

Sunday, December 9, 2018

Gift of Righteousness Series - Part 5: Righteousness Consciousness

To walk in righteousness and live a successful Christian life it is important to develop a righteousness consciousness. Many Christians struggle with what is called a sin consciousness. We will see from the Bible that Jesus has set us free from a sin consciousness and learn how to develop a righteousness consciousness.

1. Understanding sin consciousness. Hebrews 10:1-4

- a. A sin consciousness is living life each day with an awareness of sin, seeing yourself as a sinner, and feeling you are unworthy. **Hebrews 10:1-4**
- b. A sin consciousness is created by sin. Either sin we have committed, or sometime sins others have committed against us.
 1. A sin consciousness will create a sense of unworthiness, and an inferiority complex. The sense of unworthiness created by a sin consciousness destroys faith, robs us of our peace of mind, destroys our fellowship with God, destroys the initiative of the heart (motivation), make prayer ineffective. A sin consciousness will create a fear of God, fear of others, fear of failure, and fear of rejection,
 2. The one who struggles with sin consciousness will live a life of self-condemnation, will always look for others to pray the prayer of faith for them, and has no awareness of his ability to stand before God with no condemnation.
 3. We can see that a sin consciousness will hold us back and keep us from walking in the abundant life Jesus has provided for us.
 4. We must remove the sin consciousness and replace it with a righteous consciousness.
- c. Man's natural remedy to free themselves from sin consciousness.
 1. Some Christians look to man-made remedies to be delivered from sin consciousness.
 2. Man's remedies have been repentance, sorrow for sin, pleading with God to remove it, doing good works, giving up things they enjoy, punishing themselves, trying to live by their own strict code of conduct.
 3. But all these things only lead to complete failure and more sin consciousness. **Hebrews 10:1-4, Romans 3:19-20**

2. What is righteousness consciousness? Hebrews 9:12-14

- a. A righteousness consciousness is living each day with the awareness that you are the righteousness of God and all the benefits of righteousness belong to you now. Living free from condemnation, fear, and a sense of unworthiness.
- b. Our conscience is cleansed by the blood of Jesus. **Hebrews 9:12-14**

3. God's method to develop a righteousness consciousness.

- a. Must begin to see yourself through the eyes of God. What you think, feel, and say about yourself must be the same as God. **Romans 12:2, James 1:21**
- b. Hold on to your confession of righteousness. **Hebrews 4:14** – Confess you are the righteousness of God.
- c. Act on the benefits and truths regarding righteousness by faith. **Romans 1:17**
 1. Believe what the Bible says about you being righteous and what you can do as a righteous person.
 2. Act like it is true, because it is true.
 3. If you have thoughts or feelings these benefits of righteousness are not true, or you are not good enough, make a decision to believe and act on them anyway.

Conclusion: As Christians we must know what happened to us when we became a new creation through Christ. We must develop a righteousness consciousness. Once we understand sin and righteousness consciousness, and develop a righteousness consciousness, we will truly begin to walk in righteousness. We will truly take our place of righteousness before God and begin to experience the benefits of righteousness. Which are true and lasting peace, joy, strong faith, confidence, boldness, victory, and reigning in life.

Discussion questions:

1. What is and how do people get a sin consciousness?
2. What is a righteousness consciousness?
3. What are the three ways to develop a righteousness consciousness?