

WHAT THE GENUINE MUST BE AWARE OF AS FATHER CHASTISES

"When Your judgments are executed, people learn righteousness" (Isaiah 26:9).

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Prophetic
Nuggets

You Are Born Predisposed To Willfully Sin

Dear Friends in Christ Jesus our Lord,

The substance of this Nugget is **"out with the old, in with the new."** This common idiom signifies a desire for dramatic change — and for the *genuinely* born again this change is a biblical mandate:

"Do not conform to (assimilate the values and goals and attitudes of) *this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God"* (Romans 12:2; see also 2Corinthians 3:18; Ephesians 4:22-24).

In our focus on "out with the old, in with the new", we'll review 3 essential factors which we need to be fully aware of in our life journey in Jesus as our Lord and Savior: our innate human sin nature; God's appraisal of us in our sinful state; and the **repentant living** which our Lord Jesus requires without exception from anyone who claims to belong to Him. No matter how good you may think you are (especially compared to other people!), God's appraisal of mankind is summed up succinctly by this unchanging reality: *"The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually"* (Genesis 6:5; see Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 3:23). God knew that mankind was incapable of living by His holy standards **if** He didn't extend grace to them and help them live righteously. Consider His command, first given to Israel and then to all the *genuine*: *"He Who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy"* (1Peter 1:15,16; apperceived from Leviticus 19:2).

This biblically-declared truth of God's command for His own to live holy lives is dismissed throughout nominal Christianity. And many among the *genuinely* born again too have lost sight of man's innate inclination to live apart from God's holiness, especially if they've swallowed Humanism's lie that "people are born good". But as lost as each of us is apart from God's intervention in our lives, it is a marvelous reality that our compassionate Father made a way for us to live holy lives. First, He graciously accepted as payment for our sins the shed blood of His Son, our Lord Jesus. And He also gave us His righteous commands to live by grace through the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit within us. This endeavor of obedient trust as our way of life reveals our love connection with Him:

📖 *"Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God Who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love Him and keep His commandments, to a thousand generations"* (Deuteronomy 7:9).

📖 *"If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love"* (John 15:10).

📖 *"For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome"* (1John 5:3).

ONLY by our love to instill our Lord's commands in our lives can we live a holy life that pleases Him. And in the process of ongoing yieldedness we discover that we are being transformed by His Spirit into the character of our Lord Jesus (2Corinthians 3:17,18). Applying His commands to every aspect of our lives is an innermost love-based undertaking for the *genuine*. Nominal Christians have no grasp of this biblical way of life since acknowledging their own sins and/or repenting of them is foolishness to them. But if you're *genuine* and born of the Spirit, you are well able to discern from Father's perspective when you've chosen to ignore or transgress one of His good and righteous commands for your life.

“Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before My eyes; cease to do evil” (Isaiah 1:16).

During our first year of following our Lord Jesus, we attended a seminar that emphasized that there were indeed consequences for breaking our Lord's commands. (As we've affirmed previously, our Lord Jesus fully paid the penalty for our sins. But Scripture reveals that there may still be consequences for our rebellion against His commands and instructions.) Knowing WHO had given us these precious commands was a major source of motivation for us as a couple to apply them with the guidance and empowerment of the Holy Spirit. It didn't take long for us to begin to experience the transforming work into Christ's character that the Spirit was doing in us as we searched out our Father's commands that specifically applied to us in each aspect of our lives of representing our Lord Jesus to others.

💎 If you're going to study the Bible with others in your fellowship circle, make sure that a major portion of your undertaking concentrates on helping each other apply our Lord's commands to your lives. If life application of God's Word isn't central to your Scripture learning, then you're sinning against Him by treating as "mere information" His holy ways for you. By hearing but not doing, you're showing you don't really love our Lord.

In one of the two times in which our Lord speaks of “church” in Matthew 16:18 and 18:17, He is establishing a relational principle for authentic fellowship among His followers: *“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother”* (Matthew 18:15). “Sins against you” means confronting those who disrupt your **communal righteousness** by holding onto unconfessed sin. You recognize unconfessed sin in your fellowship family because Father refuses to hear your prayers (Psalms 34:15; 1Peter 3:12) until •the person who sinned repents, or •the unrepentant is removed from your fellowship (vv. 18:15-17).

“Take every thought captive to obey Christ” (2Corinthians 10:5)
RESIST! RESIST! RESIST!

The battle over sin begins in your mind, will and emotions: *“But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death”* (James 1:14,15). Eve offers insight into this pattern of self-destruction and how rebellion entices others to sin: *“So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband with her, and he ate”* (Genesis 3:6).

Temptation in itself isn't the major problem. It's what you do when you're tempted. God is willing to help *if* you'll turn to Him in trust for help: *“No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, who will not let you be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation He will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it”* (1Corinthians 10:13). Your main goal in the face of temptation is to take that thought captive and make it be one that obeys our Lord. At the same time, *“Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you”* (James 4:7). It's a tough enough battle with just our sin nature, so don't allow the devil in.

👉 Finally, knowing and applying our Lord's commands to each aspect of your life helps you realize when you are sinning. Ignorance of God's ways isn't bliss. And resisting the devil and making your tempting thought(s) obedient to our Lord Jesus helps you become more like Him. How glorious!

For further understanding of what we've presented in this Nugget, watch these *Jesus In Your Home* videos:

17. Your Home: Our Father's Primary Place To Combat Your Sin Nature

76. Children: Born With A Sin Nature, Destined For Eternity (Part 1)

77. Children: Born With A Sin Nature, Destined For Eternity (Part 2) Or read, Discussing How To Restore The Early Church, Lesson 42: Children: Born With A Sin Nature-Destined For Eternity