*Friday, May 13, 2011*

**A Force To Be Reckoned With**

Hebrews 9:15-17 And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance. (16) For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. (17) For a testament is of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth. (KJV)

All this week we have seen the pattern of how Christ died so that we could live. We also found out that in order for us to live with Him we would have to die as well so that we could resurrect and walk in the newness of the Spirit by leaving our old ways and desires behind, nailed to our own personal cross.

Philippians 3:8-10 Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ, (9) And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: (10) That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; (KJV)

So are you still seeking the knowledge from above, something that Paul found out was a lot more excellent than the old letter of the law that he held to in the past? Well this will only be found when you are willing to count everything else in the loss column Church; and yes it does truly involve some suffering as well. If you notice also that there is power involved when a resurrection takes place, and then the fellowship is restored as well. But the catch again is that you can’t have a resurrection without a death taking place first.

John 11:24-27 Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day. (25) Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: (26) And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this? (27) She saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world. (KJV)

When you came into agreement with God’s plan of salvation you then passed from death to life by believing that Christ is the Son of God and is living within you as well. As long as you continue to believe in the inward more than the outward you will no longer have to die, which is referring to being separated from God and dying spiritually.

2 Corinthians 4:14-16 Knowing that he which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus, and shall present us with you. (15) For all things are for your sakes, that the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many redound to the glory of God. (16) For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day. (KJV)

Is everyday now a new day, with old things passing away and all things are becoming new? Are you truly experiencing a resurrection everyday, where a new man comes to life because you have kept the old man dead and buried? Is the outward man or the way that you used to view things having less of an influence on you daily so that you can give an effective and more powerful testimony to the things of God? Are you letting the inward man dictate the outcome, instead of letting outward things dictate your inward response?

John 12:24-26 Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit. (25) He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal. (26) If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour. (KJV)

Are you seeking the honor from man or God today? Do you desire to be used of our Lord, and give an effective testimony with some power and authority to back you up as well? Well it all starts with a death, which will then bring life and bear the eternal fruit of righteousness to those that are willing to lose their lives and hate the things of this world.