

## Partakers of Christ -

Quote -

“**We are not to look at ourselves.** The more we dwell upon our own imperfections, the less strength we shall have to overcome them. We are to render a cheerful service to God. It is the work of Satan to present the Lord as lacking in compassion and pity. He misstates the truth in regard to him. He fills the imagination with false theories concerning God; and instead of dwelling upon the truth in regard to the character of our Heavenly Father, we fasten our minds upon the misrepresentations of Satan, and dishonor God by mistrusting Him and by murmuring against Him.

When we act like culprits under sentence of death, we bear false witness against God. **The Father gave His only begotten** and well-beloved Son to die for us, and in so doing He placed great honor upon humanity; for in Christ the link that was broken through sin was reunited, and man again connected with Heaven. You who doubt the mercy of God, look at the Lamb of God, look at the man of sorrows, Who bore your grief and suffered for your sin. He is your friend. He died on the cross because He loved you. He is touched with the feeling of your infirmities (weaknesses), and *He* bears you up before the throne. In view of His unspeakable love, should not hope, love, and gratitude be cherished in your heart? Should not gladness fill your service to God?

**Satan ever seeks to make the religious life** one of gloom. He desires it to appear toilsome and difficult; and when the Christian presents this view of religion in his own life, he is, through his unbelief, seconding the falsehood of Satan. We dishonor God when we think of Him only as a judge ready to pass sentence upon us, and forget that He is (I Am) a loving Father. The whole spiritual life is molded by our conceptions of God; and if we cherish erroneous views of His character, our souls will sustain injury.

We should see in God One Who yearns toward the children of men, longing to do them good. **He gave His Only Begotten Son** that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish, but have everlasting Life (I John 5:10). All through the Scriptures, God is represented as One Who calls, woos by His tender love, the hearts of His erring children. No earthly parent could be as patient with the faults and mistakes of their children as is God with those He seeks to save. No one could plead more tenderly with the transgressor. No human lips ever poured out more tender entreaty to the wanderer than does He. O shall we not love God, and show our love by humble obedience? Let us have a care for our thoughts, our experiences, our attitude toward God; for all His promises are but the breathings of unutterable love.

- RH, January 14, 1890 par. 8}

Quote -

“Under the new covenant, **the conditions by which eternal Life may be gained are the same as under the old--perfect obedience**. Under the old covenant, there were many offenses of a daring, presumptuous character, for which there was no atonement specified by law. In the new and better Covenant (Oath, Promise), Christ has fulfilled the law for the transgressors of law, if they receive Him by faith as a personal Saviour. “As many as received Him (into their hearts), to them gave He power to become the sons\* (*and daughters* - children begotten) of God.” Mercy and forgiveness are the reward of all who come to Christ trusting in His merits (worthiness) to take away their sins. In the better Covenant we are cleansed from sin by the blood of Christ. - Letter 276, 1904

**note:** this is the Covenant based “on better promises.” ref: Hebrews 8:6 and Galatians 3:17-20 and Zechariah 6:13 and Patriarchs and Prophets chapter 1

Quote -

“Nothing less than perfect obedience (James 2:10 and Galatians 3:10) can meet the standard of God’s requirement. He has not left His requirements indefinite. He has enjoined nothing that is not necessary in order to bring man into harmony with Him. We are to point sinners to His ideal of character and to lead them to Christ, by Whose grace\* (Divine Influence) only can this ideal be reached.

