

AS TOUCHING THE UNHOLY

All too often our hectic Western pace of life inhibits our perception of the here and now, and impedes our ability to make a critical connection between the cause and effect of events in our lives. Worse yet, that Pace of Life numbs us to the point of being unable to analyze our severe events and traumas. When in the flurry of battle, the sorrow of loss, life-threatening diseases, middle-of-the-night phone calls, or bad reports from the hospital, we lose our ability to think. “Why?” becomes our mantra; a fill-in-the-blank cry for help to the God of our fathers is about all we can mentally muster.

Rarely do we ever work backwards from effect to cause. Heaven forbid that we should ever be found to be at fault in the least. Our Babylonian *church* doctrine has inoculated us from ever touching anything that puts responsibility in our laps. “Why, when we were saved, we received everything Jesus had. Why, when we were born again, that cleaned up the whole mess.” Forget “renewing of the mind.”

The ignorance we maintain towards anything bordering on sickness, discipline, curses and chastisement is mind-numbing. It’s as if these topics are unanswerable, locked up in the catacombs of Heaven somewhere, never to be revealed until the Second Advent. Yet the Word is patently clear as regards all of these. It is hoped the following Scriptures will unlock some mental doors and destroy some strongholds. It goes without saying that the older one is, the less likely that even the Scriptures will take hold of your ways. Gray hair bodes poorly for changing one’s mind.

Haggai 2:11-14 Thus says the LORD of hosts, “Ask the priests to decide this question; If one carries holy flesh in the skirt of his garment, and touches with his skirt bread, or pottage, or wine, or oil, or any kind of food, does it become holy?” The priests answered, “No.” Then said Haggai, “If one who is unclean by contact with a dead body touches any of these, does it become unclean?” The priests answered, “It does become unclean.” Then Haggai said, “So it is with this people and with this nation before me, says the LORD; and so with every work of their hands; and what they offer there is unclean. Pray now, consider what will come to pass from this day onward.”

The principle here found in Haggai is of the contagiousness of evil, and the converse, holiness, not being contagious.

Isaiah 48:20; Jer. 50:8; 51:6; 51:45 These have to do with the command for us to flee Babylon. Babylon means *confusion*. Some of the meanings of confusion are: disorder, upheaval, chaos, lack of clearness or distinctness, perplexity, bewildered, turmoil, archaically it means defeat, overthrow or ruin.

I Corinthians 15:33 “Do not be deceived, ‘Bad company ruins good morals.’” See Haggai above.

I Corinthians 10:6-11 (This is included to counter all who refuse to follow anything the Old Testament says) “These (Old Testament scriptures) were written for us as a warning and examples.”

Deuteronomy 28:15-68 The Old Testament was written down to explain the *physical* rules, conditions, and consequences for the disobedience of God’s people. Keep in mind the physical precedes the spiritual, as well as the fact *we* are the Israel of God, grafted in. All one has to do here to find the cause is to work backwards from those events that have curse-oriented and curse-generated effects. Additionally, curses are always life-threatening, life-robbing, long-lasting, lingering events. By contrast, chastening and discipline by God is quick, sudden, intense, hot, and traumatic. The end purpose of the latter is meant to nullify the old man and his way of thinking into the image and character of His Son Jesus. God is not interested, I repeat, not interested in anything of us except the transformation (metamorphosis) of ourselves into the image of His Son. Period.

Psalms 50 Notice, this Psalm is nearly all God’s speaking in the first person; it is He that is addressing *His* people, not the heathen. He is including in His indictment the *wicked*, a word which we usually attribute to others. That is, until we look up the meaning of the word *wicked*. (Some of the meanings include: restless, negative behavior, turmoil, unrest, seeking change, disjointed, unregulated, in disarray, perplexed, agitated, easily influenced and disturbed, etc.) Does this sound like Haggai?

Proverbs 22:24-25 Do not keep company with a man of temper. (Self-explanatory.)

I Timothy 5:22 Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands, nor participate in another man’s sins; keep yourself pure.

II John Don’t even bid a brother, "God speed," or you will participate in his sins.

Joshua 7 This is the story of Achan and his disobedience of God’s command to totally destroy all of the enemy and his goods. Essentially Achan’s disobedience cost all of Israel to suffer defeat. Secondly, his disobedience cost him not only his life, but the lives of his wife and family. The sins of the fathers, and their consequences, will fall to the children, **IF** they condone, accept, or are an accessory in the matter.

Lastly, even the criminal laws of our country, which are based on Deuteronomic precedent, spell out that the *accessories* to a crime are as guilty as the ones who actually carried out the crime, and the sentences are commensurate.

A fool is one who laments the plight of an inmate in prison, and cries out with so much liberal blather against discipline. I would suggest you reread Psalms 50, especially verse 16, “What right have you to recite my statutes?” verse 17, “you reject discipline,” and particularly verse 22, “Mark this then, you who forget God, lest I tear you to pieces.” Do you dare look up the Hebrew meaning of *tear* and *forget*?