

Abiding in the Resurrection

Secret to Victorious Living

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11-13-11

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Text: John 15:4 (ESV) “Abide in Me and I in You”

Introduction

Failure to walk before God in a manner pleasing to Him is never a result of

- **Satan** being too strong, or
- **Temptation** being too strong, or
- **Flesh** (old cravings) being too strong, but . . .

. . . from **not understanding** and **laying hold** of **God’s provisions** for us

Example: David’s Sin with Bathsheba

- Did David have **Reasons**? Yes!
 - He was a shepherd turned king with overwhelming pressure
 - Philistines hated him
 - Saul’s loyalists worked to see David fail
 - His army was at war
 - Fatigue certainly played a role
 - Bathsheba appeared as night of relief
 - He betrayed one of his fifty mighty men
- Did David have **Rights**? No!
- Did David **Pay a Price**? Yes!
- **How did David Fail**? He did not Lay Hold of God’s Resources

Note: God has made provisions for us to live as holy as did Jesus. We must never use the failure of another to justify failure in us. God will judge us up against Jesus Christ, not other people. Instead of wasting time justifying failure, let’s put our energy into laying hold of God’s provisions for victorious living.

Refresher from the Previous Message . . .

Abiding in the Cross

Notes:

- **God the Father** will eternally have the same heart of self-sacrifice that Jesus displayed on the cross.
- **God the Son** will eternally have the same selfless love that he demonstrated on the cross
- **God the Holy Spirit** will have the same disposition of selfless service both the Father and the Son displayed on the cross.

Notes:

- **Key:** This is the eternal disposition Jesus plants in every true believer
- **Key:** The cross was a one-time act but an eternal disposition
- **Key:** As Christ died on the cross **for** our sins so we must die on the cross **to** our sins.
- **Key** Dying to our selfish sin nature starts now and endures forever
- **Vital:** The cross is an eternal disposition

Today's Message . . .

Abiding in the Resurrection

A. Re-creation of the Resurrection

Vital: God is **not reconstructing what we were**—the old nature must die completely. He is bringing a **whole new creation** to pass.

2 Cor. 5:17 (ESV) “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. **The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.**”

Romans 6:1-4 (ESV) “What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound?

2 By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it?

3 Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were **baptized into his death**?

4 We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, **we too might walk in newness of life.**”

B. Rights of the Resurrection

Note: The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ bought staggering rights for us.

1. The Right to be Children of God

Romans 8:16 (ESV) “The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God . . .”

- No longer under the legal bondage of Satan, we have all the rights and privileges of heaven
- **Romans 8:17** (ESV) “and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ . . .”
- **Notes:**
 - As fellow heirs [**or, co-heirs**] with Christ, all that is His becomes ours.
 - As heirs we **inherit his sufferings**

Romans 8:16 (ESV) “The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,
17 and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, **provided we suffer with him** . . . “
 - As heirs we **inherit his glory**

Romans 8:16 (ESV) “The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,
17 and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him **in order that we may also be glorified with him.**

Romans 8:30 (ESV) “And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified **he also glorified.**”
 - As heirs we **inherit justification**

Romans 8:30 (ESV) “And those whom he predestined he also called, and **those whom he called he also justified** . . .”

- **Ronald Stanley Bridgeforth (Real name: Cole Jordan)**

1. 67 years old
2. Earned a master's degree
3. Worked as a counselor and teacher at a college
4. Real identity was never revealed
5. Turned himself in to authorities for shooting at police in a getaway back in 1968
6. He turned himself in to be a role model for his sons
7. Still, he faces five years to life

- **We are Justified!** [No record of our sin!]

Justified: Just as if I'd never sinned!

C. Responsibility of the Resurrection

1. Don't Give Ground to the Devil's Lies

1 Peter 5:8-11 (ESV) “Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

9 Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.

10 And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.

11 To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

➤ **Satan will lie** to you about your **position in Christ**

- He says your sin is too great for God to forgive
- He tells you that you are unworthy
- He tells you God can't truly love you

➤ **Satan will lie** to you about **sin**—

- That it is not as bad as the Bible says

- That you can get away with it
- That grace is a way to enjoy sin and suffer no consequences

2. Don't Give Ground to Sin

Romans 6:1 (ESV) “What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means!”

1 Peter 2:24 (ESV) “He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.”

- Faith in what Christ has done for us demands faith-obedience on our part. **Romans 14:23** (ESV) “. . . for whatever does not proceed from faith is sin.”

- **Oswald Chambers**

(My Utmost for His Highest Nov. 12)

“The salvation that is worked out in me by the Holy Ghost emancipates me entirely, and as long as I walk in the light as God is in the light, He sees nothing to censure because his life is working out in every particular”

3. Don't Give Ground to Defeatist Attitudes and Behavior

Rom 8:31-39 (ESV) What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

33 Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.

34 Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?

36 As it is written,

‘For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.’

37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

38 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers,

39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Call to Action

Oswald Chambers

(My Utmost for His Highest Nov. 13)

“Think what faith in Jesus Christ claims—that He can present us faultless before the throne of God, unutterably pure, absolutely rectified and profoundly justified. Stand in implicit adoring faith in Him, He is made unto us ‘wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption.’”

Penn State / Nebraska Football Game (11-12-11) Yesterday

- **Sandusky sex scandal** cost Joe Paterno and the president of Penn State their jobs
- **One man’s sin hung a a curtain of darkness** across the campus
- **Penn State players** emerged onto the field **eight abreast** with their **arms interlocked** in solidarity.
- **Both teams met in center field, knelt and were led in prayer by Nabraska’s assistant coach**
- **One man’s great sin** drove two teams on their knees before God
- **They could not take one man’s sin away**, but they prayed for the recovery of innocent victims
 - **Our sin** built a **wall of separation** between us and God. But now, we come before God **arm-in-arm with Jesus Christ** to find mercy and grace.
 - **This is Our Union in the resurrection of Jesus Christ!**