

FRUIT of Godly Sorrow is to be CONTRITE

hen John the Baptist, the cousin of Jesus, began to preach the message: "Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (MATT. 3:2), many came to his baptism, confessing their sins.

But when the Pharisees and Sadducees came to his baptism, John asked: "...O generation of vipers, WHO hath warned you to flee from the wrath to *come*" (MATT. 3:7).

If you are born again, the word of God WARNED you to FLEE from God's WRATH. Do you remember when you were WARNED?

If you DON'T, in spite of your *feelings*, you are still LOST and in your SINS. Why? Because ALL who call on the name of the

Lord for His mercy know they **NEED** a <u>Saviour</u>.

"For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh *death*" (2 COR. 7:10).

John told these *religious*but-lost leaders to "bring forth therefore **FRUITS** meet for **REPEN-TANCE**" (MATT. 3:8). These "fruits" consist of a "broken heart" and a "contrite spirit."

"The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a **bro**ken heart; and saveth such as be of a **contrite spirit**" (PSALM 34:18).

word The "contrite" means "crushed." Have you ever been "broken hearted and crushed" after *hearing*, and being convicted by the Word of God?

Have you ever experienced the publicans grief who stood "...afar off" from God, and "...would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sin- + Proverbs 30:6 "Add thou **ner**" (Luke 18:13)?

Or, like the people who were "...pricked in their heart" when they heard the gospel, and said, what shall we do" (ACTS 2:37)?

Or, like the Jailer, who "...called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas...and said, Sirs, what MUST I DO to be saved" (ACTS 16:29-30)?

WORDS TO REMEMBER...

- ♦ John 6:63: "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the WORDS that I speak unto you, they are SPIRIT, and they are life."
- not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar."
- "...Men and brethren, Jeremiah 23:29 "Is not my word like as a **FIRE**? saith the Lord: and like a HAM-MER that breaketh the rock in pieces?""

WHO does the WARNING? The Holy Ghost

Satan knows that EVERY imagination of the THOUGHTS of mans heart is evil **CONTINUALLY** (GENESIS 6:5).

He also knows that the CURE for man's sinful HEART comes by hearing "...every word that PRO-**CEEDETH OUT** of the mouth of God" (DEUT. 8:3 & MATTHEW 4:4).

Therefore, to <u>keep</u> man from hearing, he has flooded the world in every language with counterfeit scriptures, convincing mankind that the scriptures ORIGINATED from the *thoughts* of men, and has *substituted* the Word of God with translations.

But the Holy Spirit is in the world, whom Jesus SENT (JOHN 16:7). HE continuously WARNS men through the HEARING of the Words of God.

Those who hear are convicted of their sins and their guilt. The sorrow of their guilt causes them to call on the name of the Lord for His mercy and salvation.

In these *last days*, men and women have a "...form of godliness" but are denying "the **POWER** thereof" (2TM. 3:5), and the Spirit is the power that is being denied

today: "...the Word of God is QUICK, and POWERFUL, and **SHARPER** than any twoedged sword, PIERC-ING even to the DIVIDING ASUNDER of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a DIS-**CERNER** of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (HEBREWS 4:12)

ONLY words from the mouth of God will persuade us that "...all our righteousnesses are as FILTHY rags" (ISAIAH 64:6). The word *filthy* means menstrual rags, and unless we all "...REPENT," we will all "PERISH" (LUKE 13: 3, 5). Only the Word of God can enlighten the eyes.



"... If any man shall **add** unto these things, God shall add unto him the plaques that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life" (REV. 22:18-19).

The Word of God declares that in the last days, perilous times shall come.

You must aaree that these are dangerous times <u>now</u>, when man cares very little for his fellow man.

The Church Age is nearing its' end since Israel became a nation in 1948.

Israel is wanting to rebuild its' temple on the very spot where the Dome of the Rock is today, which the antichrist will enter and sit on its' throne and declare himself "god" to this world.

But before that happens, the true church (wнo ARE FEW IN <u>NUMBER</u>) will be caught up to meet our Lord in the air.

Therefore, the Spirit and the Bride say, COME! He that is thirsty, COME!