

But Lord, I am not Worthy! Part 1

Key Scripture:

***There is therefore now no condemnation
to those who are in Christ Jesus,
who do not walk according to the flesh,
but according to the Spirit. Romans 8:1 (NKJV)***

Portion for the Journey:

As we seek to prepare our hearts for a closer relationship with the LORD, one of the enemy's tactics is to accuse us and tell us that we are not mature enough for that kind of relationship, that what He is asking is too hard, or that we just can't be "saintly" enough! I believe each one of us face times in our lives when we feel this kind of unworthiness. There are many believers who are so debilitated by this kind of condemnation that they never know the joy that should come with their salvation. We will find victory over these fears when we know the Truth which proclaims our complete freedom and acceptance in the Beloved.

There are three words that are used in our church doctrines, that sound very intimidating, but truly understanding these concepts is a powerful basis for standing in faith to receive all that Jesus has done for us to make us right with God.

"Righteousness"
~~right standing with God~~
...Jesus did it at the cross

"Justification"
~~just-as-if I'd never sinned~~
...justification is immediate when we believe in Jesus as our Savior

"Sanctification"
~~cleansing & purification~~
...process of becoming Christ-like...this takes time

Digging Deeper in the Word:

Today's lesson is will look at what the Word of God says about our worthiness in His sight. When we arm ourselves with His Truth we can stand firm in our faith against the enemy's accusations and lies. It is His will us to live in the joy of His salvation and freedom.

- 1. Is it possible to be righteous in God's sight?** Why or why not? Do these verses seem to be contradictory? What is the basis of our being righteous in God's sight? Romans 3:10; Luke 1:74,75; Jer. 23:6; Rom. 5:21; 2 Cor. 5:17,21; Isa. 57:18,19
2. What is the **name that describes Satan** in this passage? Rev. 12:10
3. **Take a glimpse into God's throne room** in these next two verses--note the role played by the enemy. Job 1:6-12
4. **Turn to Zechariah 3 and read this chapter.** Can you picture yourself in this scene? What are the promises that God gives to Joshua? Who protected Joshua from the accusations of the enemy? Did God accuse Joshua of wrong doing? What do you think the significance of the clean garments represent? (Hint: Isa. 61:10; Eph. 4:24; Isa. 52:1-3)
5. Look at Col. 1:22,23. There is a word here that is very important. In the King James Version the word is "**unreprovable**." Read the following definition of this word and then decide whether satan has any grounds to accuse you. "Unreprovable means "unaccusable or unchargeable." God is the One who justified us. If God declares us to be justified, who can bring any kind of a charge against us? He is the One who has cleared us of all guilt." —J. Vernon McGee's Thru The Bible
6. Read Ephesians 1:3 in the context of chapter 1. What has He made us to be? Use this phrase in a sentence with your name! "I am accepted in the beloved!" Remember if God is for us, who can be against us?

What is the Lord Speaking to you?

Is He showing you any areas where you have believed the enemy's lies regarding your worth in His sight? Have these verses changed your image as God who judges vs. God who defends? Do not hesitate to write down the verses that really speak to you and review them until they become life within your heart!

My Response to the Lord:

LORD, it completely amazes me that You can know me better than I even know myself and You totally accept me and love me!! Lord, please show me any areas where the accuser of the brethren has been keeping me from knowing Your great love for me. Help me to believe these verses that show that Jesus is my righteousness! Help me to stand in the beautiful clean garments that He has provided for me through His blood.