

Dishonoring God – by doubting He will save us ?

Quote -

"**Man is poisoned by sin**; but a remedy has been provided for the fallen race in the Lamb of God **that taketh away** the sin of the world.

Isaiah 53:3-6

II Corinthians 5:21

I Peter 2:24

Every hope that we have of Salvation* (rescue, freedom, deliverance, healing and restoration) out of Christ is a vain hope.

We cannot dishonor our Saviour **more than by doubting that He will save us**. Whatever may have been our life of transgression,* (rebellion and apostasy) **however deep may be the stain of our sin, there is One Who is able*** (full of Divine power) to save to the uttermost all that come unto God by Him !

"And him that cometh to Me, I will in no wise cast out !" . . . for **"He is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we can ask or (think) even imagine !"**

– John 6:57 and Ephesians 3:20

Jesus is the remedy for sin.

We may have intellect, but human intelligence can devise no way of Salvation; we may have earthly possessions, but that will not provide a ransom for the sin of our soul.

Salvation (freedom, rescue, deliverance, healing and restoration) **is the gift of God** through Christ, and the promise is, **"Whosoever believeth on Him (JESUS - the Promise and Word of God) shall not perish, but have eternal Life !"**

It is not enough to have a nominal faith. We must have faith that will appropriate (as our very own) the Life-giving power to our souls (John 6:63). **We suffer great loss because we do not exercise simple, living (active) faith in Christ**. We should be able to say, **"He is my Saviour; He died for me (Romans 6:10-11 and 6:1-6); I look to Him as my complete Saviour and [I] live !"** {ST, March 10, 1890 par. 3}

Quote -

"Christians are set as light bearers on the way to heaven. They ____ (your name) are to reflect to the world the light shining upon them from Christ . . . *Behold, I have set before you an open door, which no man can shut !* . . . Their (your) life and character should be such that through them ____ (your name) others will get a right conception of Christ and of His service !

If we do represent Christ, we shall make His service appear attractive, **as it really is**. Christians who gather up gloom and sadness to their souls, and murmur and complain, are giving to others **a false representation of God and the Christian life**. They give the impression that God is not pleased to have His children happy, and in this they bear false witness against our heavenly Father.

Satan is exultant **when he can lead the children of God into unbelief and despondency**. Satan (he) delights to see us mistrusting God, doubting His willingness and power to save us !

(for God has declared . . . *Beloved, now we ARE the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be, but we know that when He appeareth, we shall be just like Him !* . . .)

He (Satan) loves to have us feel that the Lord will do us harm by His providences. **It is the work of Satan to represent the Lord as lacking in compassion and pity**. He misstates the Truth in regard to Him (the LORD God). He fills the imagination **with false ideas concerning God**; and instead of dwelling upon the Truth in regard to our heavenly Father, we too often fix our minds upon the misrepresentations of Satan and [we] dishonor God by distrusting Him and murmuring against Him.

Satan ever seeks to make the religious life one of gloom. He desires it to appear toilsome and difficult; and when the Christian presents in his own life this view of religion, he is, through his unbelief (doubting God's Word and His unfailing promises), seconding the falsehood of Satan.

Many, walking along the path of life, dwell upon their mistakes and failures and disappointments, and their hearts are filled with grief and discouragement.

While I was in Europe, a sister who had been doing this, **and who was in deep distress, wrote to me, asking for some word of encouragement**.

The night after I had read her letter I dreamed that I was in a garden, and one who seemed to be the owner of the garden was conducting me through its paths. I was gathering the flowers and enjoying their fragrance, when this sister, who had been walking by my side, called my attention to some unsightly briars that were impeding her way. **There she was mourning and grieving**. She was not walking in the pathway, following the guide, **but was walking among the briars and thorns**.

"Oh," she mourned, "is it not a pity that this beautiful garden is spoiled with thorns ?"

Then the guide said, “**Let the thorns alone, for they will only wound you.** [Gather the roses, the lilies, and the pinks.](#)”

Have there not been some bright spots in your experience? Have you not had some precious seasons when your heart throbbed with joy in response to the Spirit of God?

When you look back into the chapters of your life experience do you not find some pleasant pages? **Are not God's promises**, like the fragrant flowers, growing beside your path on every hand? Will you not let their beauty and sweetness fill your heart with joy?

The briars and thorns will only wound and grieve you; and if you gather only these things, and present them to others, are you not, besides slighting the goodness of God yourself, preventing those around you from walking in the path of life?

It is not wise to gather together all the unpleasant recollections of a past life,--its iniquities and disappointments,--to talk over them and mourn over them until we are overwhelmed with discouragement.

A discouraged soul is filled with darkness, shutting out the Light of God from his own soul and casting a shadow upon the pathway of others.

[Thank God \(thank Him and praise Him aloud\) for the bright pictures which He has presented to us.](#) **Let us group together** (write them down) **the blessed assurances of His love**, that we may look upon them continually:

The Son of God leaving His Father's throne, clothing His Divinity with humanity (Romans 8:2-4), [so that He might rescue man from the power of Satan](#); His triumph in our behalf, opening heaven to men, revealing to human vision the presence chamber where the Deity unveils His glory . . .

The fallen race uplifted from the pit of ruin into which sin had plunged it, **and brought again into connection with the Infinite God**, and having endured the divine test through faith in our Redeemer, clothed in the righteousness of Christ, **and exalted to His throne** (Ephesians chapter 1 and 2)--**these are the pictures which God would have us contemplate !**

When we seem to doubt God's love and distrust His promises we dishonor Him and grieve His Holy Spirit. How would a mother feel if her children were constantly complaining of her, just as though she did not mean them well, when her whole life's effort had been to forward their interests and to give them comfort? [Suppose they should doubt her love; it would break her heart.](#)

How would any parent feel to be thus treated by his children? And how can our Heavenly Father regard us when we distrust His love, **which has led Him to give His Only-Begotten Son that we might have life?**

The apostle writes, “**He that spared not His Own Son, but delivered Him up** [in exchange] **for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give* (pardon, forgive) us all things?**”

Romans 8:32.

And yet how many, by their actions, if not in word, are saying, “The Lord does not mean this for me. Perhaps He loves others, but He does not love me ?”

All this is harming your own soul; for **every word of doubt you utter is inviting Satan's temptations**; it is strengthening in you the tendency to doubt, and it is grieving from you the ministering angels.

When Satan tempts you, breathe not a word of doubt or darkness. If you choose to open the door to his suggestions, your mind will be filled with distrust and rebellious questioning.

If you talk out your feelings, **every doubt you express not only reacts upon yourself**, but it is a seed (Luke 8:11) that will germinate and bear fruit in the life of others, and it may be impossible to counteract the influence of your words.

You yourself may be able to recover from the season of temptation and from the snare of Satan, but others who have been swayed by your influence may not be able to escape from the unbelief you have suggested. How important that we speak only those things that will give spiritual strength and life!

Angels are listening to hear what kind of report you are bearing to the world about your heavenly Master. Let your conversation be of Him Who liveth to make intercession for you before the Father.

When you take the hand of a friend, **let praise to God be on your lips and in your heart**. This will attract his thoughts to Jesus.

All have trials; griefs hard to bear, temptations hard to resist. Do not tell your troubles to your fellow mortals, but carry everything to God in prayer. Make it a rule never to utter one word of doubt or discouragement. You can do much to brighten the life of others and strengthen their efforts, by words of hope and holy cheer.

{Steps to Christ, p.115-119.3}