

GOD Talk # 18
by Reverend Robert Bart

Born Again – Part 2

Our behavior is influenced by many things. It is affected by our heritage (ancestry), environment (geography), education (both statistical and sociological), governmental influences (lawmakers and enforcement), interpersonal relationships (family, peers, co-workers), as well as Spiritual Forces (GOD, the angels, the Church, and the evil spirits). Naturally, that is, without Divine Influence, we tend to concern ourselves with satisfying the needs of our bodies (including the needs of those for which we may be responsible), and with the gratification of our other natural desires. As a consequence, we try to amass an abundance of money and material goods, so as to provide “security” for ourselves and our loved ones. Inadvertantly, we engage in these endeavors with such voracity that we become all but dominated by them. This striving for existence is not GOD’s Will for us... He Does Not Want for our energies to be consumed by it.

The Holy Bible states, through GOD’s Servant Paul: “Now godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And **having food and clothing, with these we shall be content**. But **those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare**, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, *for which some have strayed from the faith* in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness. **Fight the good fight of faith**, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.” (1 Tim 6: 6-12) (bolding ours) Please notice that putting faith in money, or power, is idolatry... and much worse, it obstructs our Relationship with GOD. Idolatry Handcuffs GOD’s Ability to Bless us, as He Is Justice (as well as He Is Love, and Light); therefore He **Cannot Bless** unrighteousness or unfaithfulness. He Is forced to hold back The Blessings until we confess our sin(s) and repent.

The Bible also tells us that “the mind controlled by the old nature is hostile to GOD...” (Rom 8: 7a) GOD Says: “...My ways (are) higher than your ways and My thoughts (are) higher than your thoughts.” (Isa 55: 9b, c) (parenthesis ours) GOD Is primarily Concerned with the Eternal aspect of our life. To Him, our spiritual condition is of paramount importance, as His Desire Is

To Bless us eternally, which necessitates our Learning to Live a Holy Life. Our righteousness is **Dependant** upon His SPIRIT Dwelling within us' as we cannot overcome all temptations without The Help Of His HOLY SPIRIT. He Knows that we need food, drink, clothing, shelter and all the other necessities of 21st Century living, and He Promises to Provide them for us. He also Knows that our Holiness is a pre-requisite to our entrance into Paradise. Therefore He Instructs us to “**seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.**” (Mt 6: 33 emphasis ours)

GOD Will Do His Part if we do our part. He Is The Creator; we are the Creation. He Knows how to Prepare us for Eternal Life in Paradise, but *we must learn how to receive it.* This Gift Is Made Available to us by our receiving of The Third Person of The Echad (The HOLY Trinity) into our hearts, Namely, The HOLY SPIRIT. It Is He Who Enables us to become The Righteousness of GOD by Faith in ELOHIM; and our receiving Him Empowers us to Love Adonenu (Our GOD) completely.