

CHIEF MINISTRIES

July 2014

Hello friends!

Half of 2014 is now gone. Are you closer to God or farther away? The Bible talks about a great falling away in the last days. The parable of the sower talks about the hearer of the word that rejoiceth in hearing and yet having no root in himself, endures for just a while, and when trouble comes, because of the word he gets offended and takes off. Sounds like the backslider! Then there's those that go out from among us, because they never were of us. Now before we go pointing fingers, know this.... God says He'll take care of them. Now, that doesn't mean you can't tell who they are. *By their fruit you will know them*, so just make sure you have some fruit to be known!

Speaking of fruit, in Genesis 3, Adam and Eve were told to not eat of the fruit of the tree in the midst of the garden. And the serpent came and twisted the Word of the Lord and the next thing you know they were EXPOSED! Isn't that just like the devil? To convince us that something is okay because "God gave it to me, it must be okay" or "this little bit of dirt I'm doing, God doesn't care about that", "look at everyone else and what they're up to, why is everyone looking at me?" "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me the fruit and I ate." "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." "The guy gave me the stick, I had to smoke it." I could go on and on.... WHAT'S YOUR EXCUSE?

Moses in Exodus 4:1-12 says to God; BUT, *they won't believe me when I go, nor listen to my voice*. He didn't think he had the power. Well, duh! Only God does, but He does want us to do what He asks. And he will give us the power. Just like he showed Moses via the rod to a serpent, the hand to leprous and an extra miracle of water to blood that wasn't even necessary - God always gives us more than we need to get the job done. But it still wasn't enough for Moses' puny mind to grasp. He made another excuse. "Oh, I don't talk very well". And God tells him, don't worry about this. I got this. I'll tell you what to say. And still he objected. And God got mad at him and his unbelief and never did cure his un-eloquentness. He had to use Aaron who came up with his own unbelievable excuse later on in chapter 32 when Moses left him in charge. And what do the Israelites do? Same thing we've been trying to do for 2000+ years. Humans trying to bring God down to their level. Why is it we have to see, feel, or touch to believe? So Aaron gets all the gold together and makes the golden calf and when he's questioned about it by an angry Moses, he says "I just threw the gold in the fire and out came this calf!" Seriously? Do you think Moses bought that? In verse 25 due to this sin Moses saw that they were NAKED! Exposed once again! Aaron caused Israel to be exposed to the judgment of God and the vengeance of their enemies without protection. How many times do we let the enemy come against us because we were disobedient, not to mention God's judgment will have to face later on. Will we learn? Or will we continue to run around naked?

Gideon in Judges chapter 6:12-17 is commissioned by God to go and deliver his people from the Midonites, he made an excuse and said, "oh, no, my family is poor, how can I save Israel. I'm the least of my entire family". He too questioned God. Why are we in such a state? Where are all the miracles our fathers told us about? Why has God forsaken us? The answers were one word - SIN. God had told them if they didn't quit He would turn into their enemy and permit other nations to conquer and oppress them. God always keeps his word, remember that.

Namaan in 2 Kings Chapter 5:10-11 was told to go dip in the Jordan River seven times and he would be healed of leprosy. Namaan thought he was such a great man that it would be an honor for the Prophet to come out to him and lay hands on him and pray but Elisha thought differently, being led of God regarding what to do. The Lord not only wanted Namaan and to learn a lesson in humility and obedience, He wanted men of all ages to learn that God does not honor human greatness and that *His thoughts are not our thoughts and His ways are not our ways* (Isaiah 55:8,9). His rage was his excuse and almost kept him from his healing, but his servant talked him into doing what the prophet said to do. Don't let your pride get in the way. Did you ever think that your foolish emotions would keep

you from the blessing God has for you? Well, I guarantee you; if Namaan wouldn't have swallowed his pride, he would have never been healed.

Jeremiah, the great prophet was called by the Lord in chapter 1:1-10 and he felt he was too young to speak for God and God said "don't you worry 'bout a thing." "I'll put the words in your mouth" and boy did He. He talked a lot about "backsliding" and that the destiny of man is determined by his conformity or lack of conformity to God and His plan. If you are a follower of God, you've got to realize He wants to use you too!

Felix in Acts chapter 24 was called on to hear from Paul. Felix was the governor and Paul was busy preaching to the religious folk of the day and they were getting in an uproar so he was sent to Felix, a cruel, treacherous, and wicked man. Felix gave him liberty to speak at his hearing and he knew that Paul was not guilty of any crime and he would have turned him loose but for two things in verses 26 and 27, to please the Jews and hoping to get money from Paul or his friends for his release. But, hearing the word of the Lord from Paul, it struck fear in the heart of Felix. Paul reasoned with him in verse 25 about righteousness and right doing. He told him of the principles of justice and right between God and man and man and man in all relations and connections of life. He spoke of self control and chastity (Felix had three wives) or moderation concerning the appetites, passions and propensities of all kinds. He spoke on judgment to come. A day of retribution in which the unjust, intemperate and incontinent must give account of all the deeds of the body, soul and spirit. There probably was never a sermon preached that was so fitting and right on that brought conviction. How many times have you been preached to about your lust problems, your terrible behaviors, you're stealing, your inability to control yourself, your appetites, your unfairness to those around you, your terrible judgment on everyone around you. We hear these sermons preached and do we let it sink in and change us or do we go right back to being the same? Felix told Paul - "go your way for right now (kept him locked up) and when it's convenient for me, I'll send for you." This is the sinners excuse when he is under conviction and refuses to surrender. "Not right now, it's not convenient for me, I just got the hook up here. This chick put me down and I got a make some money man. This boss lets me steal, I gotta get that. Nobody else is helpin' me". The list goes on and on for us to continue making an excuse for our sin.

Yet Jesus himself told us in John chapter 15 verse 22, *"If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have been guilty of sin, but NOW they have no excuse for their sin."* Deuteronomy 30:11-14 says, *"For this commandment that I command you today is not too hard for you, neither is it far off. It is not in heaven that you should say, who will ascend to heaven for us and bring it to us that we may hear it and do it? Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us, that he may hear it and do it? But the word is very near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it! And finally in Romans 1:18-22 says; *"for the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth for what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invincible attributes, namely his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. For although they know God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools....* Don't be fools or fooled people of God. Let us be obedient. Let us walk in repentance and forgiveness with love in our hearts one towards another. We can get it right. We don't need to keep making an excuse for our sin if we'll just stop it! And yes, you can live free from sin, but that's another letter at another time. Paul in 2 Corinthians 12:19 sums it up for me. *"Have you been thinking all along that we've been excusing ourselves to you? It is in the sight of God that we have been speaking in Christ and all for your upbuilding, dearly beloved."**

No more excuses!

Loving and praying for all of you

Chief

If you want to know more about CHIEF Ministries or would like to be a part of this, please go to www.chiefministries.com and www.chiefshouse.org

Christ's

Heart

In

Every

Felon



330 Rayford Rd. # 231
Spring, Texas, 77386

Nonprofit
US Postage
PAID
Spring, TX
Permit 676