

Handle Yourself with Care

The Methodist upbringing I received, and which continued on in the various Evangelical streams that I attended later, taught me that I had to be hard on myself. The reason was that I needed to ‘kill’ sin in my life and that life outside the church system was evil. Now, I can’t tell you that it was taught that way, but the indoctrination in that direction was strong and constant.

It wasn’t until I made an intimate love connection with our King (our Beloved) that I was freed from that sin-focused bondage of religion. I learnt that life was good, because he created it, and that it was our misuse of it that was unrighteous.

I also learnt that pleasure wasn’t evil, but it was the pursuit of pleasure that was unrighteous. I learnt so much more from my intimate relationship with the Trinity that I’ve been released to enjoy life and to find my pleasure in them.¹ They supply all my personal needs in every area and in our oneness I’m satisfied with life.

My desire now, is to release others from the bondages of religion, legalism and self-mistreatment. Father’s outlandish, lavish love makes no room for monastic-like or spartan² living, self-hatred, self-loathing, etc. We need to love ourselves in a way that we look after ourselves as sons, and not mistreat or detest ourselves. None of those attitudes are Kingdom ones.

Think I’m being ungodly in what I’ve written so far? That would indicate that you have an OT (Old Covenant) view of life and not a Kingdom (New Covenant) one.

To help those who disagree with me, to get a better understanding, here’s a message from Father recently which lays it out quite clearly:

*“Everything you do in life either lifts you up or tears you down. There are always things that need to be torn down and discarded, but your life is a treasure to be valued and protected. **Treat yourself with mercy and kindness.** You are not your own; you belong to Me,” says the Lord. “**Handle yourself with care.**”³*

IMPORTANT: I confirmed Father’s message above by asking him, to expand on it. His confirmatory message can be read: [HERE](#)

We are greatly valued and should not undervalue ourselves or our lives in any way, as that prevents us from functioning as sons as Father wants us to. We also won’t be able to represent him or display the benefits of the Kingdom to others if we live with an incorrect view of life.

Father also conveyed his value of us in this recent message:

*“You must release past memories of being rejected and not fitting in. **You are not an inferior being; you have great value.** Those who have shunned you only revealed their own insecurities. Rise up in the knowledge of My eternal love and acceptance, and refuse to allow the evil actions and intentions of others to diminish you,” says the Lord.*⁴

An Afterthought

I’m not the only one who Father has been retraining to think positively about ourselves and our lives. There are many around the world, but this message isn’t getting through the religious barrier of sin-focus.

1 – Mike Bickle (2013) “The Pleasures of Loving God”

www.amazon.com.au/Pleasure-Loving-God-Accept-All-Encompassing-ebook/dp/B00DY0N4EW

2 – Austere, characterized by self-denial. www.wordnik.com/words/spartan

3 – Marsha Burns “Small Straws in the Soft Wind” Aug. 4, 2023) ft111.com/smallstraws.htm [ARCHIVE: ft111.com/straws2023.htm]

4 – Marsha Burns “Small Straws in the Soft Wind” Aug. 5, 2023) ft111.com/smallstraws.htm [ARCHIVE: ft111.com/straws2023.htm]

Unfortunately, there are some in the church system who have set a poor example by drifting out of Kingdom reality into the Prosperity Gospel with its get-rich-quick and plush lifestyle mindsets (some even being shamed in the media for their greed). The Kingdom is about abundant life and having all our needs met, but not self-aggrandisement, self-promotion, self-focus or hedonism.

Here's Mike Parsons teaching on celebrating our life, which aligns with what I've learnt. You'll notice that it's about enjoying God-given life in the natural, not 'life in Jesus', because genuine sons live in oneness with him while they live their life in the world.

“[VIDEO: Mike Parsons Celebrate Your Life](https://youtu.be/t7awkIy-iO8)” youtu.be/t7awkIy-iO8

Update

““To those who have a tendency to push yourself too hard, set aside time to rest and recuperate from the demands of life. These are times to be good to yourself and allow for recovery as you replenish energy stores. Deliberately spend time in My presence where you can access health of body, soul and spirit, ” says the Lord.”⁵

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(Readers will need to look up for themselves any scriptures alluded to in this document)