The Saviour took upon Himself the infirmities of humanity and lived a sinless Life, that men might have no fear that because of the weakness of human nature they could not overcome. **Christ came to make us** “partakers of the divine nature” (II Peter 1:4), **and His Life declares that humanity, combined with Divinity, does not commit sin . . . !”**

- Ministry of Healing, p.180

Quote -

“The value God places on the work of His hands (Isaiah 45:11 and Ephesians 2:10), the love He has for His children, is revealed by the gift He made to redeem men. **Adam fell under the dominion of Satan. He brought sin into the world, and death by sin\*** (Romans 5:12-19). God gave His Only Begotten Son to save (rescue, deliver, set free, heal and restore) man. This He did that He might be just, and yet the Justifier of all who accept Christ. **Man sold himself to Satan, but Jesus bought back the race**, redeeming men and women from the slavery of a cruel tyrant. {BEcho, October 15, 1900 par. 9}

note:\* ref: II Corinthians 1:9 and Romans 7:14

Quote -

“You can see the condition on which you become the children of promise, and receive the love of God. **Jesus knew that of yourself you could not obey** God’s law; **for you were sold under sin**; therefore He came to our world to bring to you moral power, that through faith in His name you might live. He brings His divine power to combine with your human efforts, that **through His righteousness appropriated to yourself**, you can keep His law.

Our liberty was procured by Christ, by His spotless, meritorious life and death. We receive the righteousness of Christ, and through His merits (worthiness) enjoy liberty (freedom from all sin and its penalties), and are identified with Him. **We have the promise that if we abide in Him**, and His Words (John 15:7 and 6:53) abide in us, we may ask what we will, and it shall be done unto us.

Is it indeed possible that Christ may abide in us, and we in Him? Christ says, “**If ye abide in Me, and My Words abide in you (John 14:10-11), ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.**” Would He tempt us and deceive us?--No, indeed. There is everything to encourage any soul who by faith claims the promises that God has given us, for through His grace (G5485) we may be overcomers. The law cannot lower the standard or take less than its full demands, therefore it cannot cleanse us from one sin; but God’s Son, Who is One with the Father (John 17:21), equal in authority with the Father, paid the debt for us. - RH, July 29, 1890 par. 8}

Quote -

“**Christ was manifested to take away our sins**, and in Him was no sin. But were the law abolished, as some claim, we would have no need of a Saviour to take away sin, for “where there is no law, there is no transgression.” “**Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified (declared innocent, just, clean, holy and righteous) in His sight; for by the law is the knowledge of sin.**” “**What shall we say then?** Is the law sin? God forbid.

Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law; for I had not known lust (carnal desire), except the law had

said, Thou shalt not covet. **But sin**, taking occasion (opportunity) by the commandment, wrought in me all manner of concupiscence (longing for that which is forbidden). For without the law sin was dead. For I was alive without the law once; but when the commandment came [home to the conscience], sin revived, and I died. And the commandment, which [if obeyed] was ordained to Life, I found to be unto death. For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it slew me.

**Wherefore the law is** [a yoke of bondage, against me, and something to be trampled underfoot because it points out my sins?--No.] **holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good.** Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good; that sin by the commandment might become exceeding sinful. **For we know that the law is spiritual; but I am carnal, sold under sin.**”

**But though we are carnal**, we are to reckon ourselves “dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. . . . But God be thanked, that **ye were** (past tense) the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine (teaching, instruction) which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin (John 8:32-36), ye became the servants of righteousness. . . . **But now**, being made free\* (freeborn, as a citizen and not a slave) from sin, and become servants of God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting Life. For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal Life through Jesus Christ our Lord !”

- Signs of the Times, October 1, 1894 par. 3}

#### **Quote -**

“**As a result of Adam's** disobedience, every human being is a transgressor of the law, sold under sin. Unless he repents and is converted, he is under bondage to the law (Romans 6:16 and Romans 8:2-4), serving Satan, falling into the deceptions of the enemy, and bearing witness against the precepts of Jehovah. But by perfect obedience to the requirements of the law, man is justified.

Only through faith in Christ is such obedience possible. Men may comprehend the spirituality of the law, they may realize its power as a detector of sin, **but they are helpless** to withstand Satan's power and deceptions, unless they accept the atonement provided for them in the remedial sacrifice of Christ, who is our Atonement--our At-one-ment--with God. {ST, July 23, 1902 par. 13}