

News and Current Events :: Please pray for Mel Gibson**Please pray for Mel Gibson, on: 2006/7/29 18:39**

This man, this actor has been sober for a long time now and obviously fell, please pray for him, at least you can see the Lord in his life the way he publicly repented:

Mel Gibson Apologizes for DUI Arrest
By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Filed at 6:15 p.m. ET

LOS ANGELES (AP) -- Mel Gibson issued a lengthy statement Saturday apologizing for his drunk driving arrest and saying he has battled alcoholism throughout his life.

The actor and "The Passion of the Christ" director also apologized for what he said were "despicable" statements he made to the deputies who arrested him early Friday on Pacific Coast Highway in Malibu.

"I acted like a person completely out of control when I was arrested," he said in a statement issued by his publicist. "I disgraced myself and my family with my behavior and for that I am truly sorry. I have battled with the disease of alcoholism for all of my adult life and profoundly regret my horrific relapse."

He said he was taking "necessary steps to ensure my return to health."

Publicist Alan Nierob declined to elaborate beyond Gibson's statement, and sheriff's Sgt. Rich Erickson declined to respond, saying the case was still under investigation.

Gibson, 50, was arrested for investigation of driving under the influence of alcohol after deputies stopped his 2006 Lexus LS 430 for speeding at 2:36 a.m. Friday. Sheriff's spokesman Steve Whitmore said deputies clocked him doing 87 mph in a 45 mph zone.

A breath test indicated Gibson's blood-alcohol level was 0.12 percent, Whitmore said. The legal limit in California is 0.08 percent.

The actor-director posted \$5,000 bail and was released less than two hours later.

Gibson also apologized Saturday for what he called "my belligerent behavior" when he was taken into custody.

"The arresting officer was just doing his job and I feel fortunate that I was apprehended before I caused injury to any other person," he said.

"I acted like a person completely out of control when I was arrested and said things that I do not believe to be true and which are despicable."

Nierob and sheriff's officials declined to discuss what Gibson said.

Gibson won a best-director Oscar for 1995's "Braveheart" and had a 2004 religious blockbuster with "The Passion of the Christ." He also starred in the "Lethal Weapon" and "Mad Max" films, "What Women Want" and "The Man Without a Face," among other movies.

Re: Please pray for Mel Gibson, on: 2006/7/31 7:40

Quote:

-----Please pray for Mel Gibson

OK. Sounds like he's serious about straightening up again. Praise God.

Re: - posted by W_D_J_D, on: 2006/7/31 8:23

did you hear about what he said about the jews?

man i still cant believe that people think he is a christian.

NO ONE who hates the jews is a christian.....NO, NOT EVEN MARTIN LUTHER!!!!

Re: - posted by enid, on: 2006/7/31 8:47

Yes, I have heard what he said about the Jews. He isn't a Christian. Most people think because he did a token movie a bout Jesus he gets the green light from God. Wrong. Martin Luther did make some anti-Semitic statements. They see m to be unknown by many in Christian circles, or ignored. Hatred of the Jews or anyone else is un-Christian. The Jews are God's people, they always will be. God bless.

Re: - posted by JoeA (), on: 2006/7/31 12:10

What was it that he said about Jews?

And what did Martin Luther say? Is there credible evidence?

Re: Please pray for Mel Gibson - posted by brentw (), on: 2006/7/31 13:32

AW Tozer said: "Hollywood has faces like angels but morals like ally cats"

Re:, on: 2006/7/31 14:16

Quote:

-----And what did Martin Luther say? Is there credible evidence?

I dont know what Gibson said, but Martin Luthers anti-semitism is well documented in his own writings. His opinions infe cted Germany for generations, and culminated with the Nazis. (I'm not saying Luther was a Nazi... but the seeds of his h atred for Jews leavened the whole lump)

As for Gibson's salvation, we can not judge the heart. However we can judge his own words, and his faith is NOT in the Jesus of the Bible. His faith is in the ordinances of the Catholic Church, and in Mary.

