

The Patio Pulpit For September 1, 2021 “The Inner Man”

When Beverly and I go out to eat, after ordering our beverages, we usually check our phones to see if the restaurant has wifi connections. We go to our settings on our phones and tap into the wifi setting and it will usually pull up the restaurant’s wifi connection and we can then join it. They are always free so we take advantage of them. And what is really cool is we have wifi in our car so if we are eating at a drive-in restaurant like South21, we can watch a movie there in the parking lot in the comfort of our car. It’s kinda like a date at a drive-in movie.

I want to make two or three brief observations tonight, beginning with this,

The Inner Man of Every disciple of Christ has personal access to the Father.

I had never thought about it like this until this week, but you and I and every disciple of Christ have free access to our Father in heaven. Read this, **Ephesians 2:18** *for through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father. (Eph. 2:18 NAU)*

If you have the Spirit, then you have permanent access to the Father. Eternal life brings with it eternal access.

And this,

¹¹ *This was in accordance with the eternal purpose which He carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord,*

¹² *in whom we have boldness and confident access to the Father through faith in Him. (Eph. 3:11-12 NAU)*

Our inner man can come into the Father’s presence in the throne room of grace with boldness and confidence at any time. And keep that in mind. Our always-accessible-access to the Father, is kinda like the wifi Beverly and I have in our car. We always have access to the internet because of our having wifi in our car. However, if we sit in one place listening to the radio or watching something on one of our devices inside the car, sooner or later we have to start the engine back up in order to recover the internet. Not so with our access to our heavenly Father. It is never broken.

Second, The inner man of every disciple of Christ is the only part of us that is free now from corruption and sin.

That may surprise some of you but our inner man even as we speak is free from sin, and in fact, he can't sin. Read this, ⁹ *No one who is born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. (1 Jn. 3:9 NAU)* So ask yourself, what about me is born of God, the inner man or the outer man? The inner, of course.

Look at that verse again, ⁹ *No one who is born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.* It says that those who are born of God do not practice sin but then it explains that by adding, "...and he cannot sin, because he is born of God." Our inner man is born of God by His seed that abides within us. And what is born of God, our inner man, cannot sin. It is our outer man that sins. So when Paul wrote to the church in Corinth, he said this about our outer, corrupt man:

⁵⁰ *Now I say this, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does the corrupt inherit the incorruptible.*

⁵¹ *Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed,*

⁵² *in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we will be changed.*

⁵³ *For this corruptible must put on the incorruptible, and this mortal must put on immortality.*

⁵⁴ *But when this corruptible will have put on the incorruptible, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, "DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP in victory.*

⁵⁵ *"O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR VICTORY? O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR STING?" (1 Cor. 15:50-55 NAU)*

Third and finally, The Inner Man of Every disciple of Christ has personal and eternal access by faith into God's grace.

Romans 5:2 *through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.*

Our whole man stands in grace because we are for the time being inextricably connected. The outer man will not experience that grace in its fulness until the rapture. Romans 8:10-11 says this about that, ¹⁰ *If Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness.* Do you see it? The body is dead because of sin, our outer man is dead because of sin, yet the spirit, the inner man is alive because God has declared us righteous through faith in Jesus.

¹¹ *But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.* (Rom. 8:10-11 NAU).

We have eternal life now. Our inner man is born of the Spirit and possesses eternal life right now. That makes me rejoice in the Lord.