

## Overworked, overloaded and no growth

The evening of 17/10/2009 I had this dream..

There was a group of Christians walking in a circle, they were very small, like midgets, and they were carrying heavy loads on their heads, bending and groaning under the weight. They just kept walking around and around going nowhere. The devil was standing there in the centre, he was grinning at me because he thought it was all very funny. When one of the Christians broke down under the weight the devil would lift it off for a few minutes so the Christian thinks it's "all better" and the moment he started walking again the weights were put on his head again. The irony is the Christians were blissfully unaware of the devil being there, they thought it was their "duty" to carry these weights and even took pride in the fact that they were carrying it.

Jesus says..

"Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me--watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly." (Matthew 11:28-30)

The apostle Paul said:

You crazy Galatians! Did someone put a hex on you? Have you taken leave of your senses? Something crazy has happened, for it's obvious that you no longer have the crucified Jesus in clear focus in your lives. His sacrifice on the Cross was certainly set before you clearly enough. Let me put this question to you: How did your new life begin? Was it by working your heads off to please God? Or was it by responding to God's Message to you? Are you going to continue this craziness? For only crazy people would think they could complete by their own efforts what was begun by God. If you weren't smart enough or strong enough to begin it how do you suppose you could perfect it? Did you go through this whole painful learning process for nothing? It is not yet a total loss, but it certainly will be if you keep this up! (Galatians 3:1-4)

Interpretation:

Jesus says we are to follow Him, that His yoke is easy and His burden light, that we must cast off religion and just run with Him for He will teach us the unforced rhythms of grace. The devil said to Adam and Eve and says to us daily, come eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil and you will have "wisdom" .. good and evil.. both .. you see Satan doesn't have to pull you into sin to keep you ineffective, he just has to play the same trick on you that he played on Adam and Eve, he has to make you eat the "good knowledge" , religion and you still aren't eating from the Tree of Life (Christ)..

Satan has learned that the best way to make ineffective, un-growing, unchanging Christians is to overload them with "good things to do" .. It is not God's will for a child of His to be overloaded with religion, with works, with "projects" and "plans", this is the devils work for he knows as long as you stay busy, crushingly busy trying to earn God's love with your works, your projects, your religion you will never have time for God. The things of God are not God.. God is God.. All God wants from you is to come to Him through the Blood of the Lamb in faith and have a relationship with Him.. God spoke to me a few years ago about a coming Enoch generation, ones that will cast off all works of

the flesh and just walk with Him in friendship and love.. This was God's plan from day one, and those are the ones that will fulfil Joel's vision (Joel 2) of a generation truly living for Christ..

My friends let us not fall for the enemies lies, let us run the race, let us run to Christ, let us cast of our "good works" and our "projects" and "plans" and religion stacked on us to suffocate us and let us run after God... Then we will grow, for we will behold Him and He will increase and as a result of that we will decrease in our lives....

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:1-2)

Why does Paul say lay down every weight, AND the sin which ensnares us.. because the sin is not the weight, the "stuff" we allow to be piled on us, the stuff we convince ourselves we must carry, the religion is the weight... and it can be much heavier than sin to carry... cast it off.. look to Jesus.. run the race to win....

God loves you so much and wants a truly personal, truly personal relationship with you.. You don't have to earn it, and there are truly no string attached. Cast off these works, stop trying so hard to earn His love, just love Him for His Son's Blood paved the way for you...

U R Blessed

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