Also, if Mel knew his Bible he would cease calling his problem "the disease of alcoholism" and call it what God calls it: th e sin of drunkenness. Not until people call sin sin can they really expect help from God. Mel doesnt need to "return to heal th" as he calls it... he needs to get right with God.

... as we all do from time to time.

Krispy

Re: Please pray for Mel Gibson, on: 2006/7/31 14:23

Brethren - brentw in particular - how do these comments answer bartle's request for prayer for this man?

Further, how do they honour the name of Christ whom we seek to serve?

I hope both my questions strike you as rhetorical, as they are intended to be. I responded to *agree* to pray. Frankly, I'm embarrassed to be writing this. All of us once were prayed for by faithful people who knew we were off the rails at the time. If you don't want to pray, that's fine, but this thread doesn't need to lose focus in the process of generalised negativity. I hope no-one is any more offended by my express concern here, than by the comments which drew it out.

EDIT: Krispy, I think we posted at the same time.

Re: - posted by JoeA (), on: 2006/7/31 14:24

I wasn't aware that Luther was anti-semitic. Very sad.

Quote:

-----cease calling his problem "the disease of alcoholism" and call it what God calls it: the sin of drunkenness

Amen.

And Dorcas, you're right too. We are a little off-topic, and judgmental.

Re: - posted by markm, on: 2006/7/31 14:35

Why not pray for him concerning his attitude toward the Jews?

My recollection (from the time of the movie) was that his father was an anti-semite, and the media was trying to trap him into either agreeing with it or denouncing it. At the time, he refused to do either. He said he didn't agree with what his father believed, but he wouldn't dishonor his father either.

Did God stick with you even though you were still hanging on to baggage from your childhood? Did He in His good time reveal truth to you? When Israel was wayward did he repeal his name from them? Or was Israel still "His people?" Should we repeal the name 'christian' from someone just because their heart was in the wrong place, and their words got written down?

I'm glad I'm not famous and having my faith judged by words that I can't take back because they have been written down.

Obviously, Mr. Gibson is struggling with his faith right now. He turned to alcohol instead of to God, and he is reaping the consequences. But do you want the judgment of God to fall on him for his mistakes? Or do you want the grace of God to work toward change in his life?

I don't know Mel, I don't know his faith all that well, but obviously he is a man who wants to know Christ, shouldn't we be praying that God would have mercy and meet that desire?

Edit: posted at the same time as several of you. Funny how a post can become redundant while you are typing it. Well said dorcas.

Re:, on: 2006/7/31 14:51

Amen Mark... you're right on. Thats kinda what I was trying to get at. Mel needs to get right with God, not fall under his wrath. Mel Gibson needs to get saved, just like I needed to get saved... and everyone else, for that matter.

Another thought about Martin Luther... Martin Luther was not the most moral man in history. He is a good example of someone who abused his "Christian liberty" as an opportunity to sin. It seemed that once he grasped the concept of salvation by grace alone, and not works... all bets were off. A kind of a "let me see how much I can get away with and still be saved by grace!"

Unlike someone else on this thread, I know we can not judge anyone's salvation. Especially based on what they do or don't do. If you don't love the Jews you can't be saved? Wrong... salvation is based on God's grace given to those who have faith in the blood of Jesus Christ... and not on anything else. Not faith AND baptism... not faith AND prayers to Mary... not faith AND a love for the Jews.

Someone can be saved and be an anti-semiter. I was saved and still had a lot of sins that needed to be dealt with. Still have many today! Praise God He doesn't deal with them all at once... I couldn't handle it!

Let's get our theology correct, people.

Krispy

Re: - posted by brentw (), on: 2006/7/31 15:29

Krispy, you still make me smile...AMEN! :-)

Re: - posted by MaryJane, on: 2006/7/31 16:02

Re Thought this post

God Bless

Re: - posted by OverSeer (), on: 2006/7/31 16:43

Krispy said,

Quote:
-----Unlike someone else on this thread, I know we can not judge anyone's salvation. Especially based on what they do or don't do.

