

Are You Waiting for God to Clean Up Your Life?



The flesh is not sinful by nature. It is sinful by application and we are the applicators. No one is born a sinner.

It's interesting that a drug addict can stop his dependence on drugs without Christ, a drunkard can stop drinking himself drunk without Christ, a thief can stop stealing without Christ, a person addicted to pornography can stop it without Christ, etc., but yet people who profess to be Christians have to sit back and wait for God to "clean up their life," as though they have no free will to make the right choices.

A person who is in bondage to indulgence is not a person incapable of choice, but rather a person who has made a series of choices resulting in surrender of his will to his lusts.

As with the drug addict, the drunkard, the thief, the liar, the person addicted to pornography, etc., who say they can't resist these temptations, often find new strength to do what they previously said they could not do. For instance, tell the man addicted to pornography that if someone were to hold a gun to his head and threaten to shoot him if he were to look at the pornographic magazine, he will not look. This could be said of any sins. If the drunkard were told by his doctor that he only has six months to live if he keeps drinking, the drunkard suddenly has been empowered to overcome his bodily addiction.

What the unsaved person teaches us is that when they make a successful choice not to yield to their temptation, he has not only confirmed that one can cease from his wrong choices, but also the power of free will. However, people who profess to be Christians excuse their sins by saying they have not yet been delivered from their "sinful nature." They are constantly fighting this "mysterious other self," waiting for God to deliver them, but of course this won't happen until they die!

It is true that the influence of the Holy Spirit draws us to Christ and conviction of sin, but God is not going clean up anyone. He wants us to do the cleaning – us to do the forsaking of sins. Some people may give up certain sins for selfish reasons, but only those whose hearts are turned to Christ in faith and repentance are abundantly pardoned from all their sins and declared righteous in eyes of God. Isa. 55:7; 1 John 3:7

There is no pardon of sins without repentance. Repentance is an attribute of authentic faith.