



IDENTITY

SAINTS

IDENTITY - SAINTS PART 2

For the second resource in relation to what it is to be a saint, I want us to take a deeper look at what it is to truly be “Set Apart”. We mentioned this last week, but it is imperative that we are living these set apart lives. We can not just give this credal affirmation, but we must be the tangible demonstration of what a set apart life looks like.

Firstly we must know what we are to be set apart from as His saint. There are predominantly 2 areas within us which impact and influence our ability to be and live as a set apart saint.

The first and foremost area is our heart and secondly it is our mind. It is not our minds first and our hearts second, but our hearts first and our minds second. If the heart is not transformed through the circumcision of the Spirit and faith in the Truth, the chances of our minds being renewed by the Spirit are .000000000000001%.

This is why Romans 12:1-2 gives us a very clear eternal pattern or order in which things are to flow and operate from.

Roman 12:1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.

This verse relates to a saint's willingness to lose and lay their whole heart down for His sake, and allow Him to circumcise this heart with His Word, the sword of the Spirit. Failure to enter into this circumcision of the heart, will mean the state of the heart will remain in the state that it was born - evil, proud, calloused, hard, brittle, stiff, rocky, thorny.

Just because someone's heart is covered by Love or Christ, doesn't mean the heart is soft. This can very much be the state of a saint's heart, very much in need of circumcision. In other words very much in need of the hardened soil being ploughed, broken up and turned over. This is why King David said the sacrifices of God are a broken spirit and a contrite heart and the scripture above, talks about this posture being the posture of true worship. Until this is our true state we can't offer anything of value to God.

The heart is the control centre of our lives and all of our hearts must be lost and laid down before the Father, for Him to do what only He can do in us. The question is whether we have lost and laid it down yet?

As we can see from the kingdom parable of the seed and the sower, the most important kingdom parable that Jesus testified to, the softness and the fertility of the soil, the heart, is the key to spiritual life and growth. All that is required is the heart to be fertile and the seed will do the rest. The soil produces crops because of the seed that was planted in it. The seed that is sown in the soil will do all the work.

Mark 4:26-29 And He was saying, “The kingdom of God is like a man who casts seed upon the soil; and he goes to bed at night and gets up by day, and the seed sprouts and grows—how, he himself does not know. The soil produces crops by itself; first the blade, then the head, then the mature grain in the head. But when the crop permits, he immediately puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.”

The responsibility of the saint is to enter into the process of the circumcision of the soil, one's heart, so when the seed goes forth, the seed finds fertile soil to grow in and produce of itself, 30, 60, 100 fold of what was sewn. This is the spiritual way of life in Christ in us as saints.



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This is the first part of what it means to be able to live out the 'Set Apart' life in Christ. If we don't enter into this process then we will not be set apart at all and very much will be part of the world and all its ways, as a child of God.

Next resource we will look at Romans 12 in relation to the mind being renewed by the Spirit.

QUESTIONS

1. What are you being made aware of through this resource?
2. Why is it essential the soil (heart) is fertile and lush?
3. What role does the seed play in this process?
4. Can anyone testify to this true spiritual process of growth within you as His Saint?

ACTION POINT: What action point do we need to take away from tonight?