



“And there is none that calls upon Your name, that stirs himself up to take hold of You....” Isaiah 64:7

To God be all glory and praise!

He could have left us in our sins, but He didn't! He could have ignored our plight – after all, it is our fault. He could have begun over creating a new people without sin. But God, “so loved the world.” Left to our own actions and even to our own responses to God's kindness, we would not only be lost, but we would remain lost and spiritually dead in our sin and transgressions. “But God commanded His love toward us in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:8). It is His kindness that leads us to repentance. (Romans 2:4). And it is His Spirit's tireless wooing and pursuit of a lost race that wins many over.

It then is not so much a matter that the sinner, or the saint for that matter, stirs himself up to serve or obey God, but we see that it is in reality God's initiative on every front. However, it is important to understand that it is our responsibility to respond to God once He begins the stirring deep within our hearts. Yes, the work of redemption rests entirely upon God – the agreement has been drafted, the work completed – now all that remains is our “signing of the contract” by adding our agreement and surrender.

“... if you shall confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and shall believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved. For with the heart man believes unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.” (Romans 10:9 – 10).

“Stir up the gift of God...” (2 Timothy 1:6).

“Before the THRONE” and “Before the THRONE – The Devotional” are registered trademarks of and published by Spencers Unleashed, Inc. All rights reserved, contents may be quoted or reprinted, provided excerpts are in context.

© 2005 and © 2006 by Mark D. Spencer and Spencers Unleashed, Inc. For additional information see us at www.spencersunleashed.com or at www.innercourt.com or at www.feargod.com