

YOUR SINLESS YET SYMPATHETIC SAVIOUR – Stephen Wallace (SW)

#6 Your Iniquities Have Separated You

Isaiah 59:2

But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

Review And Herald. May 31, 1870. 12

The sin of Adam and Eve caused a fearful separation between God and man. And here Christ steps in between fallen man and God, and says to man, You may yet come to the Father; there is a plan devised through which God can be reconciled to man, and man to God; and through a mediator you can approach God. And here he stands to mediate for you. He is the great High Priest who is pleading in your behalf; and it is for you to come and present your case to the Father through Jesus Christ. Thus you can find access to God; and if you sin your case is not hopeless.

Genesis 3:7

And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

Psalms 104:2

Who coverest thyself with light as with a garment: who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain:

Bible Echoes, August 1, 1892. 2

By transgression man had separated himself from Him who alone is light and love. The sinner was "alienated from the life of God," "dead in trespasses and sins." The only hope for the fallen race was found in their becoming reconciled to God. Satan had so misrepresented God that man had no true conception of the divine character.

6 Testimonies 43.2

But in order for us to fulfill God's purpose, there is a preparatory work to be done. The Lord bids us empty our hearts of the **selfishness which is the root of alienation**. He longs to pour upon us His Holy Spirit in rich measure, and He bids us clear the way by self-renunciation. When self is surrendered to God, our eyes will be opened to see the stumbling stones which our un-Christlikeness has placed in the way of others.

Review And Herald, February 17, 1891. 4

But the sinner who refuses to give himself to God, is under the control of another power, listening to another voice, whose suggestions are of an entirely different character. Passion controls him, his judgment is blinded, reason is dethroned, and impetuous desires sway him, now here, now there. The truth will have but little influence over him, for **there is in human nature, when separated from the Source of truth, a continual opposition to God's will and ways. The physical, mental, and moral being are all under the control of rash impulses. The affections are depraved, and every faculty intrusted to man for wise improvement is demoralized. The man is dead in trespasses and sins. Inclination moves, passion holds the control, and his appetites are under the sway of a power of which he is not aware. He talks of liberty, of freedom of action, while he is in most abject slavery. He is not his own. He is not allowed to see the beauty of the truth; for the carnal mind is enmity against God, and not subject to his law...**

"The carnal mind is not subject to the law of God, is not even able to be subject to the law of God" (SW)

Signs Of The Times, May 30, 1895. 2

"The carnal [or natural] mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be." Human nature could not keep the law, even if it would. Apart from Christ, without union with him, we can do nothing...

Counsels To Teachers 33.1

...When Adam sinned, man broke away from the heaven-ordained center. A demon became the central power in the world. Where God's throne should have been, Satan placed his throne. The world laid its homage, as a willing offering, at the feet of the enemy.

Church Triumphant 209.3

Christ looked upon our world before He came to it, and He saw that Satan's power was exercised upon the human family. **And because of the transgression of Adam he claimed the whole human family.**
{Ms 16, 1893}

1 Testimonies 341.1

Fallen man is Satan's lawful captive. The mission of Christ was to rescue him from the power of his great adversary. Man is naturally inclined to follow Satan's suggestions, and he cannot successfully resist so terrible a foe unless Christ, the mighty Conqueror, dwells in him, guiding his desires, and giving him strength. God alone can limit the power of Satan. He is going to and fro in the earth, and walking up and down in it. He is not off his watch for a single moment, through fear of losing an opportunity to destroy souls. It is important that God's people understand this, that they may escape his snares...

Manuscript 55, 1902. 10, 11

Implacable hatred against God fills Satan's mind. Persistently he has used his influence to efface from the human family God's image and in its place to stamp his own satanic image. **His effort to deceive our first parents was successful.** Made in the image of God, the human family lost their innocence, became transgressors, and as disloyal subjects began their downward career. **Satan gained control of man's power of action. Through the senses he influenced the mind.** {Ms55-1902.10}

Thus it has been from the beginning of the world. Instead of remaining under God's influence in order that he might reflect the moral image of his Creator, man placed himself under the control of Satan's influence and was made selfish. Thus sin became a universal evil. And what a dreadful evil is sin!
{Ms55-1902.11}

5 Testimonies 294.2

Man is Satan's captive and is naturally inclined to follow his suggestions and do his bidding. He has in himself no power to oppose effectual resistance to evil. It is only as Christ abides in him by living faith, influencing his desires and strengthening him with strength from above, that man may venture to face so terrible a foe. Every other means of defense is utterly vain. It is only through Christ that Satan's power is limited...