Maybe the Apostle John was wrong for writing First John and telling us there that you can tell the differences between the children of God and the children of the devil; between those who have a genuine faith and those who have a counterfeit faith. "In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil; whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother" (1 John 3:10).

Also the Bible states that for the saved Jew and the saved Gentile, that the middle wall of partition between us has been broken down and that Christ Jesus has made both one and removed the enmity, so making peace (Ephesians 2:14-16).

People who "think" they are saved and are yet anti-semitic ought to remember one tremendous point of theological truth - Jesus Christ was a Jew - He is the Lion from the tribe of Judah!

Grace and peace
Olan

Re:, on: 2006/7/31 16:52

OverSeer... I'm glad you can see into others hearts. I, for one, prefer the wait and see method.

Next time I lead someone to the Lord, as soon as they say "Amen" I'll ask them what their opinion of Jewish people is so I'll know for sure whether they truly got saved.

Mind you, I agree that saved people should love the Jewish people (and any other people group! Remeber "Love one an other"?). But to put love of the Jews as a requirement for salvation is both arrogant and misinformed.

Ahhh... saved by grace. How sweet the sound!

Krispy

Re: - posted by JoeA (), on: 2006/7/31 17:14

Quote:

-----But to put love of the Jews as a requirement for salvation is both arrogant and misinformed.

Brother, no one has said that love for the Jewish people is a requirement for salvation. But if someone is truly saved, the y will have a love in their hearts for all.

For instance, someone who hates others becomes a Christian, they still hate, but gradually begin to love others. No. The Bible says "The love of God is shed abroad on our hearts by the Holy Ghost." If a person gets saved, and still hates, i do ubt the validity of their salvation. "Ye shall know them by their fruits."

Re: - posted by roadwarrior, on: 2006/7/31 17:23

Your observation is right on!

Re: - posted by OverSeer (), on: 2006/7/31 17:29

Krispy,

Maybe you've forgotten what you wrote about Mel Gibson,

Quote:

-----Mel Gibson needs to get saved, just like I needed to get saved... and everyone else, for that matter.

How did you determine that Mel Gibson needed to get saved? How did you know that he had not already been saved? Did you use the tests of First John and come to that conclusion from the Scriptures or did you "look into his heart"?

And,

Quote:

-----Next time I lead someone to the Lord, as soon as they say "Amen" I'll ask them what their opinion of Jewish people is so I'll know fo r sure whether they truly got saved.

Maybe you ought to do what the Bible says and wait and see if they bring forth fruit in keeping with repentance - it work s much better that way!

Grace and peace

Olan

Re: Please pray for Mel Gibson - posted by roadwarrior, on: 2006/7/31 17:48

It would seem that much of what we call christianity is really nothing more than american religion. Because american religion lacks the cross (I'm using a broad generalization) individuals become more concerned with the blessings of God instead of pleasing the God who blesses us. We have become a society that craves being motivated and comforted, that's evident in most pulpits across the country to this very day. In Mr. Gibson's situation his circle of accountability only extended as far as his wife and children. However he has made a profession of faith in Christ and even went on record that it was the Holy Spirit who inspired him to create his latest production extolling the crucifixion of Christ. It was interesting to observe that even in his movie that the early releases (pre-market viewings) didn't include the resurrection of Christ. Without the resurrection of Christ there can be no victory over sin, the devil or the world.

What's really needed is a "John the baptist" standing up with the power of God proclaiming the real gospel to a lost society. A simple message, straight forward and clear. Well I guess that's the challenge anyway.

Re: - posted by OverSeer (), on: 2006/7/31 18:08

Quote:
-----What's really needed is a "John the baptist" standing up with the power of God proclaiming the real gospel to a lost society

Amen! And the first word of the real gospel is "repent." God given repentance has fruit in keeping with repentance (see Luke 3:10-14).

If repentance was preached ahead of the coming of the King in grace, what needs to be preached ahead of His coming in glory? "Repent!"

