*Thursday, September 6, 2012*

**Slice of Life**

2 Corinthians 5:16-18 Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more. (17) Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. (18) And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; (KJV)

Everything that you thought you knew in the past needs to be just that, passed away in order for you to walk in the new. I have seen many in the Church who become stagnant in their walk because they have been indoctrinated with old laws and customs, and not in the liberty that we have in Christ. Many become closed minded to the truth because it doesn’t line up with what they were taught by other carnal Christians who choose not to walk in a newness of life.

Romans 6:3-4 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? (4) Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. (KJV)

Baptism is not some silly outdated ritual anymore; rather it is a new way of life. However, just like with any resurrection there has to be a death first. Are you willing to take up your own spiritual cross and die to self so that a new man can come alive and be real in your walk? Well the reality is that it won’t happen until you let go of the old. Kind of makes those carnal ordinances look a lot sillier don’t it?

Romans 6:5-7 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: (6) Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. (7) For he that is dead is freed from sin. (KJV)

You know, one way or the other you are crucifying someone. For those that operate according to the old way of thinking they are crucifying our Lord all over again. For those that choose a new way of life they are crucifying their old fallen nature so that the new man can come to life.

Ephesians 4:4-6 There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; (5) One Lord, one faith, one baptism, (6) One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. (KJV)

Having gone through the new this week and seeing the difference between the old and new when it comes to baptism, which one do you think will fly through our Lord’s radar; some old outdated ritual, or the new man that our Lord desires to see us grow up into?

Galatians 2:18-21 For if I build again the things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. (19) For I through the law am dead to the law, that I might live unto God. (20) I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. (21) I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain. (KJV)

There is a new man within all of us who was dying to get through to you. Are you dying to the old so that He can live through you? Well, as you can see the works of the law are a death sentence to our Lord and will keep Him entombed instead of let loose in you.

Galatians 5:24-25 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. (25) If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. (KJV)

Given the fact that God is a Spirit and in order to effectively worship Him it must be done in Spirit as well as truth, why not forget about the old religious junk that you have heard and comprehended after the flesh, and walk in a newness of life today.