The Faith I Live By 87.3

By nature we are alienated from God. The Holy Spirit describes our condition in such words as these: "Dead in trespasses and sins;" "the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint"; "no soundness in it." **We are held fast in the snare of Satan; "taken captive by him at his will."** Ephesians 2:1; Isaiah 1:5, 6; **2 Timothy 2:26.** God desires to heal us, to set us free. But since this requires an entire transformation, a renewing of our whole nature, we must yield ourselves wholly to Him.

1 Selected Messages 253.4

Christ came to the earth, taking humanity and standing as man's representative, to show in the controversy with Satan that man, as God created him, connected with the Father and the Son, could obey every divine

requirement. Speaking through His servant He declares, "His commandments are not grievous" (1 John 5:3). **It was sin that separated man from his God, and it is sin that maintains this separation.**

Letter 10, 1888. 1, 2

One of the deplorable effects of the original apostasy was the loss of man's power to govern his own heart. When there is a separation from the Source of your strength, when you are lifted up in pride, you cannot but transgress the law of your moral constitution. (To E. P. Daniels, April, 1888.)

Patriarchs And Prophets 53.2

...But should they once yield to temptation, their nature would become so depraved that in themselves they would have no power and no disposition to resist Satan.

1 Selected Messages 279.2

Because man fallen could not overcome Satan with his human strength, Christ came from the royal courts of heaven to help him with His human and divine strength combined. Christ knew that Adam in Eden, with his superior advantages, might have withstood the temptations of Satan, and conquered him. He also knew that it was not possible for man, out of Eden, separated from the light and love of God since the Fall, to resist the temptations of Satan in his own strength. In order to bring hope to man, and save him from complete ruin, He humbled Himself to take man's nature, that, with His divine power combined with the human, He might reach man where he is. He obtains for the fallen sons and daughters of Adam that strength which it is impossible for them to gain for themselves, that in His name they may overcome the temptations of Satan.

Manuscript 45, 1886

Can you tell me why the Son of God came to die for us? It was because of the transgression of Adam. In this he forfeited all right to heaven. Man then became separated from God, but Christ's love for man caused Him to come to this earth, and He clothed His divinity with humanity that man might be reconciled to the Father and brought back to His law. Christ says that He came not to destroy the law, but He came to honor it, to give dignity to it. He opened His bosom to suffer for the transgression. {3MR 103.2}

Desire Of Ages 117.1

Satan had pointed to Adam's sin as proof that God's law was unjust, and could not be obeyed. In our humanity, Christ was to redeem Adam's failure. But when Adam was assailed by the tempter, none of the effects of sin were upon him. He stood in the strength of perfect manhood, possessing the full vigor of mind and body.

1 Selected Message 252.1

After the fall of man, Satan declared that human beings were proved to be incapable of keeping the law of God, and he sought to carry the universe with him in this belief. Satan's words appeared to be true, and Christ came to unmask the deceiver...

7 Bible Commentary 926.7

Christ came to the earth, taking humanity and standing as man's representative, to show in the controversy with Satan that man, as God created him, connected with the Father and the Son, could obey every divine requirement. (ST June 9, 1898)

1 Selected Messages 228.4

From all eternity Christ was united with the Father, and when He took upon Himself human nature, He was still one with God. He is the link that unites God with humanity. "Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same" (Hebrews 2:14).

Only through Him can we become children of God. To all who believe on Him, He gives power to become the sons of God. Thus the heart becomes the temple of the living God. It is because Christ took human nature that men and women become partakers of the divine nature. He brings life and immortality to light through the gospel.

John 10:30 I and my Father are one.

Review And Herald, January 7, 1890. 2

As legislator, Jesus exercised the authority of God; his commands and decisions were supported by the Sovereignty of the eternal throne. **The glory of the Father was revealed in the Son; Christ made manifest the character of the Father. He was so perfectly connected with God, so completely embraced in his encircling light, that he who had seen the Son, had seen the Father.** His voice was as the voice of God...

John 8:29

And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him.

