*Monday, February 6, 2012*

**Slice of Life**

Isaiah 1:19-20 If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: (20) But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it. (KJV)

As we do our study this week we will concentrate on one of the biggest little words that gets overlooked and yet is so vital, the word ‘if’. Salvation is like a contract drawn up between two parties which describes what will take place if it is followed through according to the language written up by our Father in heaven. So much is made about this once saved always saved doctrine, or eternal security is another way it is described. But the Bible is very specific on where God stands and what is required of His people in order to obtain eternal life.

Colossians 3:1-3 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. (2) Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. (3) For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. (KJV)

Keep this in mind this week, the word if means on the condition of; which means that we have a personal responsibility to follow through with our commitment to the Lord, not just in talk but the walk part as well. Has Christ risen within you today and is calling the shots, or did His word and voice get drowned out by the cares of this life instead? God did His part concerning salvation and reconciliation for mankind, so now the iffy part of the equation is on our end to see who will believe more in the risen unseen Savior rather than looking for something in this fallen outward realm that they thought was more of a priority.

2 Chronicles 7:12-14 And the LORD appeared to Solomon by night, and said unto him, I have heard thy prayer, and have chosen this place to myself for a house of sacrifice. (13) If I shut up heaven that there be no rain, or if I command the locusts to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among my people; (14) If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. (KJV)

When looking at this fallen realm that we live in we see that the deceptions are only waxing worse and worse; people being deceived and then deceiving others also. Watching mankind and their fallen ways is like watching someone trying to run through a rock wall, the more they try to run through it the more injury it causes them. Verse 14 gives us the simple answer to what it will take to really see things turn around for the better, something that we all need to give heed too personally. So Church, when reading the scriptures don’t overlook simple little words that can have a big impact; not only on what takes place today but what will determine your eternal outcome as well.