

Cut Evil Behavior-CRAVE the Word

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Main Scripture: 1 Peter 2: 1-12; 1 Peter 1: 3, 21-25

Supporting Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 5: 8; 1 Corinthians 14:20; Matthew 23:14 -15

Notes:

Peter is the apostle of Jesus and writes to those who are scattered to the elect according to the foreknowledge of God. We understand that this epistle is addressing those who are called by God.

He called Moses to teach him prayer and he opened up to Moses for him to understand that he is full of compassion and abundant mercy.

Malice = wickedness, all forms of evil. Peter says to get rid of all evil behaviour. We must identify and cut off evil behaviour. Malice can also mean a long lasting bitterness against a person. Deep on the inside we couldn't care less if something bad happens to someone this is Malice.

Cut off Guile - being two faced or deceitful in our speech or actions. Not being truthful Peter considers this evil behaviour. Hypocrisy, Jealousy and all unkind speech.

Jesus warns us against the spirit of hypocrisy in Matthew 23:14 -15

Hypocrites are children of Hell. A believer must be true to say what he means, be true to yourself and be true to God.

Hypocrites are full of uncleanness. They look good on the outside but when you begin to discern you realize there is uncleanness on the inside. Paul warns in 1 Timothy 4: 1-2 hypocrites have a seared conscience.

Envy and jealousy has no place in the life of a believer. A man without God is filled with envy. but a child of God is content with where he is at in life because he knows every good thing comes from the Lord. He does not covet other people's possessions but is satisfied.

We should take note of our tongue. Let us be careful not to backbite, condemn and slander (tear them down) we can't fulfill the law of Christ if we are critical of others.

Have a strong desire for pure spiritual milk so you can grow into a full experience of this great salvation. A newborn can not live without the milk and so it is that a believer needs the word of God to survive. No growth takes place outside of the word of God.

The cutting off process is necessary because one needs to make room for the word of God in your life. Anything that is new (child or plant) takes a process and there are some things that are extremely important to making sure we can survive. If the word of God is not present in our lives we will eventually die.

If you don't read your bible you will (shrink shrink shrink) relapse into a process of death.

How many of us are enjoying our salvation experience? How many are living today with the joy of the Lord? How many of us are enjoying our walk with the Lord?

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Not your experience in an assembly - we are talking about your personal walk with the Lord.

Like newborns they know there is a desire for milk so it is that we need an abnormal; desire more than normal for the word of God.

Cry out for this nourishment - let there be a strong desire for the word of God.

There is so much more to find in the word of God in a place in his word to nourish out life.
Faced with depression, challenges and despair and relationship problems? there is a word in the book

When we crave for this sincere milk of the word and are nourished by it we begin to taste the kindness of God.

The corner stone is the first stone that is placed on the foundation - it is the stone that supports every other stone and creates in the pattern of the building where every other stone will be placed. You are now lively stones in his spiritual temple. God is building his spiritual house and we are privileged to be lively stones that are resting on the corner stone which is Christ.

God is building his house of lively stones (every believer). The cornerstone is also known as the testing stone. It supports every other rock that is placed in the building. So too as believers our foundation is sure in Jesus.

We are considered holy priests - this is not ordinary - a priest is someone sold out for his duties and responsibilities to God. He serves diligently in the tabernacle. So too as believers we are called lively stones, building up the house of God supported by the cornerstone.

As believers we have open access to God. We are priests and we have direct access to the throne of God through mediation through Jesus Christ.

Brothers and Sisters we can tell him what our hearts desire. Any one who believes in Jesus Christ will never be disgraced. There is no shame or reproach.

No man can become part of God building except by laying down his life on the cornerstone (Jesus) and surrendering our will and our selfish desires. - Here I am Lord, use me for your own pleasure. Have we ever stopped to consider that God has a purpose in our lives and it may be that our ambitions are fighting against God's purpose. That is what is creating the confusion and disharmony. The Cornerstone tests us, if it doesn't align with the stone it won't fit in the building.

Any man who fails to accept and obey God's word will stumble. We are God's possession; we have to honor the one who rules over us.

We are privileged and honored to be called lively stones to build God's house - a holy nation, peculiar, royal priest. We have an identity - we are God's Children.

Believers in this world are strangers - temporary residents - only a permit to be here with a start date and an expiry date. Because we are foreigners we must keep away from worldly desires that wage war against your soul. - Our time here is just for a short while - keep away from worldly desire - the desire of the believer is the sincere word of God. Any other desire will wage war against our souls. There is no room for us to be building barns here. We are just here for a short while. There is a life beyond this realm. If we are standing on the firm foundation and the word of God abides in us then eternity is in us and we can not

allow these worldly desires to influence our minds and spirit. Instead believers must crave the word of God and live above the desires of this world.

If we are not able to identify these desires if we don't have a knowledge of the word of God. The word of God will tell us what are the worldly desires. Everything goes back to an appetite for the word of God, not to be preached to but to pick up our bibles and read the word of God. Only a person who is immersed in the word of God will stand in the hour of testing.
The word of God is God himself.

A believer must always take note of how she or he is living amongst our unbelieving neighbors. Are we living out the word or giving our unbelieving neighbors to be critical of God? How will we live properly if we don't know the word of God?

The word of God is of utmost importance in a believer's life. The more we know the word of God the more our prayers are deeper.

Ask the Lord for a passion to read his word. Not just to be preached to but to have a craving as newborn babes need milk.