Grace and peace
Olan

Re: - posted by JoeA (), on: 2006/7/31 19:59

Quote:
-----If repentance was preached ahead of the coming of the King in grace, what needs to be preached ahead of His coming in glory? "Repent!"

Amen. What were His last words to the Church in Revelation? "Repent!"

Sister Dorcas, on: 2006/7/31 20:43

Pretty disheartening on the off road direction this thread took. I said, "disheartening", but not surprising.

people just love stones and they love religion, put the two together, and what do you get?

a stoning, which is just a miserable blood soaked cruel affair.

that's okay, I prayed for Mel, if anyone else did, Bless God.

Re: Sister Dorcas - posted by enid, on: 2006/8/1 3:35

You prayed for Mel? I didn't. Can't say it was on my mind, let alone my heart. Definitely not a burden. I do pray for those in prison in China whom I have never met. They are on my mind and heart, so the desire to pray for them is there. I guess Mr Gibson is on your mind and heart, hence the desire to pray. God bless.

Re: - posted by WorldView (), on: 2006/8/1 4:26

Look beneath the surface. The movie that Mel Gibson made has had a huge impact on people's lives and brought many to salvation.

Guess what, satan is still ticked-off about it. The movie was a BIG reminder to the entire world of satan's defeat.

So what does satan do to retaliate? He goes after the producer and director of the movie who is in the public spotlight. He thinks that maybe somehow he can discredit the man and by that discredit Christianity.

Satan has sent many demonic hosts to try to destroy the life of Mel Gibson in any way possible. I cannot image what he has been going through lately has driven him to a breaking point. I wonder how long many other people would be able to withstand without incident the demonic resistance that he is facing?

Face it, people screw up. We have victory over satan but we can all testify to having tripped flat on our faces at times. Mel Gibson just did it in the public spotlight. Should we look at every time you have stumbled and heap condemnation your way?

Re: - posted by Yeshuasboy (), on: 2006/8/1 7:46

Quote:

WorldView wrote:

So what does satan do to retaliate? He goes after the producer and director of the movie who is in the public spotlight. He thinks that maybe somehow he can discredit the man and by that discredit Christianity.

I must agree with this statement wholeheartedly... for satan has deceived me many times as well, and yet now, I sit here in tears being ashamed of the things I have done. I choose to be merciful (Luke 6:36). May God grant him repentance (2Tim 2:24-26). Let us pray that the Lord will grant Mel a powerful revelation of Himself - the Truth that sets captives free.

God bless you all,
Let us love others as Christ loves us,
richie

Re: - posted by crsschk (), on: 2006/8/1 7:56

Quote:

-----﻿And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

Â“﻿And who is my neighbour?﻿Â” (﻿Luke 10:29﻿). Jesus gives an amazing reply, viz., that the answer to the question, Â“﻿Who is my neighbour?﻿Â” is not to be found in the claim of the person to be loved, but in the heart of the one who loves. If my heart is right with God, every human being is my neighbour. There is engrained in the depths of human nature a dislike of the general ruck of mankind, in spite of all our modern jargon about Â“﻿loving Humanity.﻿Â” We have a disparaging way of talking about the common crowd: the common crowd is made up of innumerable editions of you and me. Ask the Holy Spirit to enable your mind to brood for one moment on the value of the Â“﻿nobody﻿Â” to Jesus.

