

WHAT OUR INQUIRY ABOUT OURSELVES SHOULD BE?



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Published by Thusia Seventh Day Adventist Church

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1. We are in the very last days, we are told that the last controversy will be very short.

“We are standing on the threshold of great and solemn events. Prophecies are fulfilling. The last great conflict will be short, but terrible. Old controversies will be revived. New controversies will arise. We have a great work to do. Our ministerial work must not cease. The last warning must be given to the world. There is a special power in the presentation of the truth at the present time. How long will it last? Only a little while.” Ellen G. White, Selected Messages bk. 3, pg. 419.

2. And in view of the lateness of time, what should be the inquiry of everyone? We are told:

“The inquiry of everyone should be ‘whose am I? To whom do I owe allegiance? Is my heart renewed? Is my soul reformed? Are my sins forgiven? Will they be blotted out when the time of refreshing shall come?’” Ibid, pg. 419.

3. We must needs examine ourselves to see if we are in the Faith of Jesus Christ. 2 Cor. 13:5, 6.

4. We must be concerned that we do not become castaways while we seek to help others. 1 Cor. 9:27.

5. The legitimate questions we must ask ourselves and have properly answered from the Scriptures are the following, according to the Spirit of Prophecy.

- a. To who do I belong?
- b. To whom do I owe my full allegiance?
- c. Is my heart renewed or changed?
- d. Am I truly reformed?
- e. Are my sins really forgiven?
- f. Will my past sins be blotted out in the end?

6. To whom do I belong?

- a. When we were unconverted, we were children of disobedience belonging to Satan. Eph. 5:5, 6; Eph. 2:3; 1 Jn. 3:8, 10.
- b. But we recognized that we were bought with a price by the death of Christ. 1 Cor. 6:20; 1 Cor. 7:23.
- c. Now, when we accepted the knowledge/character of Christ, we became followers of Christ. Eph. 5:1, 2; 1 Pet. 2:21-25.
- d. Thus we live the life of Christ by the Faith or revealed truths of Christ. (2 Cor. 5:7; Rom. 1:17).

e. So as we thus belong to Christ/God, we must worship Him in our body and spirit (experience) which are His. 1 Cor. 6:19, 20.

7. To whom do I owe my full allegiance?

- a. We were children of the evil one serving him by deception. (2 Tim. 3:13; Eph. 2:3).
- b. But God shined the light into our hearts giving us the treasure of Christ-knowledge in our earthen vessels. 2 Cor. 4:6, 7.
- c. Thus we are ambassadors for Christ, we owe our allegiance to Him only. 2 Cor. 5:20.
- d. Christ as king ruling over us in our hearts means we owe to Him (and not to Satan) our allegiance. (Eph. 3:17; Heb. 3:6).
- e. Obedience to His commandments means that we are in His kingdom, thus we owe Him only our allegiance. (Jn. 14:15; 1 Jn. 3:24).

8. Is my heart renewed or changed?

- a. Our hearts were in darkness and **lethargy** without Christ. Eph. 4:18, 19; Eph. 2:12.
- b. But when God sprinkled clean water in our minds removing the stony heart, and gave His Spirit to us, then our hearts were changed. Eze. 36:25-27.
- c. If one loves the truth and finds beauty in holiness, then we know that his heart is truly changed. (Ps. 29:2; Ps. 96:8, 9; Phil. 1:10, 11).
- d. If we have **unfeigned** love from a pure heart, then we know that our heart is truly changed. 1 Tim. 1:5.

9. Am I truly reformed?

- a. When we were in sin, our members did do sin unto death. (Rom. 7:5; Rom. 6:16).
- b. But when we are converted we do establish the law. Rom. 3:28, 30, 31.
- c. When we know that our previous behavior is changed, and we have a new behavior, then we know that we are truly reformed and are being reformed. (1 Pet. 1:18; Phil. 1:27).
- d. If you know that you no longer follow the former things of the flesh, but that you live holy, in true obedience to God's commandments, then you know that you are truly reformed. Gal. 5:16-25.

10. Are my sins really forgiven?

- a. It is sins within the heart that are to be forgiven first, this is the removal of the old man to cause the person to cease from sin. (Mk. 7:21-23; Acts. 8:21, 22; Rom. 6:6, 7).
- b. When we are justified or given the Spirit of God within the heart to guide us, then we know that our sins within are truly forgiven. (Gal. 3:7-9, 14; Gal. 4:6).
- c. When we have no more conscience of sins (that is, when we know that we do not think things sinful to love them), then we know that our sins are forgiven us. Heb. 10:22;

Heb. 9:14.

d. When our imagination is cast down with every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and our obedience is fulfilled, then we may know that we have been forgiven. 2 Cor. 10:4-6.

11. Will my past sins be blotted out or forgiven in the end?

a. Conversion is first needed if our past sins are to be blotted out. Acts. 3:19.

b. If we have the love of God alone in us, and so we sin not, then we know for sure that our past sins will be blotted out. (1 Jn. 4:12, 16, 17; 1 Pet. 4:8).

c. If after we have been justified through the blood/life of Christ, so that there is an in showing of righteousness in us, then we know for sure that God will pass over our past sins. Rom. 3:24, 25.

d. Thus, to ensure that we are saved, we must avail ourselves with the so great a salvation that has been made available to us. Heb. 2:3.

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