the sea. They did of course, but their problem, still, was there because they thought they could handle it on their own, not until they found Jonah sleeping and woke him up.

They woke him up and casted lots, and the lot fell on Jonah, and Jonah told them that he had sinned against God, unless he was thrown into the sea (as a sacrifice), they would remain in their dire situation. Still foolish as they were, they still, did their best to row back to land with their own strength, but they couldn't until they turned to the Lord and threw Jonah off the ship. Indeed he was thrown off, but it was already too late, because though the crew's lives were saved, they already lost too much valuables because of the wrong choices they made.

Using the story as an illustration, you'll see that these men were minding their own business transporting cargos until, Jonah the carrier of a wrong cargo " disobedience " went onboard, they didn't know, but they allowed him, after all he was profitable they thought, he did paid his fare right? But as you see in the story, though they didn't realize when the wrong cargo got in because it was disguised, they still had to suffer the consequences by losing what they have labored for.

That's how it is today, no, that's how it has always been right from the beginning of disobedience on earth. The land has been cursed because of sin, sin itself is indeed a curse and that is why Jesus came and became a curse for us (for it is written cursed is anyone who died on a tree) that we might be free from this curse, though living in this cursed land of sin. God has already broken this curse of suffering and death through Jesus Christ, but you can only be free from it by following Jesus from the depths of your heart. God said;

2 chronicle 7:14

" if my people who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and will heal their land."

Most people don't know how and when they started carrying this dead weight of sin, actually it is not in anyone to be sinful, but as Jonah entered the ship without them knowing, so has Satan today, he spreads and causes people into sin

all over the world, in fact, right from the day we were born, for in sin our mothers conceived us, as long as we are born of woman, we are born into sin, that is; we were all bound to sin, because we have or had the bad blood of sin flowing in us inherited from Adam and Eve.

This sin is nurtured, prepared in time for it to manifest at a certain age in our lives when the time is right. That's why although some might not lust, even being with the ones they lust after today, but when that time comes, the egg hatches. Just as God has a purpose destined for every man, so also the devil has a purpose planned also, we just have to choose. But, still, though we were conceived in sin, we also have the spirit of God in us, because God foreknew us and has predestined us from heaven. It is this trace of the spirit of God in a man that receives the gospel and leads him to repentance, bringing him salvation when his time comes. God does not want us to perish, He only brought us here for a test to prepare us for the glory to come.

But still many people today has crushed the spirit of God in them, though God has given us many opportunity and chances to repent, there are just too many signs and billboards along the road, but we are too spiritually blinded by the devil to see, we dabble in the temporary pleasure of this world that cannot be compared to the least glory in heaven, thereby causing sin to grow within our hearts, leaving little, so tiny a space that can only be seen with a microscope for God's spirit, we have shrouded His spirit in us with a dark cloud of sin.

These times are even worse, Satan doesn't even stress to enter anyone, actually the only people he stresses to gain access are the sons of God. He just makes advertisements and people buys his spiritual property, for their pleasure, some tricked into sin because of their weakness, others even engage in sin willingly and propagates it.

Just like the people in the ship, they took Jonah as their passenger because of the fare he paid (their profit), but little do they know that this profit which is their pleasure really is an investment of suffering, pain and death, which is the result of the world's suffering today, and this suffering makes the foolish investing more in sin while the wise drop the dead weight of sin and see the salvation that comes from sin, because without sin there is no salvation through Christ Jesus, and this salvation not only leads to rest on earth in Jesus, but rest for eternity.

God said whoever enters my rest, he shall indeed rest from all his works. Our eternal rest starts from this side of earth, because men are all immortal, death is just like blinking your eyes and finding yourself in a different world, a spiritual realm. Sin has grown in men that it has affected their lives negatively, though they purchased it, still, even in all its pleasure, it has brought upon them fear, pain, suffering, just as it started with Adam,

Genesis 3:17

" Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you'll eat of it all the days of your life."

The ungodly work hard with little results, still few of them harvest in sin and reap bountifully, well i pity these set of people. Just as there are disciples of Christ so also there are disciples of Satan, he makes them rich to propagate his kingdom, look at worldly musicians for example, they became rich in order to corrupt the hearts of men with their songs. I said i pity them, because scripture says;

Luke 17:1-2

" Things that causes people to sin are bound to come, but woe to that person through whom they come. It would be better for him to be thrown into the sea with a mill stone tied around his neck, than for him to cause one of these little ones to sin.

It is better to suffer in flesh and find salvation in Jesus than to going diller in the world seeking her false freedom which leads to death and land you in hell. Even in all these despair, God is still advertising His grace and mercy. Take for example; someone who has written a college entrance exam many times, he has tried man, but failed but then he realizes that there is one who can make all things possible, and the only cash he needs is your repentance and obedience. God does all these, that in the midst of these sufferings cause by sin we will seek and follow Him, and when we have turned to Him we would discover that;

" Though we are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed but not in despair; persecuted but not abandoned; struck down but not destroyed."

but it isn't so for others, they think otherwise. They would still curse God when they face frustration by not following Him. To those Who doesn't need Him, He gave over to the suffering of the world, to them He gave to the curse of the world, because they refuse to receive that which breaks the curse of sin which is the blood of Jesus.

" Cursed is anyone who does not continue to do everything written in the book of the law, ' or rather all who rely on observing the law(that is following the ways of men) are under a curse. '

Some will say well I'm already rich, if you really are that is; if you got your riches from the world, then why are you working like lumberjack for the fear of your riches going down the drain.

So many families are being affected by this dead weight of sin, and for some their lives would have been miserable if there wasn't one who has dropped his dead weight of sin. Now all the weights might not be dropped, but letting go of even one has a great impact in the ship, why not drop yours also and make it much easier, even if no one wants to drop theirs in your household. These weights could be anger, lying, disobedience, lust, (fornication, adultery, masturbation), smoking, drunkenness, there are much to write. Or don't you know that an unbeliever in a family is covered in Jesus by that one believer.

God has promised that He won't let a bone in your body be broken (that is; your household), if only you are in Him and Him in you, the holy spirit that covers you will also cover your family, that is why some family though living in sin, still prospers, they don't realize it is because of that one man who chose to walk in God's light. Still it will be better if all the members walk in His light, then they would know what they have missed all these while.

Again even if they won't stand, stand in the gap on their behalf, who knows by God's grace they will see the goodness and mercy of God that has lifted them up from grass to grace and follow Him, because of your steadfastness. Drop your dead weight.

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