Oswald Chambers

~~~~~  
An out take from a larger chapter ...

**Re: - posted by boomatt (), on: 2006/8/1 8:35**

Quote:  
-----You prayed for Mel? I didn't. Can't say it was on my mind, let alone my heart. Definitely not a burden. I do pray for those in prison in China whom I have never met. They are on my mind and heart, so the desire to pray for them is there. I guess Mr Gibson is on your mind and heart, hence the desire to pray. God bless.  
-----

I hope that God desires us to pray for not only the people in china, but also for Mel Gibson.

I pray that he repents, and if he does, we need to support him, because this could happen to all of us, including David.

\*WARNING, OFF SUBJECT A LITTLE BIT\*

The only problem I had with the passion, is that it really didnt show how much Jesus really suffered, the physical pain was nothing compare to what he had to go through being forsaken by the father. I wish the movie emphasized that point, but it didnt, hence in a way, I feel that satan won, but then again, one of my good friends came to christ after watching the movie. It was a good way for christians to get conversations going about the gospel, so praise god.

**Re:, on: 2006/8/1 8:50**

Quote:  
-----How did you determine that Mel Gibson needed to get saved? How did you know that he had not already been saved? Did you use the tests of First John and come to that conclusion from the Scriptures or did you "look into his heart"?  
-----

From the mouth the heart speaks... and Mel Gibson has made it plainly clear that his faith is in the blasphemous ordinances of the Roman Catholic Church, and in Mary.

I dont hate Mel Gibson. I'm merely stating that if his faith is in anything other than Jesus Christ, and Him alone, he is not a saved man. Period. He needs to get saved.

He has stated where his faith lies, and it's not in Jesus.

Now, I love Mel Gibson. One of my all time favorite movies is The Patriot. I love Braveheart as well. We Were Soldiers was a great movie too.

Label me judgemental for stating the truth if you would like too... I dont care. We all need to be praying for his salvation

As for someone being born again and struggling with hatred... I'm speaking as one who has experienced it first hand. After I was saved I struggled with issues of racism in my heart, and it took a long time to overcome because it was engrained in me deeply. It's hard to break free from generations of racism. And growing up in rural North Carolina... we didnt know it was wrong! I do now, praise be to God! He set me free from that wretched sin, but it wasnt overnight. So for anyone who wants to argue this point, my own personal testimony bears witness to the fact that what I am saying is true.

Krispy



Re: - posted by W\_D\_J\_D, on: 2006/8/1 9:34

1Jo 2:8 Again, a new commandment I write unto you, which thing is true in him and in you: because the darkness is past, and the true light now shineth.

1Jo 2:9 He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now.

1Jo 2:10 He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him.

1Jo 2:11 But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes.

1Jo 3:13 Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you.

1Jo 3:14 We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.

1Jo 3:15 Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.

1Jo 3:16 Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

1Jo 3:17 But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?

1Jo 4:16 And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

1Jo 4:17 Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

1Jo 4:18 There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

1Jo 4:19 We love him, because he first loved us.

1Jo 4:20 If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

1Jo 4:21 And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.

I think thats pretty clear.....still in hate my friend? Get saved.....

Re: - posted by enid, on: 2006/8/1 10:04

Whilst right now it might be popular to pray for Mr Gibson, will anyone be praying a year from now for him? 6 months from now? A month? I doubt it. Out of sight, out of mind. He's in the news just now. When the next celebrity is on the news, will we pray for them until the next one is on the scene, and then the next and then...

See what I mean. God bless.

Re: - posted by OverSeer (), on: 2006/8/1 10:35

Quote:

-----From the mouth the heart speaks  
-----

Yes! We can know whether or not we are saved or whether or not someone else is saved by what we say or what he or she says about the Person and work of Christ. But the Bible never lets that test stand alone. "He that **saith, I know Him, and keepeth not His commandments, is a liar**, and the truth is not in him" (1 John 2:4). It is possible to profess to know Him but to deny Him by our deeds (Titus 1:16).

This is not to say that "one act of lawlessness" indicates that a person is lost. "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us" (1 John 1:8). The biblical indicator is whether or not we are "practicing" sin as a lifestyle - "Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness; and sin is lawlessness" (1 John 3:4 NASB).

