

LIVING SACRIFICE

How true is, as the Scripture says, that “though maimed”, we will have a more abundant entrance into Heaven! In **Mark 9:43** we read: “If thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into LIFE (eternity) maimed, than have two hands, and go into hell....” Jesus calls all who really love Him to yield their lives a “living sacrifice”. Even though we must need to suffer in the process, “It will be worth it all, when we see Him”! Let us allow Him to remove or cut off whatever is not glorifying to Him, or whatever would hinder our growth in grace and maturity in the spiritual life. Let us say to our beloved Jesus: “Dear Lord, if there is anything that is hindering my progress in purity – anything that is standing in the way of my becoming LIKE YOU, and fulfilling in all of your highest will for me – please, cut it off by the mighty power of Your Holy Spirit.” And He will do it! Oh, glory to God! Of course, sometimes, a “member” can be completely sanctified, if we yield completely, and “die” to whatever it may be. In this way, we are able to keep the member. But, our motto must be: “My utmost for HIS HIGHEST”. So if it is better to “cut it off” -- Jesus meant cut it off quick and clean! We can’t afford to hesitate or “hem and haw” about the operation. It can’t be a gradual process; but rather let us embrace the cross, and in loving abandonment to Jesus say, in the words of that beautiful old hymn:

“Burn off my fetters, set me free;
And make my heart a Heav’n with Thee”.

Oh, let us not think of what we are losing; the sacrifice we are making or the thing we are giving up! But, instead, let us lay the emphasis upon the “great gain” which shall be ours, when we see Jesus, face to face, entering Heaven’s Gates. To inherit the Eternal Riches of His Grace!

Mary Elizabeth Judd

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DAY BY DAY

Each day, as a little child, yield yourself into His hands. Each day remind Him you are His that you desire to spend that day as pleases Him. Go into the day with the definite fact before you that you belong to Him. Trust Him to keep you without sin. But if your faith fails, don’t go all down in the Slough of Despond because you failed and did something wrong, but turn to Jesus and His cleansing blood. Tell Him you are sorry, ask Him to cover it all with His blood, and remind Him of your need for all His cleansing work and perfecting work in your life. When you go to bed at night, remind the Lord you are His child. Avail yourself of the blood of Jesus for every failure of that day, and don’t carry it over to the next. God doesn’t, why should you?

Martha W. Robinson