

Fresh Oil



October 2007 (reprise)

Dear Fellow Servants,

October is a month of changes. The leaves change colour, the air turns cooler, and the boys of summer give way to the boys of winter (baseball ends and hockey starts up!). Perhaps, then, October is a great time for us to be talking about changes in our spiritual life. Sometimes change comes in the form, oddly enough, of staying right where you are. What I mean by that is holding to a life of disciplined living (which, by the way, is one of the 6 points of our church's vision). Consider what Job said in Job 17:9:

“Nevertheless, the righteous will hold to their ways, and those with clean hands will grow stronger and stronger.”

Righteous, disciplined living means choosing the narrow, more difficult path in life. Jesus tells us that few find this path (Matthew 7:13-14). The wider, more popular path is taken by the majority in our society, and sadly, even in the church. The Bible says this path leads to destruction. The Greek word has the basic meaning of “loss or ruin.” Dr. Spiros Zodhiates, in the Hebrew-Greek Key Linguistic Study Bible says this:

“In the New Testament, ‘destruction’ refers to the state after death wherein exclusion from salvation is a realized fact, wherein man, instead of becoming what he might have been, is lost and ruined.”

Jesus came to save us from our sins, the sin nature, which is the ‘old man.’ If you feed the old man, through undisciplined living, you will find that the ‘old man’ grows. However, if you feed the ‘new man’ through the righteous ways of a disciplined life, then the ‘new man’ grows. Who do you want growing in you? Drop the old man like an autumn leaf and start back feeding the new man. Make this an October to remember!

Your fellow servant,

Pastor Brian

... I have been anointed with fresh oil

PSALM 92:10

