

DEALING WITH THE EVIL WITHIN US

6/20/09

Last week, we discussed the topic of recognizing evil. Here are 3 basic reminders from last week.

1. All sin is not equal.
2. The poison of "moral equivalency" in society influences people to be afraid to differentiate between actions of evil.
3. While believers seek to forgive others for their mistakes and sins, that doesn't change the fact that some actions are more evil than other actions.

Today, we will discuss "dealing with the evil within us."

Question: At this point in our study, why are we discussing the aspect of dealing with the evil within us?

Answer: Although we as believers must deal with the evil in other people, we must always remember our own limitations and responsibilities.

Matt. 7:1-5 the beam in our own eye

Rom. 2:21-23 those who teach others, better be sure that they are practicing what they teach

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- * Hebrew words in the Old Testament
 - evil -- "ra" (7451)
 - evil -- 436 times in King James Version
 - wickedness -- 58 times in KJV
 - wicked -- 25 times in KJV
 - wicked -- "rasa" (7563)
 - wicked -- 252 times in KJV
 - ungodly -- 8 times in KJV
 - wickedness -- "resa" (7562)
 - wickedness -- 25 times in KJV
 - wicked -- 4 times in KJV
 - * Greek words in the New Testament
 - evil -- "kakos" (2556)
 - evil -- 45 times in KJV
 - wicked -- 1 time in KJV
 - evil, wicked -- "poneros" (4190)
 - evil -- 52 times in KJV
 - wicked -- 11 times in KJV
 - wicked one -- 6 times in KJV
 - wickedness -- "poneria" (4189)
 - wickedness -- 6 times in KJV

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- * Recognize the evil within us
 - 1 Cor. 10:12 think you stand? -- take heed lest you fall
 - Jer. 17:9 the heart is deceitful -- desperately wicked
 - Mark 7:20 that which comes out of the man defiles the man
 - 21-22 out of the heart proceeds -- "evil thoughts" --12
 - other actions are listed
 - 23 all these evil things come from within -- and
 - defile the person
 - Luke 6:45 good from his heart -- evil from his heart
 - Rom. 8:7 the carnal mind is enmity against God
 - Rom. 7:14 Paul recognized he was carnal
 - 15 what he wanted to do, he didn't do -- what he
 - didn't want to do, he did
 - 18 in my flesh dwells no good thing
 - 19 the good he wanted to do, he didn't do -- the
 - evil he didn't want to do, he did
 - 20 "sin the dwells in me"
 - 21 "when I would do good, evil is present with me"
 - 22-25 law of God -- law of sin

- * Recognize the power of God -- repentance and accepting forgiveness
 - Job 42:1-6 Job's repentance
 - Psalms 51:1-19 David's repentance
 - Phil. 3:13-14 putting the past behind and moving forward

- * Is a repentant believer immune from sin?
 - 2 Pet. 2:20 becoming entangled
 - 21-22 turning from the holy commandment
 - Heb. 7:27 we don't need daily sacrifices by a priesthood
 - Heb. 9:7,25 we don't need the annual sacrifice on Atonement
 - Rom. 12:1-2 but we must be a living sacrifice
 - Psalms 51:11 "do not take your Holy Spirit from me"
 - Eph. 4:30 grieve not the Holy Spirit
 - 2 Tim. 1:6 stir up the gift of God

- * Looking to the Kingdom
 - Eph. 4:23-32 a new person -- changed behavior
 - Col. 3:1 seek those things which are above
 - Rom. 12:9 abhor that which is evil -- cleave to that which
 - is good
 - Rom. 12:21 overcome evil with good
 - Matt. 13:44 treasure in a field -- joy for the Kingdom
 - 45-46 pearl of great price
 - Luke 18:9-14 tax-collector's repentance