

## A RIGHTEOUS HEART

## Dear partner,

I trust that you are doing well, and that God's provision is abundant in your life. This month I would like to share with you concerning a righteous heart. What is a righteous heart? It is a heart free of fear and condemnation. It is a heart of faith and love. This kind of heart cannot be tricked into accepting anything that is contrary to the abundant love of the Father. Matthew 6:33 says, "But seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you."

How would one seek the Kingdom and His righteousness? It starts in the heart of an individual. Jeremiah 29:11-13 says, "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart." It is with the heart that man seeks the Lord. It is with the heart that man seeks to understand the righteousness that he stands in.

Righteousness means to stand as one in Him. To accept who He has made us to be. To be a covenant-minded individual. We have been made the righteousness of God in Him. For He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him (2 Corinthians 5:21). Our right standing with the Father is because of what our Master and Savior did for us.

Contrary to a righteous heart is a heart of condemnation. By that, I mean a sin-conscious heart. This type of heart allows every wrong thing. After confession of sin, trespass, or

iniquity, a sin-conscious heart continues to hold onto the shame, guilt, and condemnation. Now I did not say that the shame and guilt hold onto the individual, but the other way around.

Hebrews 10:2 says, "For then would they not have ceased to be offered? because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins." When one is always remembering sin, it separates them from the truth of God's word concerning their rights. Their rights are to receive forgiveness and mercy. Have you ever heard someone just moan and cry about something that they deemed so egregious that they said, "God won't forgive me for that?" Or they would not receive their healing or blessing because they were reminded of some wrong they've done? Once there was a man who was very sick. He had said some wrong things on a job and felt condemned by it. He fell ill, and when his Pastor was invited over to pray for him, he would not receive his healing. He confessed to what he had done wrong and said that God wouldn't forgive him. After some educating by the Pastor in the word of God, the gentleman accepted being forgiven and was healed instantaneously. How wonderful is our God!

A condemned heart or a sin-conscious spirit will always lead to condemnation and guilt. However, a righteous heart will always lead to victory. God has made you and I righteous; therefore, let us stand in this place of perpetual victory. In Jesus' name!

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