

Awake to Righteousness And Sin Not

by Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

As a concerned Christian, I'm saddened to see so many living in sin. In the news it is almost always some conflict, robbery, drunkenness, divorces, or some kind of sin. Each of the people who are arrested, or the victims, are an individual; someone's son or daughter, who is affected by either their own action, or someone else's.

Often I notice that so many of the names of those in trouble are the same ones, time after time. Some time ago I heard a person speaking of his friend who was caught several days in a row doing something illegal. My thoughts were, 'Why don't they know enough to stop doing it?' Consider **1 Corinthians 15: 34**. "Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame." Listen to the word of God and see what the creator has to say. Don't waste the years and life that God has granted you. Each of us has a number of years to spend here on earth. When it is over, what will you have to show for those years? **Matthew 25: 24-30** tells the story of the master who gave his servants talents

(money) to be used in his absence. When he returned he took account with each of the servants. I believe that is essentially a parable about our lives here. When our master comes back we will give account to him of our lives and what we have done with our time here.

What could a person say who has been in trouble with the law throughout his life. Or, the one who has lived his life on drugs, lying and stealing to obtain them? God didn't intend for anyone to be a drunk or a trouble maker all his life. If we have, and are doing this, we can quit. All have sinned and come short of the glory of God. I have and everyone else has too. If anyone, preacher, or whoever he, or she, might be, tells me that he has never sinned, I call him a liar right to his face. Jesus is the only one who could say that he had never sinned. I look back with sadness on the sins that I have done. I couldn't go back and undo them, but thank the Lord, I could be forgiven for them.

If you look at yourself and see that life is one conflict after another, look at the decisions that you make. If you are using drugs, alcohol, or any other kind of sinful thing, you can stop it. Praise the Lord, we don't have to continue down the road that leads to destruction. I changed, by the grace of God and you can too. If you haven't started using alcohol, or drugs, don't

ever start.

You'll be saving your loved ones and yourself from a lot of misery and hurt, both now and in the future. These things are not an escape from the troubles of life, they only bring on more of them.

So many are quick to divorce these days. Don't rush into it. If you loved him, or her, enough to marry, then work it out and stop the things that hurt your marriage. God wants us to love one another, not to hurt each other. Divorce is not condoned by the Lord unless it is for the cause of fornication. I believe it is good advice to not rush into a marriage, or into a divorce.

It is your life and you will live it as you believe. If you believe in God and will live for him you will escape the sins and grief that they bring. Are you living in sin? If you repent, the Lord will forgive you and bless you. In Christ Jesus there is power to change - it is up to you. The question is - do you want to change and to live a better life? The help is there and the power to do so to those who trust Jesus. Like the song says, "Trust and Obey, for there's no other way." Don't let Satan tell you that you've gone too far, or that you can't do it, for you can find forgiveness in Christ Jesus.

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This is a dramatized version of facts taken from the Book of Genesis intending to show some of the customs of these ancient and traditional times.

A BRIDE FOR ISAAC

ELIEZER WANTS TO LEAVE IMMEDIATELY WITH REBEKAH TO BRING HER TO ISAAC AS HIS BRIDE, BUT REBEKAH'S FAMILY OBJECTS, NOW....

STAY A WHILE, AND FEAST SOME MORE!

WE MAY NEVER SEE REBEKAH AGAIN - DO NOT GO YET!

DO NOT HINDER ME - SEND ME AWAY NOW WITH THE MAIDEN!

LABAN PUTS THE QUESTION DIRECTLY TO REBEKAH...

WILT THOU GO WITH THIS MAN?

I WILL GO!

AND SO IT IS SETTLED! REBEKAH IS MOUNTED ON A BRIDAL CAMEL AND ALL PREPARATIONS FOR THE LONG TRIP BACK TO CANAAN ARE MADE...

Next Week SEEN AFAR OFF!

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