

Shaken and Found Faithful

Set Apart Unto God, Part 2

Pastor Craig Sweeney | July 28, 2024

Topic: Sanctification

Question of the week: When I choose to follow Jesus, what does God do with my brokenness?

Thread: God loves you too much to leave you broken.

- The ground God makes holy in your life is ground the enemy of your soul is FIGHTING to reclaim.

Paul writes about himself.

“I don’t mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. But I press on to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me.” **Philippians 3:12**

He is still reaching!

“No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us...But we must hold on to the progress we have already made.” **Philippians 3:13 – 14, 16 NLT**

Paul writes about the ongoing work of sanctification.

“Since you have been raised to new life with Christ...”

Colossians 3:1 NLT

Acknowledge Jesus has raised me to new life.

“Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God’s right hand. Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth.”

Colossians 3:1 – 2 NLT

Set my sights on the realities of Heaven?

Keep your eyes on the prize!!!!

Paul is now giving us a hard truth, but truth none the less.

“For you died to this life, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God.”

Colossians 3:3 NLT

Look to Jesus to be my anchor point no matter what.

Time to take off the coat.

“And when Christ, who is your life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all his glory. So put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within you. Have nothing to do with sexual immorality, impurity, lust, and evil desires. Don’t be greedy, for a greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of this world. Because of these sins, the anger of God is coming. You used to do these things when your life was still part of this world. But now is the time to get rid of anger, rage, malicious behavior, slander, and dirty language. Don’t lie to each other, for you have stripped off your old sinful nature and all its wicked deeds.”

Colossians 3:4 - 9 NLT

Put this on.

“Put on your new nature, and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like him. In this new life, it doesn’t matter if you are a Jew or a Gentile, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbaric, uncivilized, slave, or free. Christ is all that matters, and he lives in all of us. Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Make allowance for each other’s faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful. Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father.” **Colossians 3:10 – 17 NLT**

Challenge:

- What is God trying to accomplish in your life? Identify it. Name it.
- What holy ground are you defending? Let’s turn the question into a FAITH statement!

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