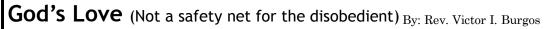
Vicory Christian Ministries 1 John 5:4-5







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> Have a safe and happy 4th of July

 \mathbf{T} he lack of understanding about the true nature of God; who is love; causes some people. believers and unbelievers alike, to misinterpret its boundaries. There are those that believe that because God is love, it is impossible for Him to bring anyone to the place of judgment of eternal damnation. In other words, He wouldn't sentence any one to hell, that at the end of the day everything would be all right and the whole world would be spared by God's amazing love. Those people usually use themselves as the point of reference to come up with such a conclusion. You've heard the phrase, "If I were God..." Well, you know the answer to this one, "Thank God you are not God, whoever you are."

 ${f A}$ s humans we

portray human justice as a blind folded individual signifying that the system that we have developed is capable of judging without partiality or respect of persons. Wrong! We have also coined the saying, "Love is blind." It doesn't take half a brain to think that perhaps that is our problem, that in trying to do everything right we do it blindly, meaning apart from God's counsel or wisdom? Life itself shows the tremendous flaws of our own misconceptions because we have the wrong perception of God's love. If anvthing at all our lofty ideals are just that, and we must have them, but they are far away from being anything close to God's perfect wisdom which is an expression of His heart for humanity.

The display of the Ten Commandments, as well as the display of many other Christian iconographies in public places, has become offensive subjects for our society as a whole. It is quite interesting to notice that the more we advance and develop the more we proclaim our individuality and our rights to its expression. We boast of our progress and might as a nation that it's the most powerful society that ever existed, and rightfully so. But we are paying a heavy toll in the process because we are doing it at the expense of not having anything to do with God in our lives.

I remember a little story I learned many vears ago about a spider. When she began to build her web she dropped down from where she was perched, weaving in

the process the main thread for the web that she was about to build. After laying the foundation she began to build her web very meticulously connecting every thread with precision. After finishing, she inspected her masterpiece of engineer. Satisfied with her work she waited patiently for her first prey. After her first catch many more followed. Her hunting and building skills were put to the test many times and were proven to be without match. From time to time she would go inspecting and repairing her web when needed. After a long period of time while doing the routine inspection of her web she noticed a thread that went up high very high. She wondered about the purpose of it for it seemed to have no reason for being there. Without hesitation she cut the thread and the whole web came down trapping her with it. She fell down below where she became the prev. She had forgotten the purpose of that thread that went up high and seemed to be lost way up in the sky with no evident purpose at all. She had forgotten that it sustained her web, her livelihood.

When I think about this simple story I realize how in life we build a similar thread that connects us with God and that it gives meaning and purpose to our lives. Later on when we become a little successful it seems that God no longer has a reason to be in our lives and we cut the link between him and us without

realizing that we did away with the most important part of our existence. Then life comes down crushing us and we wonder what happened. How come God was not there to warn or rescue us? How come? How come? And we begin to reason and try to figure out God on our own. An impossible task since we can only get to know him as He reveals himself to us by His Word.

In general the world believes that we are all the children of God. Not so. We call Henry Ford the father of the automobile but that doesn't make him so. He did come up with the modern idea of the assembly line to build cars in accessible and significant numbers to benefit our society. Many others have developed concept cars not only in America, but also in other parts of the world. Henry Ford is not the "father" of every automobile.

Because God created man we can say that He is the Father of all human beings. But we are not all His children and the Bible is very clear about it.

In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother. I John 3:10

Look at the previous verse:

He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil. I John 3:9

On our first birth, meaning when our parents conceived us, we had no say so. We couldn't choose our parents. country, etc. But we did a have say so in our second birth or "new birth". We chose to receive Christ as our redeemer and savior. This is most important because it places us as sons and daughters of God with the potential to know and understand Him. In John 3:3 the scripture says, "Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." Without the new birth man cannot "see" or understand God's kingdom.

It is very clear where God stands as you read the following scriptures

Ephesians 5:5-8

⁵For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. ⁶Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience. ⁷Be not ye therefore partakers with them. ⁸For ye were some-



August 2007

Sunday 5th 6:00 PM

Glory House Christian Fellowship

157 W Cedar

Sequim

360-681-8735

Pastor Steven Wetly

Tuesday 7th 6:30 PM Shilo Inn Tacoma

7414 South Hosmer

253-581-6373

August 12th - 25th

Mission Trip

Sunday 26th & Monday 27th 7:00 PM Faith & Vision Ministries

At Lifegate Foursquare Church

307 East Main Street

Auburn 2

253-850-1300

Pastor Jack Bernard

Tuesday 28th 6:45 PM

Hill Residence

<mark>5919 Lagoon</mark> Lane

Gig Harbor 253-265-6575

Parking limited — carpooling advised

September 2007

Sunday 2nd 5:00 PM Iglesia Evangelica Rosa de Saron

261913 101 HWY

Seguim

360-681-0184

Pastor Jose Laboy

Tuesday 4th 6:30 PM Shilo Inn Tacoma

7414 South Hosmer

253-581-6373

Sunday 16th 10:30 AM The Vine Christian Ministries

4000 Whitman AVE

Seattle

206-310-8121 Pastor Brandon Rainwater

Sunday 16th 6:00 PM

Evangel

6820 Capitol Blvd

Tumwater

360-357-3652

Pastor James White

Tuesday 18th 6:30 PM East Pointe Church

21135 HWY 410 E

Bonney Lake

253-447-4070

Pastor James Ludlow

Sunday 23rd 10:30 AM Your Church Without Walls

1444 Tiger Mountain RD SE Issaquah

425-392-9300

Pastor Steve McMullin

Tuesday 25th 6:45 PM Hill Residence

5919 Lagoon Lane

Gig Harbor

253-265-6575 Parking limited

Sunday 30th & Monday 1st 7:00 PM

Faith & Vision Ministries Lifegate Foursquare Ch.

307 East Main Street

Auburn

253-850-1300

Pastor Jack Bernard

Home and private meetings not listed above.

If you are interested in scheduling a meeting, please contact the office at #253-581-6373.



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January 27th - February 3rd, 2008

Interior

Ocean view

Balcony

\$516

\$636

\$786

Ports of Call:

Montego Bay, Jamaica - Grand Cayman and Cozumel, Mexico

Only \$250.00 reserves your space and you have all year to pay the rest. We need those who are interested to call right away to continue holding space for our group. Call Sandy for detailed information: 253-845-5330.