

Set Apart for God

Hebrews 12:4-14 NKVJ

You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin. And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons:

“My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord,
Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him;
For whom the Lord loves He chastens,
And scourges every son whom He receives.”

If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons. Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected *us*, and we paid *them* respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? For they indeed for a few days chastened *us* as seemed *best* to them, but He for *our* profit, that *we* may be partakers of His holiness. Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

Therefore strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather be healed.

Pursue peace with all *people*, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord:

According to this scripture Holiness is not optional. It is a part of total salvation.

Exercise

G1128 gymnazo (gum na- zo)

To exercise vigorously, in any way, either the body or the mind.

Over the years, we Christians have given people a very wrong impression. At times, we have led people to believe that **“getting saved” is all they need**. If they want to go further and receive the baptism in the Spirit and get sanctified, that is a kind of optional postgraduate course. Yet, those concepts are a complete misrepresentation of Scripture, for the Word of God says that without holiness, no one can see the Lord.

We have also given people a wrong impression that **salvation is a kind of static condition**. We have told them, in essence, “The best thing you can do to stay saved is to sit in church and be safe’. Salvation is not a static condition, and anybody who hopes to be safe by sitting in church is actually very unsafe.

Salvation is a way of life.

It is progressive, unfolding, continuing.

Quote: Set Apart for God The Beautiful Secrets of Holiness by Derek Prince

“Many good Fundamentalists and Pentecostals who call themselves “saved” are far from God’s salvation at this time. You say, “I was saved in 1953.” I reply to that, “God bless you, brother, but where are you now living decades later. What’s happened in the meanwhile?”

If you have not grown spiritually since you entered into salvation, you are a monstrosity. If you have not made any progress, the word saved no longer fits you. Again, according to Scripture, the ultimate end to which we are moving, day by day, is the partaking of God’s holiness.”

I have wept inwardly over many dear brothers and sisters who have been chastened by God and have not acknowledged it, because their theology teaches them it doesn’t happen. That is a tragedy, and it causes me deep concern. It is a serious matter not to submit to the chastening of the Lord.

Proverbs 4:18:But the path of the just is like the shining sun, that shines ever brighter unto the perfect day.

If you are walking in the way of the righteousness, the light on your path is getting brighter every day. If you are still walking in yesterday’s light, you are a backslider today. There is no stopping place in God until you reach the final goal. And that goal, is to be partakers of His holiness. Hebrews 12:10”

Olive Oil

The significance of the anointing oil lies in its pointing us to Jesus’ finished work at the cross. In the same way olive fruits have to be crushed in order for the oil to flow out, Christ was crushed at different points in His passion so that we may enjoy wholeness in every area of our lives, and that God may work freely in and through us.

When olives are pressed for oil in Israel, they go through three rounds of pressing.

1st press gives you extra virgin olive oil, which is used in the Jewish temple for lighting.

2nd press is used for making medicine for healing

3rd press is used for making soap – cleansing

Jesus was pressed three times to provide for us a perfect salvation that includes deliverance from all powers of darkness, divine healing for our bodies and complete forgiveness of all our sins.

His “pressings” began at Gethsemane (meaning “olive press”) in a time of darkness, both literally and spiritually. He said to those who had come to arrest Him that night, “... this is your hour, and the power of darkness” Luke 22:53. The Bible says He was “in agony” (Luke 22:44) as He contemplated what awaited Him from then on to the cross. It was a very dark time for our Lord. He was pressed so that we can be called “out of darkness into His marvelous light” (1Peter 2:9), and to walk in this light.

Jesus’ crushing continued at the scourging post where He was scourged violently by the Roman soldiers. He took lash after brutal lash, bearing every stripe until His skin was torn and His bones exposed (Psalm 22:17, 129:3), all to purchase our healing and health. The prophet Isaiah tells us that “by His stripes we are healed” (Isaiah 53:5)

As the olive is crushed or pressed a third time to yield its cleansing virtue, Jesus’ crushing climaxed with His being nailed at the cross. He was crushed under the judgment of the righteous and holy God because He was carrying our sins and being punished for them. He shed His blood at Calvary to wash away all our sins, making us whiter than snow.

Christ was crushed to bring you out of darkness into His glorious light, heal your body of all disease and give you total forgiveness of sins. See the benefits of His sacrifice exploding in and through your life as you use the oil to minister.

Message Delivered 03/21/2012 by: Rev. Pamela M. Willhite