Faith Matters



Daily Devotional - The Weight of Guilt

JULY 28TH 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

Daily Devotional - The Weight of Guilt

John 3:16-17

False guilt can be an intolerable weight for the believer to bear. The nagging sense of shame can lead us to doubt the Lord's love and goodness; we might even start to wonder if our salvation is real. Thankfully, though, we can have relief.

First of all, it's helpful to identify the root cause of our guilt. (Check yesterday's devotion for a description of several potential causes.) Next, we must affirm three truths:

I am special. Any reason we give to "prove" otherwise is a lie from Satan. We are each a one-of-a-kind creation. The Lord chose to create us and endow us with specific talents and abilities meant to be used for His glory (Ephesians 2:10).

I am loved. The heavenly Father sent His Son Jesus Christ to die for our sins so we could live with Him eternally. We don't have to do anything to earn His love; it is already ours for the receiving. All we must do is believe that He died in our place, was buried, and rose again.

I am forgiven. If we confess our sins, the Lord forgives. The Bible promises the process is as simple as that (1 John 1:9).

Since it's Satan who stimulates false guilt, the final step is to renounce his lies. Make a declaration to this effect: "In the name of Jesus Christ, I reject these feelings of guilt, because they have absolutely no scriptural basis. They are false, and I refuse to

acknowledge them." The result will be that the heavy weight of guilt lifts from the heart.

LAST UPDATED ON JULY 28TH 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

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