

LIVING TOUCHED BY THE ETERNAL

WILLIS 2/1/09

2 Pt 1:1-9; 19-20

We are continuing today in our theme “Living Touched by the Eternal” where our focus has been **living in the abiding touch of God that dwells within and apprehending the external touch of God that comes upon.**

- Often this walk in the Spirit is a walk of 2 tensions. It is the tension of the internal and the external, it is the tension of God does it all but He does it through man, it is the tension of what is ours positionally and what must be appropriated by faith.

Once again we see the tension in our text this morning. Though His divine power has already given us everything we need pertaining to live and godliness Peter still exhorts us to make every effort to add to our faith diligence, to our knowledge self control, to our perseverance godliness...

- Peter then concludes the chapter speaking of the ultimate touch of God; it is to be touched so deeply you get beside yourself.
- **It is a touch so deep that the abiding presence which we know by faith becomes the alongside of presence which we know by practice and we get carried along.**
- When we get carried along by God we get lifted above circumstance and situation. O we are still in it we just never become part of it. Though surrounded by the uncertainty we never succumb to the uncertainty.
- In the midst of all that happens in the fallenness of this world we get carried along through a touch from Emmanuel; God with us.

So each week we have taken the time to break down on a very practical level what being touched by the eternal really means. So far we have said

1. **Living touched by the eternal is living life regenerated**
2. **Living touched by the eternal is dreaming wild**
3. **Living touched by the eternal is knowing Jesus as the Bible describes Him to be**
4. **Living touched by the eternal is becoming a bridge that joins heaven to earth**
5. **Living touched by the eternal is learning to live loved**
6. **Living touched by the eternal is walking the walk of the Bride along the Bridal Path**

So let's add to this list today and develop even further what living touched by the eternal really means:

To be touched by the eternal is to live “The life I now live.” Gal 2:20 Here we see the tension from yet another perspective...though crucified we still live. **The crucified life does not end our life but it does radically changes the definitions and the conditions of that life.**

- Paul says it this way. “I am crucified with Christ and...” and means that crucifixion changed some things. In fact it changes everything. “I am crucified with Christ and...**the live I now live** I live by faith in the Son of God.”
- To be touched by the eternal is to live your now life not your past life or your future life (as important as both of them are) but when we get touched by God He makes us fully alive now to live the now life to the fullest of His intention.
- Which means “Old People” your past no longer limits you and “Young People” your future is not what defines you...when we have Emmanuel; God with us to live the crucified life our past cannot limit us nor can the future postpone us.
- **To be touched by the eternal is to build our lives on the strengths of the past in the expectant hope of the future but we live in the now.**
- The now life is designed by God to be the free life. The now life is life free of shame, the now life is free of condemnation...defeat is not part of the now life, unbelief has no inheritance in the now life.
- **What defines the now life is the life we now live we live by the faith of the Son of God.** The now life is the faith life. Heb 11: 1 says “Now Faith.” Faith is now. Faith by its very nature is present tense. It is right here, right now because faith is substance.
- Faith is tangible, applicable, and useable right now. Faith is not limited to the past or redefined by the future. Faith is now consequently faith is to be used, exercised and applied.
- **We are being carried along by the Spirit to places where faith is the only way to get there.** Jesus is making demands on our faith then giving us His faith to make the payment.
- The economy, job security, future uncertainty...these are all issues of faith. Now faith says we are in the world but not of the world so the economic engine of this world is not our source. Faith says we work for Him so if our company downsizes God doesn't get smaller.
- **Faith becomes now when we 1. Live in His Word 2. Dwell on His Goodness 3. Embrace the Opportunities that Place a Demand on our Faith**

To be touched by the eternal is to experience His Kingdom growing in us every day. Mt 6:9-10 I wish we could hear this without the familiarity that comes over time. “Your Kingdom come is a prayer of progressive revelation. Every day we are to seek for more of His Kingdom.

- Everyday His Kingdom grows as we yield to it. Every act of intimacy is an act of advance every decision of obedience is a decision for His Kingdom to come.

It is interesting to note that the word “come” in the Greek is in the aorist subjunctive tense being used as an imperative. This simply means **it forbids all action not already in progress and so commands it not be started if it isn’t first initiated.**

- So for the Kingdom to come the Kingdom must be sought. Jesus taught us to pray “thy Kingdom come” because the prayer is what initiates the progress. If at anytime we stop the progress action will be forbidden until we initiate the seeking once again.
- This is why Jesus says in Mt 6:33 “Seek first the Kingdom and everything else will be added to you.” The act of seeking is the action that releases the provision of the Kingdom. We have all the provision of the Kingdom at our disposal...if we seek it.
- **To be touched by the eternal is to never stay stuck.** It doesn’t mean you don’t make interesting decisions at times that might trip you up. It just means if for some reason you do you never stop seeking because as long as you seek the Kingdom keeps coming.
- **To the degree the Kingdom comes we move out of the shadows into the substance.** Even as born again, Spirit filled believers it is quite easy to make peace with living in the shadow issues of life.
- Like Israel we come out of Egypt but we never seek enough of the Kingdom to get Egypt out of us. The Kingdom is what turns our center. Without the Kingdom we remain in the center of our Christian walk. We are the center of our decisions, the center of our pursuits
- **You can’t live touched by the eternal and at the same time remain the center of your own life.** We are all in need of a touch to dethrone us and an ongoing touch to keep us recentered.

Are you growing? Is there sign of increase in your life or just loss? Are you the focus of your thoughts and actions or is Christ? Does Jesus retain the right to decide or do you? The answers to these questions reveal who occupies the throne of your life.

- In Hebrew symbology the symbol for the number 9 is called the Tet. The Tet looks like a U with a tail on one end and a head on the other. Imagine a snake in the shape of a U.
- The Tet represents many positive things which we will speak to later but in relationship to evil the Tet represents the snake. Chuck Pierce said the representation is “**Submit to the King or you will get bit by the snake.**”
- To say it in the positive...2009 is the year we submit to the King so we can rule. It is the year we seek first the Kingdom and let Jesus add everything else.

To be touched by the eternal is to live the life I now live. To be touched by the eternal is to experience His Kingdom growing in us every day. A now faith coupled with an everyday kingdom...it is a life pleasing to God and one in full supply of the provision of God.

