

Christian Seeking Identity

A Ministry of Alpha & Omega International Ministries

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March/April 2021

Greetings Family & Friends,

April and its spring showers are here or should I say its still cold weather is remaining with us. Never the less we are *plowing forth*. In March we had the awesome privilege to teach in the CBC Phoenix school and to host the school in North Carolina as they came to do their mission trip. What an exciting time the Team had as they ministered to the homeless persons in Durham & Charlotte NC. It was interesting to see how God used the homeless persons to minister to the Team members.

In this month's message Suzan ask the question, "If Not God, Then Who?" reminding us that God/Jesus is our everything, savior, redeemer, righteousness, healer, liberator, peace and "the lover of our souls".

We trust that it will bless you.

Blessing!

Your friends

Mickey & Suzan



(CBC Phoenix Team)

If Not God, Then Who?

Jesus said that he did not come to condemn the world; He came to save the world. In both the Old Testament and the New Testament, we can find passages that say God does not deal with us after our sins, nor does he reward us according to our iniquities.

When Jesus commissioned his disciples to go and preach the gospel to every creature, what did he mean when he said, *He that believes will be saved; but he that*

believes not will be damned? If Jesus said He did not come to condemn us, where does that damnation come from? God never uses our sins or unbelief's against us, but we have an enemy who does. He is a cunning counterfeit that makes us think that the condemnation he subjects us to comes from God. Not only that, Satan plants doubt and unbelief in our heart and then turns it around and uses the doubt he plants against us.

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Why? Because he knows that when we are subjected to doubt and condemnation, it leaves us with a sense of *Who am I in the presence of God* that causes us to distance ourselves from him. In light of all of this, the damnation that comes with unbelief is not God's doing. It is simply what happens in our own minds when we allow the enemy to alienate us from God by our wicked works. That is exactly what Jesus came to deliver us from. And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in *your* mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled in the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight: (Colossians 1:21-22) The Lord executes righteousness and justice [not for me only, but] for all who are oppressed. **[to deprive by deceit]** (Psalms 103:6 Amp) I found it interesting because Jesus called out the disciples for their unbelief (Mark 16:14) right before He told them to go into all the world and preach: *He that believes will be saved; but he that believes not will be damned*. Sometimes we are all so heaven or hell conditioned that we miss a few of the nuggets that apply to the here and now.

We are all alike! The enemy uses the same tricks on all of us. Just because we have a relationship with Jesus, does not mean the enemy won't try to throw a little doubt in, in an effort to cheat us out the things that are rightfully ours. Salvation is on-going! It is walking in the deliverance and freedom that comes from running to the author and finisher of our faith on a day-by-day basis.

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. (John 10:10)

On another note, this year because of covid restrictions, Charis Bible College in Woodland Park, Colorado and all of its USA extension schools are conducting all of their second-year mission trips within the USA. I would say that, covid or not, it is a God thing because ministry is certainly needed as much in this country as it is anywhere else in the world. Not only that, sometimes when students return from a foreign mission field, they are convinced that what worked so well in the country they just visited won't work in this country and now they are finding out that it works everywhere because people are the same no matter where they live. We scheduled two of those trips right here in our neck of the woods where we had the students ministering to street people in various cities in North Carolina. The first group was from Phoenix, Arizona. They might not have been on a foreign field, but they certainly felt like it. They hadn't seen so much green grass in a long time and none of them had ever had any experience working among the homeless population. What they discovered was refreshing! The homeless were really not any different than they were! We spent the first two days working at the men's division of the Durham Rescue Mission. What an amazing Christian based ministry! People voluntarily come in off of the streets looking for something that will turn their lives around and more often than not, they find what they are looking for. The students went there with ministering to the men in mind. They just did not realize how much all of those men packing God success stories would affect them! From there, we worked with a homeless based ministry under the leadership of Pastor David and Sheryl Smith called Meet Me Under the Bridge: and meet people they did! Once again, the same thing proved to be true: The homeless people ministered as people with God stories everywhere, and everywhere people have the same needs. It does not matter what country they live in, or where they happen to lay their heads at night.

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