

The Consequences Of Sin

Last week we looked at "What is Sin", today we will look at the consequences of sin. I am of the belief that today's society is likened to that of Israel of old, that is we have lost the "fear of the Lord". Last month I seen a sign that simply said, "Eternity--Smoking or Non-Smoking" and dear friends those are the only choices man has. Therefore, it is not only imperative that we realized that we have sinned (Rom. 3:23--for all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God;) but recognize the urgency of Godly repentance.

In the beginning, "And God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them."(Gen.1:27) God not only created man and everything else, but everything that He created was very good "And God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day." (Gen. 1:31), and gave dominion over all He created to man. Look at Luke 4:6-8-- And the devil said unto him, To thee will I give all this authority, and the glory of them: for it hath been delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it. If thou therefore wilt worship before me, it shall all be thine. And Jesus answered and said unto him, It is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. It would seem from the above scriptures that man forfeited his dominion over this earth because of his sin. In John 12:31--"Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out. " and in 2 Cor. 4:3-4--"And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled in them that perish: in whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of the unbelieving, that the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should not dawn [upon them]." We can see plainly that the scriptures refer to Satan as "god of this world" and "the prince of this world". Therefore, with man's fall from God by sin came the fall of everything over which man had dominion. Thus, mankind became susceptible to disease and death, both physical and spiritual death! Romans 5:12--"Therefore, as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin; and so death passed unto all men, for that all sinned; and 6:23--"For the wages of sin is death; but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. "

Man was not the only thing that suffered from sin, the very good earth became infested with thorns and thistles to remind man of the consequences of sin--"And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and

hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in toil shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; 18 thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; (Gen. 3:17-18). Look at what the apostle Paul recorded for us in Romans 8:22--"For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now." Animals become sick and die. BUT, we sorrow most of all because man's sin resulted in his eternal death and punishment and a life time here of pain and sorrows. Do we really understand the enormity of sin? One way is to look at how God has dealt with it, He destroyed all from the face of the earth except eight souls because of sin, Gen.6:6-8--"And it repented Jehovah that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart. And Jehovah said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the ground; both man, and beast, and creeping things, and birds of the heavens; for it repenteth me that I have made them. But Noah found favor in the eyes of Jehovah."

Yes, eternal death is the final consequences of sin , but along the path of this life on earth we see sorrow, pain, sickness, and death. Beloved, we are not our creator but we are His creation and subject to all of His commands. Listen to the prophet of old "Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die" (Ezek.18:4), again "For the wages of sin is death; but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord"(Rom.6:23).

God has declared that there will be a day of judgment and then the start of eternity for His creation; Matt.25:41--"Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into the eternal fire which is prepared for the devil and his angels:", 46 "And these shall go away into eternal punishment: but the righteous into eternal life." 2 Thess.1:6-10--"if so be that it is righteous thing with God to recompense affliction to them that afflict you, and to you that are afflicted rest with us, at the revelation of the Lord Jesus from heaven with the angels of his power in flaming fire, rendering vengeance to them that know not God, and to them that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus: who shall suffer punishment, [even] eternal destruction from the face of the Lord and from the glory of his might, when he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be marveled at in all them that believed (because our testimony unto you was believed) in that day. "

Beloved, how much clearer could God be? The fault is not in God's recorded message to His creation, BUT in His creation to listen and take heart! Is this

temporal life worth an eternity with murders, fornicators, rapist and such the like? Why do you suppose that God made statements like "THOU SHALT", "THOU SHALT NOT" or "THUS SAITH THE LORD"? When we drive and see a yellow warning sign "Flooded", "10 MPH", "Slippery When Wet", or "Bridge Out", we know if we ignore these that we will suffer the consequences of our rebellion. If we understand that man has warnings WHY can't we recognize a higher Authority and His warnings?