

SPIRITUAL INFIDELITY VS. WORSHIP

Spiritual adultery begins with mental infidelity. Ours is often a selfish view which states “It is OUR day to do with as WE please.” True all days are holy, but one is more so. It is His day, and it is His house of worship. “You have despised my holy things and profaned my Sabbaths.” Infidelity looms! Once we become mentally unfaithful to our Bridegroom, the earthly bonds of promise begin to loosen; our infidelities always involve the unseen Presence, our holy God.

Our loving God is wooing us, His bride, and has given us a ring to wear, the gold band of His Day. It reminds us of the betrothal covenant, looking forward to the marriage celebration at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. Wearing this ring also protects us from the seducing attentions of this evil world – the sights and sounds of wickedness, the flesh, and the entertainment of our titillating senses.

What anguish our Divine Lover must experience as He watches us allowing our worship on Sunday to be just a part of another ordinary busy day, one full of chatter and laughter, of routine and dull tradition....sitting and standing, going through the spiritual motions of playing “follow the leader” while mindlessly singing repetitious choruses, tapping the feet and clapping the hands. Our hearts are far from Him because we are struggling to learn the words of another new refrain.

He is holy. He is pure. He is powerful. He is glorious. But we sing about our own thoughts, our experiences, our promises, our ways. We sing by habit, we worship by rote, and our great and mighty God is only on the fringes of our awareness.

Our Father said “I feel a divine jealousy for you, for I betrothed you to Christ to present you as a pure bride to her one husband. But I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, our thoughts are being led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ.”

We are His bride, and we are to make ourselves ready. He will soon leave His Father’s house and come to our house and take for His bride, the Church..

We must not forget our Intended is coming, nor allow the memory of His features to blur, nor refrain from keeping His name on our lips. We must not allow our love to fade. We must continue to look at the picture of the One we love, read His love letters, listen to His voice, worship Him, and devote every moment of worship in His house to a single-minded focus of heart and mind, waiting for His coming.

He must have the preeminence in all things. Nothing and no one must come between our devotion to Him and our sense of His nearness and presence in this holy place.

Is there a jarring of flesh, a hint of the world in our midst? Is our vision of Him blurred by the evidence of humanity’s need for attention and acclaim, self-consciousness instead of God-consciousness? Do we applaud the performances of people rather than bow our hearts in thankful humility for a reminder of His holiness, while smitten by our own unworthiness?

Our words of worship and adoration become entangled with entertainment, lost in a jungle of sensual instincts glorifying human skills which reach out for attention and applause. The heart is deceitful above all things. Our wise and omniscient Lord is watching and weeping over our wasted efforts to lift Him up and spread His glory and love that all may know He is the very center of our beings.

We wait for His coming, and for His all-encompassing presence to lift us out of this world to dwell in eternity forever with Him, but as we wait we.....

lighten our longings with levity
bounce with merriment
pound with drums
rock with an off-beat
parade and perform
clap and laugh
bump and grind
lose sight of God altogether
as we worship the feeling and
play church
while the rest of the world goes to hell.

By Mrs. Marjorie Morrison
maggiemorrison@juno.com