

Let's Talk CHANGE DEVOTIONALS



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HIS CROSS IS OUR FREEDOM

Dr. Vanessa Dantzer Ussery | April 1, 2015

Some of you know I preached a series at Home Assembly called "Sin Is Not My Boss." We often struggle with the reality that those of us who are born again are free from the bondage of sin. I'm convinced the struggles in our flesh cloud our understanding of that freedom. We unconsciously score our victories and failings as indicators of freedom from sin or bondage to sin. I believe when one is truly filled with the Spirit of Christ our freedom from the bondage of sin ONLY exists because Jesus purchased our freedom at the cross by paying the price of death to atone for our sin. That freedom does not come and go based on our successes and failures in the flesh. We always remain free from the curse of sin which is death. Sinners (those who not born again) are not recipients of the freedom earned by Christ's death until they accept salvation. Therefore those who are not born again will face the penalty of sin in the end, which is eternal death (forever separated from God).



This freedom from the curse of sin is not a license to live a sinful lifestyle. Having the Spirit of Christ in us means we have a new nature. That new nature repels sin and His Spirit leads us to walk in life (after the Spirit) not in death (after the flesh). Our relationship with Jesus Christ gives Him authority to orchestrate our life's course thus allowing Him to develop that new nature wherein the old nature does not have pre-eminence. The old man works hard to convince us we have not changed. Therefore, God's spirit through the word reminds us 'old things have passed away and behold all things have become new.' It's a fight to keep that thought as our standard for life. However, after walking with the Lord 51 years, it is clear that "Greater is He that is in me than he that is in the world."

Face it my brother and sister, we have changed because God cannot lie. Let's stop measuring our life in Christ by victories and failures and declare His truth that God has committed to finish the work He started in us and will get us to the finish line. This year is almost over, and we all have had our spiritual battles but that doesn't determine our ultimate destiny. Remember, now we belong to Jesus and Jesus belongs to us; not for the time of years alone but for eternity. Sin isn't our boss because Jesus paid it all. **His cross is our freedom** so our life can reflect His Glory, Grace, and unending Love! Thank you JESUS!!!

Refreshing Change (This article was originally published December 4, 2013). Periodically, previously released articles will be shared under the sub header, "Refreshing Change" for we learn in the spiritual and in the natural that change takes time; often requiring a "refresher course" that encourages us to continue the journey. Go, Grow, and Glow in change!

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