



Before the THRONE

The Devotional

Volume 2

Books of Poetry

Psalm 97:10

“If you love the LORD, you’ll hate evil. He will protect His righteous ones and He will deliver them from the hand of the wicked.” Psalm 97:10 Author’s paraphrase

It is easy for us to hate evil, isn’t it? And it is easy for us to hate sin as well, especially when the evil and the sin belong to someone else! Of course, we offer the obligatory words of censure toward various sin, but toward ourselves we may tend to offer excuses and reasons why our sin is to be tolerated or dismissed as harmless. Why do we “nurture a grudge” against others, yet are so offended when they display such behaviour toward us? In our hearts it is a “hereditary peculiarity”, but in others, we “call it as we see it!”

“Examine yourselves to see if you are in the faith.” (2 Corinthians 13:5). The honest Christian (is there any other kind?), will find that when he begins to point out the sins of others, the Holy Spirit will immediately overlook their critical comments and begin to direct that same critical eye to their own failings and sins! “And why worry about a speck in your friends’ eye when you have a log in your own? How can you think of saying, “Friend, let me help you get rid of that speck in your eye” when you can’t see past the log in our own eye? Hypocrite! First get rid of the log from your own eye, then you will see well enough to deal with the speck in your friend’s eye.” (Matthew 7:3 – 5).

When you learn to hate your own sin (rather than someone else’s) and you start to draw upon the Lord’s forgiveness (1 John 1:9) to heal and cleanse your own life – you will find that you are a healthier and happier Christian!

O yes, once you ease up on others and start your own “self-help, self-cleanup campaign”, you may quickly discover that other people are liking you more and more!

Imagine that!?

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