

**SINGLE ALLIANCE
082408
SEARCH FOR SIGNIFICANCE – Standing on Burnt Ground!**

I. Introduction

- A. Last week we talked about being free from man's opinions of us and basing our identity on what God says about us. Our acceptance is based upon the gift of righteousness and not our performance and the changing opinions and judgments of man
- B. This week we will look at lie #3 that Satan uses to hold people in bondage. It is "You have sinned, therefore you are guilty, and deserve to be punished."
- C. When bad things happen many people think that God is getting them for their sins. They feel God is punishing them for their sins. Some even take it further and believe bad things are happening to them because of the sins of their parents or forefathers. This is what the OT refers to as having your sins visited.
- D. Many people don't wait for God to punish them; they will punish themselves for their sins since they feel they must be punished. They live under self condemnation.
- E. We must establish truth based upon God's Word. Does God's Word in the New Covenant teach that God will visit our sins and punish us for them?

II. The day of visitation

- A. **Ex 34:6-7-** The nature of God is proclaimed by God Himself
- B. He was passing by and had his hand over Moses and he only heard about the goodness of God. However, when God passed by He removed His hand and Moses saw the back of God and God proclaimed and Moses heard while looking at God's back that He visits the sins of people and does not clear the guilty.
- C. Moses represents the Law. The law speaks of God's goodness but people did not get to see it. God's face speaks of His goodness and grace. God's back speaks of His wrath and judgment. The law brings judgment. Moses (the Law) only saw God's back
- D. Jesus redeemed us from the law and the curse of the Law- Gal. 3:13. Jesus saw God's back for us. He cried out on the cross- My God, My God why have you forsaken me. God turned His back on His son and poured out His wrath on Him for us. God saw God's back so we could experience His face continually.

- E. **1 Peter 3:12**- God face is always towards us because of Christ
F. Under the Law sins were visited. In the covenant of Grace God will not visit our sins. We have a different visitation from God!
G. **1 Peter 2:12**- We have a day of visitation in which the church will be delivered and the God will be glorified.
H. The New Covenant is based upon the forgiveness of all our sins. Part of the New Covenant is that he will remember our sins and iniquities NO MORE! **Hebrews 8:11-12, 10:16-17**
I. **John 3:18**- Those who believe will not be judged for their sins. Their sins were judged in Jesus
J. **John 5:24**- Those who believe in Jesus will not enter into judgment
K. **1 John 2:1-2**- Jesus is our propitiation- satisfaction for the wrath of God
L. We stand on burnt ground- If a fire is raging towards you then you, to escape you need to set a fire downwind of you. As the fire blows downwind, then stand on the burnt ground. When the fire gets to you from the other direction it will not be able to hurt you because fire will not burn on already burnt ground. We are standing on burnt ground. God poured out His wrath on Jesus for us. The legal system says that it is not right to punish someone twice for the same crime. Our sins were punished in Jesus. God would be unrighteous to punish it again upon us! God is just and righteous! Thank God for our burnt ground!

III. God's discipline

- A. Some people know just enough Bible to cause themselves problems!
B. Some might say, "What about Hebrews 12:5 where it says God chastens his children". Does this not imply that God punishes us severely for our sins? Many think that bad things that happen are the scourge of God chastening our lives.
C. The Greek word for chasten here is the word paideia- which means simply means child training.
D. How does God train and discipline His children. It is by His Word! **2 Tim. 3:16**- God's word is for reproof (same word rebuke in **Heb. 12:5**), correction, and instruction- paideia- child training (same word as in **Heb 12:5**)!
E. If we do not let the Word discipline us, then God permits the world to do it. He is not the source of the those bad things from Satan and the world that comes on us when we fail to heed God. It is like an umbrella in the rain. You are safe under the umbrella. However, you are stupid then you can walk away from the umbrella and get wet. It is the same

with God.

F. Some might say, “What about **Galatians 6:7** where it says that God is not mocked, what we sow we will reap. If we do bad will not God cause us to reap bad by punishing us?” First this verse is in the context of giving of finances however, **Galatians 6:8** goes on to say that when we sow to the flesh, it is from THE FLESH that we reap destruction- NOT FROM GOD!!

IV. The root of condemnation

A. Guilt and condemnation is a root cause for much depression and the driving force of addictions. Addiction comes from adikia- unrighteousness. If you believe you are guilty and not righteous then addiction can bind you! A person who knows and believes in their heart they are righteous will walk free from addiction- unrighteousness!

B. So many people are held in bondage because of self condemnation. They feel they must pay for their sins and they beat themselves up. This is similar to those in the medieval times that whipped themselves to pay for their sins. Jesus paid for them so we do not have to. Many times depression is based in self hatred and it is the same as whipping yourself!

C. Jesus suffered to redeem us from this bondage of condemnation!

D. **Matthew 27:29-30**-Jesus wore a crown of thorns and men beat his head with rods. He wore the crown on His brow that speaks of our mental life. He wore a crown of thorns on his brow. He took the curse of condemnation upon his brow and allowed his head to be beaten. Many live allowing Satan to beat them on the head with condemnation. They live beating themselves. Jesus suffered the crown of thorns so you could be free from condemnation. He now crowns you with His lovingkindess and tender mercies **Ps. 103:4**!