

Do not let your heart be divided between Christ and the vanities of this world. If Christ is worth following, He is worth following all the way. With God's help, we must renounce this world completely, deny ourselves, go to God in Christ and fill up on His word, then come back into the world to shine His light to those still in darkness. –Monergism

GADSBY'S CATECHISM

By William Gadsby, about 1800

(Presented here as originally published – this does not constitute a full endorsement of the Riverside Baptist Church)

Question XVIII. What is sin?

Answer. Sin is the transgression of the law of God.

I Jn. 3.4.

Question XIX. What was the sin whereby our first parents fell from the estate wherein they were created?

Answer. The sin whereby our first parents fell from the estate wherein they were created was their eating of the forbidden fruit.

Gen. 3.6-7.

Question XX. Did all mankind fall in Adam's transgression?

Answer. All mankind, descending from Adam by ordinary generation lay in his loins, sinned in him, and fell with him in his first transgression.

1 Kin. 8.46; Ecc. 7.20; Rom. 3.9-19, 23 & 5.12, 19; 1 Cor. 15. 21-22.

THE RIVERSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

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WXTH-LP 101.7 FM– In Richwood

Services:

Sunday Morning Bible Study -- 10:00 AM

Sunday Morning Worship -- 11:00 AM

Prayer and Bible Study Wednesday Evening 6:30 PM

WCWV 92.9 FM – 8:00 AM Sunday Morning

THE RIVERSIDE BAPTIST REPORT

THE RIVERSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

“The Pillar and ground of the Truth” -- 1 Timothy 3:15

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SING UNTO THE LORD

Sing unto the LORD, O ye saints of his, and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness. For his anger endureth but a moment; in his favour is life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning. Psalms 30:4-5

That singing is both a privilege and an obligation of the redeemed is evidenced in that it comes as a result of being filled with the Spirit: *Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; Ephesians 5:19*. In this text the exhortation to sing is coupled with thanksgiving, the holiness of the Lord, chastening, and joy. What a delightful means of expressing praise and thanksgiving is given us by the empowering of the Holy Spirit as He illuminates the things of the Lord for us.

This precious book of Sacred Psalms contains many such exhortations to sing as we relate to the issues about which we would sing. There is a precious acknowledgment of redemption given us as the Psalmist wrote: *And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD. Psalms 40:3*. We note the work of grace here and the connection to regeneration in that it is He the Lord that has put that song in our mouths as a means of witness. There is a universal commandment to sing given us in, *O sing unto the LORD a new song: sing unto the LORD, all the earth. Psalms 96:1*. Elsewhere we read of that the works of creation bear witness to the mighty hand of God and the provisions given in creation so that the testimony leaves none with an excuse for not bowing before Him and singing His praises. Thus, we are to sing in acknowledgment of His works: *O sing unto the LORD a new song; for he hath done marvellous*

things: his right hand, and his holy arm, hath gotten him the victory. Psalms 98:1. Here again, the reference to His right hand and His holy arm are unmistakably referring to Christ our Lord and salvation that is through Him alone and so we sing the song of victory. And we read of the commitment of the Psalmist: *I will sing a new song unto thee, O God: upon a psaltery and an instrument of ten strings will I sing praises unto thee. Psalms 144:9*.

In the passage from Psalm 40 we note that the New Song is praise unto our God. We would connect that with the thought expressed by those gathered around the throne in Revelation 5. *And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; Revelation 5:9*. It is both a realization of being the redeemed of the Lord and that which is enabled as a result of redemption that causes praise to erupt from within and so we go on our way singing of the worthiness of the Lamb.

The exhortation to sing includes giving thanks for His holiness. Men are prone to give thanks for much in the way of perceived material blessings. They are often heard in the way of thanksgiving for salvation as well they should be. But the thought of giving thanks for His holiness is strangely absent from the prayers of most of us. It is well that we observe the holiness of God as the primary attribute that it

is. A wonderful reason to give thanks in this way is that it is the holiness of God that mandates the redemption of His people. God did not lay aside His holiness in order to save us. We know and are assured of the eternal love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. His love could not be reason to lay aside His holiness. To save us apart from the redeeming work of Christ would require just that. So, as the songwriter so ably expressed it, "Love sent my Savior to die in my stead" and then to ask, "Why should He love me so?" It was that God "might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus." The holiness of God is frightening to men, but it is the subject of song with believers. We who know the Lord stand in awe of His holiness and rejoice that it is so as we see the purity and beauty that is His alone. *Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power, in the beauties of holiness from the womb of the morning: thou hast the dew of thy youth. Psalms 110:3.*

We are given another reason to rejoice that does not always seem so. Because of His holiness and His great love for His own He chastens them. *For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. Hebrews 12:6.* Even as a child I heard from many of my friends that their parents didn't care what they did. Often their sins and

aspirations were celebrated by dads who should have been nurturing Godliness in them. Thankfully it was not so with me as I often felt the rod of chastening at the hand of parents whose love for me was evident. *Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby. Hebrews 12:11.* To the David here it was perceived as loving strokes from a caring redeemer: "in His favor is life."

