
Words of Truth

Is God Really On Your Side?

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On Montana Street here in El Paso, there is a sign on the side of the road with a rather disgusting message on it. The sign was posted by the Abundant Living Faith Center (I often refer to them as the Abundant Living FAKE Center). The sign reads: "No Matter What, God Is On Your Side". For someone who does not have even a slight grasp of God's word, they might not find that to be a disgusting message. However, if you know even a little bit of truth, you know that sign is promoting a huge lie.

As we proceed in this study we will certainly use the Scriptures to expose this lie. I certainly do not want to call something a lie without proving that it is. Before we get to those Scriptures, I want to use a few words revealing why we need to expose this lie.

Notice what false teachers do: *"The wise men are ashamed, they are dismayed and taken: lo, they have rejected the word of the LORD; and what wisdom is in them? Therefore will I give their wives unto others, and their fields to them that shall inherit them: for every one from the least even unto the greatest is given to covetousness, from the prophet even unto the priest every one dealeth falsely. For they have healed the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace. Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush: therefore shall they fall among them that fall: in the time of their visitation they shall be cast down, saith the LORD... For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error. While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage" (Jeremiah 8:9-12 and II Peter 2:18-19).*

As you just read, false teachers promise peace and liberty to those in sin, but those promises are really lies. Telling the world that God is on their side no matter what is a huge lie. It gives sinners a false sense of security. Let's turn our attention to proving that God is not on anyone's side "no matter what".

"No Matter What" – NO WAY!

Notice the following Scriptures: *"For thou art not a God that hath pleasure in wickedness: neither shall evil dwell with thee. The foolish shall not stand in thy sight: thou hatest all workers of iniquity... The face of the LORD is against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth... The LORD is far from the wicked: but he heareth the prayer of the righteous... The LORD will destroy the house of the proud: but he will establish the border of the widow... Therefore thus saith*

the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will set my face against you for evil, and to cut off all Judah... If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love... For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil... This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin" (Psalms 5:4-5, Psalms 34:16, Proverbs 15:29, Proverbs 15:25, Jeremiah 44:11, John 15:10, I Peter 3:12, and I John 1:5-7).

There are many other Scriptures that could be quoted to prove that God is not unconditionally on your side. That being said, if what has been quoted is not clear enough - you're blind. There are people who want to believe that they can have a relationship with God while being in sin and there is nothing that will convince them otherwise. For those who are in sin and can see the clarity of these Scriptures, you also have to realize that God does not want you to continue to be separated from Him.

That Does Not Mean God Doesn't Want To Be On Your Side

God teaches us to repent of our sins so that we do not perish (Luke 13:3; 5). God sent His only begotten son into the world to die so that we might be saved (John 3:17). God has shown us that He is longsuffering by allowing the world to stand, giving us the time to repent and be converted (Acts 3:19 and II Peter 3:9-14). God wants all men to be saved (I Timothy 2:4), though He knows that such will never occur (Luke 13:23-24).

For God to be on our side we have to obey Him (Isaiah 59:1-3, John 14:23, I John 2:1-6, and II John 9). If we choose not to be on our Lord's side, then we are against Him (Luke 11:23). There are even those people who are doing what they think are "good works", yet the Lord will not accept them as His people (Matthew 7:21-23). God has in the past and will in the future bring evil upon those who disobey Him (Jeremiah 6:19-20 and II Thessalonians 1:7-9).

God doesn't take any pleasure in punishing the wicked (Ezekiel 18:32 and Ezekiel 33:11), but He is not a liar either (Titus 1:2). He will eternally punish those who disobey Him (Matthew 25:31-46). If you are in sin, you don't have to continue in that state. You can take advantage of the opportunities God has given you to change your life and to have a real relationship with Him. You don't have to look for false comfort in false slogans on the side of the road. You CAN have real comfort and real confidence that you are going to be saved!

Conclusion

If you want a relationship with God, simply obey Him (Matthew 12:46-50 and Hebrews 5:8-9). There is not a "short list" of what you must do to be saved. However, you can START by choosing to sit down with a faithful member of the church of Christ and study God's word with them. Obedience starts with hearing the truth (Romans 10:14-17). After obeying and keeping God's word all of your life (John 8:31-32), you then will have God on your side (Revelation 3:21).