



“If I regard iniquity in my heart, the LORD will not hear me. But certainly God has heard me; He has attended to the voice of my prayer. Blessed be God, Who has not turned away my prayer, nor His mercy from me!” Psalm 66:18-20

O, the confidence of holding the revelation of having been made the righteousness of God in Christ! Intuitively, men know their sin keep them from God. There is a spiritual knowing that our rebellion with its attitudes and sins bar us from the presence and blessing of the Almighty. Hence the extreme workings of pagan and civilized religions so endeavoring to gain God’s attention with their outlandish methods and their intensity of devotion, yet sadly never knowing or finding the peace of God! “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.” (Ephesians 2:8 – 9)

Have you learned, as the Psalmist did, that though having been made righteous by trusting faith in Jesus, when sin is allowed, when sin is befriended and mediated upon, our access to the Lord is obstructed and our prayer life is gravely hindered? Such meditations are grievous to the Holy Spirit. Our life in God ebbs away at such times and the subtle working of sin and death begin their advance.

We must hate sin. Not as some may suppose, because of the sin itself, but because of its eroding and deleterious effect upon our relationship with the Lord. To turn from sin is to turn to the Lord. We may rejoice in our God’s mercy and longsuffering, but never allow yourself the option of regarding sin in our hearts – it is too costly – it is too dangerous of a proposition!

“Lord, teach me to hate sin.”

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