

DOING EVERYTHING IN THE NAME OF CHRIST JESUS

By Bill Subritzky

The Bible says, "He who is of God hears God's words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God." (John 8:47).

Many Christians believe they are born of the Spirit of God but they never hear God's voice because they are not on the narrow path of salvation. The Bible calls it the highway of holiness. (Isaiah 35:8).

God requires total submission on our part. We must turn 180 degrees from the power of Satan to the power of God (Acts 26:18). Jesus said, "Unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of God." (Matthew 18:3).

We need to be like a little child before the throne of God and put away all our pride arrogance and self-will. Our life needs to be pure.

The Bible says, "Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy – meditate on these things." (Philippians 4:8).

Is our thinking really in line with this?

We can soon slip away from Christ as we begin to follow the ways of the world. I'm continuously amazed at the number of people who say they are Christians but who watch films and videos which are full of violence, sexual activity, filthy language and other actions which are contrary to the Word of God.

When I challenge them on these matters they say that as they watch this sort of material they ignore the filthy language, violence and sexual activity.

We have an ear-gate and an eye-gate and if we allow our ear to be filled with wrong thoughts and our eyes to watch wrong things then we will not hear from God. Our mind will be far from God and our ears will not receive what God is saying to us.

God tells us not to touch anything unclean (2 Corinthians 6:17). How can we expect to hear from God if we're listening to and watching uncleanness?

The scripture explicitly says if we use filthy language we will not inherit the kingdom of God. (Colossians 3:8). While we may not be saying it through our mouth, it is going into our mind. Why go out of our way to listen to it on media?

If we are opening up our life to unclean spiritual powers should we be surprised if Satan too fills us and our loved ones with fear, oppression and failure?

We are in spiritual warfare. The weapons of our warfare are not carnal (fleshly) but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds. If we put aside these weapons then we cannot cast out arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God. We must bring every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ. (2 Corinthians 10:4-5).

Instead of pulling down strongholds we are giving a foothold to the enemy when we open our minds and spirits to uncleanness. We will not hear the voice of God.

The acid test:

Scripture says, "And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him." (Colossians 3:17).

Are you able to give thanks to God while you are listening to foul language, watching violent scenes or sexual scenes on television or in a movie? And are you able to listen and watch these things and give thanks in the name of Jesus Christ?

The judgement seat of Christ:

"For we must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord." (2 Corinthians 5:10-11).

Are you ready to appear before the judgement seat of Christ and justify listening to foul language, watching violence and sexual sins in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ? If not then don't watch or listen to these things.

What sort of example are we giving our children when we watch these kinds of videos and then expect them to become strong Christians?

If we are to hear from God in our life then our actions must be pure. With the help of the Holy Spirit we can crucify the flesh daily and have the power to abstain from watching the wrong things.

As we do this we will hear the voice of God and rejoice in the fulfilment of the scripture in our lives which says;

"However, when He, the Spirit of truth has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on his own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come." (John 16:13).

I don't know about you but I want to hear from God. Therefore with the help of the Holy Spirit I will abstain from the filthiness of the world because I love to hear the voice of God.

Compiled by Bill Subritzky and produced by Dove Ministries

More articles and resources are available at www.doveministries.com