

Dear Friend,

I am so thankful that Jesus did not leave us as orphans. He gave us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth. Our job is to be faithful to read our Bible and spend time in worship and prayer, and the Holy Spirit's job is to bring us to the knowledge of the truth.

During a season of prayer recently I saw a split-screen vision where there was one verse on the left side and another verse on the right side. I have learned from past experience, when the Holy Spirit does that, He is showing me that those two verses mean the same thing. Here is what I saw:

Gen 2:17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for **in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.**

Rom 8:13 **For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die:** but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.

I realized what the Holy Spirit was saying. In the same way God was completely serious about Adam dying if he disobeyed God in the garden of Eden, so will Christians die in modern times if they choose to live their lives according to the sinful dictates of the flesh.

Adam chose not to believe God and he died spiritually "the day" he disobeyed. Death also entered his body at that time, but it took his body roughly nine hundred years to finally yield to death. The point is ... God told Adam the truth. If you sin by disobeying Me ... you will die. What did Satan tell them in the garden of Eden? He said they would not surely die!

Genesis 3:4 And the serpent said unto the woman, **Ye shall not surely die:**

**God's gospel was ... if you sin, you will die.
Satan's gospel was ... if you sin, you will not die.**

In modern times there are many preachers standing in pulpits still preaching Satan's gospel. They give false assurance to people who continue to live in gross sin (adultery, fornication, drunkenness, etc.) that once they have made a public declaration that Jesus is their Lord and Savior ... they will certainly make heaven even if they continue in, or backslide into, lifestyles of habitual sin.

THAT IS NOT THE GOSPEL THAT JESUS CHRIST TAUGHT. THAT IS SATAN'S GOSPEL THAT BEGAN IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN AND IS STILL BEING TAUGHT FROM MANY CHURCH PULPITS TODAY.

Remember, the book of Romans is written to Christians, not unsaved people. Paul is very clear saying ... to the Christian ... if you live (habitually) after the flesh (in gross sin) ... you shall die! He is not talking about dying physically because we all (saint and sinner) will die physically if the Lord tarries. Paul is talking about spiritual death.

Paul was writing the same warning to modern day Christians that God gave to Adam in the garden of Eden ... if you sin ... you will die. This truth is seldom taught in the modern day church because it

makes people feel uncomfortable about their lifestyle. Preachers too often worry about offending people with the truth because if they leave ... they take their financial offerings with them.

True ministers of God are not hirelings. We have been bought with a price ... with the precious blood of Jesus. We must remain faithful to Him and love people enough to tell them the truth ... even if it makes them mad ... even if it makes them so mad, they want to put us on the cross the same way they did Jesus. Here is the gospel truth that Jesus taught:

John 8:12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: **he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.**

The new birth empowers us with the light of life. That life has the power that makes us free from sin. Born again children of God are no longer slaves to sin. We can live godly, soberly, and righteously in this present world [Titus 2:11-12]. Any other gospel that says a person can continue to live in sin while they call Jesus Lord will be in for a rude awakening on that day. Here are His words to those who choose to live in iniquity while calling Him Lord.

Matthew 7:21-23 **Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. (22) Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? (23) And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.**

Your friend and co-laborer,

GARY