The long night of lamentation soon gives way to the Day Star arising in our hearts again and again and we are made to rejoice and sing. It was after some long nights of mourning that the disciples began to realize that the Lord had risen. The eternal morning had come, and He was alive forever more.

At the end of each ordeal appointed to us in this life we are sweetly brought to embrace the ever-dawning revelation of Christ our Lord and His glories – Truly, joy comes in the morning and we still have an eternity of praise to be expressed in the New Song we have been given.

As we rise to face each day, may we with the hymnwriter of old express that joy thusly: "When morning guilds the skies, My heart awaking cries: May Jesus Christ be praised." *bhs*

TRUST AND OBEY

In our time the church world has gone the way of Cain (Jude 11) and are preaching a social gospel (man's doctrine), substituting for the word of God pabulum that will make the hearers feel better about their sins. They will tell their hearers that "God accepts you as you are, which is totally false for God has commanded all every where to repent. They also substitute programs and social activities for the gospel of Jesus Christ, which is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth. There is no new way, nor is it your way or my way. It is God's way! It is obedience to God's word that transforms a person's life and delivers from sin. It is the power in the shed blood of Jesus that brings forgiveness and cleansing. There are no substitutes for holiness before God. God is narrow minded about His plan of salvation, for He said in Acts 4:12, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must (can) be saved." Are you substituting as Cain did or are you

following the example given to us of Abel who followed God's command? Where we will be in all eternity hinges upon the answer to this question, and just remember that the Lord "is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (II Peter 3:9b). May we all as the old hymn says for us to do, which is "TRUST AND OBEY." --W. Herman White

What could an unsanctified man do in Heaven? -J.C. Ryle *Holiness*
"Without holiness, no one will see the Lord!" Hebrews 12:14

Most men hope to go to Heaven when they die; but few, it may be feared, take the trouble to consider whether they would enjoy Heaven if they got there.

Heaven is essentially a holy place; its inhabitants are all holy; its occupations are all holy.

To be really happy in Heaven, it is clear and plain that we must be somewhat trained and made ready for Heaven while we are on earth.

We must be saints before we die--if we are to be saints afterwards in glory. We need the work of the Holy Spirit--as well as the work of Christ; we need renewal of the heart--as well as the atoning blood; we need to be sanctified--as well as to be justified.

What could an unsanctified man do in Heaven, if by any chance he got there?

No man can possibly be happy in a place where he is not in his element, and where all around him is not congenial to his tastes, habits and character.

When an eagle is happy in an iron cage, when a sheep is happy in the middle of a lake, when a fish is happy on the dry land --then, and not until then, will I admit that the unsanctified man could be happy in Heaven!

The book of Revelation says expressly, "Nothing impure will ever enter it." Revelation 21:27

Suppose for a moment, that you were allowed to enter Heaven without holiness. What would you do? What possible enjoyment could you experience there?

Now perhaps, you love the company of . . . the vain and the impious, the worldly-minded and the profligate, the reveler and the pleasure-seeker, the ungodly and the profane. There will be none such in Heaven!

Now perhaps you think the saints of God too strict and particular and serious. You rather avoid them. You have no delight in their society. But there will be no other company in Heaven.

Now perhaps you think that praying and Scripture reading and hymn singing--are dull and melancholy and foolish; a thing to be tolerated now and then--but not enjoyed. You reckon the worship a burden and a weariness. But remember, Heaven is never-ending worship. The inhabitants thereof rest not day or night, saying, "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty," and singing the praise of the Lamb. How could an unholy man find pleasure in occupation such as this?

It seems clear that Heaven would be a miserable place to an unholy man! We must be heavenly-minded and have heavenly tastes in the present life--or else we will never find ourselves in Heaven in the life to come!

"Let him who does wrong continue to do wrong; let him who is vile continue to be vile; let him who does right continue to do right; and let him who is holy continue to be holy." Revelation 22:11