Youth's Instructor, September 8, 1898. 11

From childhood to manhood, Christ taught that "the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost." He was the Truth. **The Spirit of God was upon him. Why?--Because he did not by one act of disobedience separate himself from God.** The grace of God was upon him, and he grew in favor with God and man...

Hebrews 7:26

For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens;

Desire Of Ages page 686.3, 4, 5; page 687.3

He went a little distance from them--not so far but that they could both see and hear Him--and fell prostrate upon the ground. **He felt that by sin He was being separated from His Father. The gulf was so broad, so black, so deep, that His spirit shuddered before it. This agony He must not exert His divine power to escape. As man He must suffer the consequences of man's sin. As man He must endure the wrath of God against transgression.** {DA 686.3}

Christ was now standing in a different attitude from that in which He had ever stood before. His suffering can best be described in the words of the prophet, "Awake, O sword, against My shepherd, and against the man that is My fellow, saith the Lord of hosts." Zechariah 13:7. As the substitute and surety for sinful man, Christ was suffering under divine justice. **He saw what justice meant. Hitherto He had been as an intercessor for others; now He longed to have an intercessor for Himself.** {DA 686.4}

...With the issues of the conflict before Him, Christ's soul was filled with dread of separation from God. Satan told Him that if He became the surety for a sinful world, the separation would be eternal. He would be identified with Satan's kingdom, and would nevermore be one with God. {DA 686.5}

Terrible was the temptation to let the human race bear the consequences of its own guilt, while He stood innocent before God. If He could only know that His disciples understood and appreciated this, He would be strengthened. {DA 687.3}

Youth's Instructor, June 2, 1898

Christ is called the second Adam. In purity and holiness, connected with God and beloved by God,

He began where the first Adam began. Willingly He passed over the ground where Adam fell, and redeemed Adam's failure.

Signs Of The Times, May 29, 1901. 11

...In the fulness of time He was to be revealed in human form. He was to take His position at the head of humanity by taking the nature but not the sinfulness of man. In heaven was heard the voice, "The Redeemer shall come to Zion, and unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob, saith the Lord."

7 Bible Commentary 925.5

As the sin bearer, and priest and representative of man before God, He entered into the life of humanity, bearing our flesh and blood. The life is in the living, vital current of blood, which blood was given for the life of the world. Christ made a full atonement, giving His life as a ransom for us. **He was born without a taint of sin, but came into the world in like manner as the human family.** He did not have a mere semblance of a body, but He took human nature, participating in the life of humanity.

1 John 3:5 And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.

Review And Herald, February 18, 1890

In Christ, divinity and humanity were combined. Divinity was not degraded to humanity; divinity held its place, but humanity, by being united to divinity, withstood the fiercest test of temptation in the wilderness... {5BC 1082.3}

1 Selected Messages 223.3

Christ in the weakness of humanity was to meet the temptations of one possessing the powers of the higher nature that God had bestowed on the angelic family. But Christ's humanity was united with divinity, and in this strength He would bear all the temptations that Satan could bring against Him, and yet keep His soul untainted by sin. And this power to overcome He would give to every son and daughter of Adam who would accept by faith the righteous attributes of His character.

Amazing Grace 99.2

The Lord of life and glory clothed His divinity with humanity to demonstrate to man that God through the gift of Christ would connect us with Him. Without a connection with God no one can possibly be happy. Fallen man is to learn that our Heavenly Father cannot be satisfied until His love embraces the repentant sinner, transformed through the merits of the spotless Lamb of God.

Manuscript 94, 1893.6

Abundant provision has been made that finite, fallen man may so connect with God that, through the same Source by which Christ overcame in His human nature, he may stand firmly against every temptation, as did Christ. He was subject to inconveniences that human nature is subjected to. He breathed the air of the same world we breathe. He stood and traveled in the same world we inhabit, which we have positive evidence was no more friendly to grace and righteousness than it is today. {GMR 111.3}

Desire Of Ages 25.3

By His life and His death, Christ has achieved even more than recovery from the ruin wrought through sin. It was Satan's purpose to bring about an eternal separation between God and man; but in Christ we become more closely united to God than if we had never fallen. In taking our nature, the Saviour has bound Himself to humanity by a tie that is never to be broken. Through the eternal ages He is linked with us...

"May we be partakers of Divinity, because He was partaker of humanity." (SW)