Our growth in righteousness is progressive - and sometimes regressive - hence, "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted" (

Galatians 6:1).

Yes, we need to pray for Mel. And in so-doing, let us not forget to pray for all those who will now be ridiculed and whose faith will be called a "hoax"; that they will understand the nature of the battle to which we are called and that they will share the sufferings of Christ, and keep on rejoicing, so that also at the revelation of His glory they may rejoice with exultation (1 Peter 4:13).

Grace and peace  
Olan

**Re:, on: 2006/8/1 10:43**

So while God was bringing me along, and helping me grow in grace, and convicting me of my racial attitudes... I wasn't saved? Is that what you're saying?

Answer the question directly... don't play word games. Yes or no?

Krispy

**Re: - posted by enid, on: 2006/8/1 10:50**

When we say we are saved, does it mean saved from the wrath to come? Leonard Ravenhill asks in a sermon, what are we saved from, then list some of those things that we are not yet saved from. Whilst we are saved from the wrath to come, there is still loss of reward spoken of in 1 Cor 3. Still, this deviates from the original thread. God bless.

**Re:, on: 2006/8/1 11:00**

I feel moved to get this thread back on track.

We do need to pray for Mel Gibson. I know not his heart, and he may be saved or he may not be. The fact is, we need to pray for him anyway, because prayer works. However famous this man may be, he still needs Jesus and that is all that counts.

I, like Mel, and many other brothers and sisters, have continually disgraced God by my actions, but because of His grace and mercy He has brought me back to His side again and again. And I know that when I go through difficult times, I would love and appreciate prayer for myself, that I would be forgiven and set free from my difficulties.

So let's get back on track - Mel is a man in need. Let us pray for him. Pray that, if he is saved, will get back on track. Pray that, if he isn't saved, then he will come to know the Lord.

Let's treat each other as we would want to be treated. I would love prayer for when I go through difficult times myself.

It is sad to see threads turning into arguments. Let's keep it real and keep it friendly! We are all in this together. We are all fighting in the same battle, and for the same cause; to glorify Jesus' precious Name.

**Re:, on: 2006/8/1 11:22**

Ugh... there is some bad theology coming up on this forum lately.

I agree... this thread is about as far off track as it can be.

Sorry about that.

Krispy

**Re: - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2006/8/1 11:36**

Quote:  
-----Let's keep it real and keep it friendly! We are all in this together. We are all fighting in the same battle, and for the same cause; to glorify Jesus' precious Name.  
-----

Amen, Richard. I've been watching this post and deliberately staying out. All that was originally asked was that we pray for this man. It's very sad to observe the degeneration.

I believe that our salvations are partly the result of someone praying for us while we were yet heathen. Whether Mel is truly saved or not, I can not say. Especially when men like Ravenhill and Singh have doubted that not more than 5% of professing Protestant Christians are truly born again of the Holy Spirit!

This is obviously important to brother Bartle. I'll come in agreement with him. I'll pray the Lord's will be done in Mel's life and leave it at that.

With Christian love,

Brother Paul

**Re: Clearer - posted by roadwarrior, on: 2006/8/1 11:40**

Quote:  
----- And I know that when I go through difficult times, I would love and appreciate prayer for myself, that I would be forgiven and set free from my difficulties.  
-----

Amen! Amen!

I do pray for many of the stars (loosely speaking) in the movie industry as well as their behind the scenes personell. But to be honest I intercede for very few. I make a difference between the two >>prayer/intercession. I guess I like what the Word of God says when it speaks, "if the foundations be destroyed what can the righteous do?" I think the message of the gospel has become so muddled in america that it's hard to know salvation in Christ from a secular stand point. So many voices! I guess if one could talk to someone like a Mel Gibson, it would be good to let them know that Jesus is a very present help in a time of need. I think I'd like to tell them that Jesus is alive and real and has overcome death hell and the grave, that there is victory in Christ over sin. I just wonder what gospel it is these folks are hearing, watching on tv and the radio, I wonder , do they have christian fellowship? bible study? do they attend prayer groups ? do they have others around them to pray for them and encourage them? An open rebuke is better than secret love, maybe just maybe they have none to openly rebuke them? Are they teachable? Who knows, but God. I do know enough to know that just maybe his situation is an opportunity for the christian community to pour out their effectual prayers on his (Gibson) behalf. And that's a fact!

**Re: - posted by Rublue (), on: 2006/8/1 19:26**

Forgive me if I am posting out of place here. Alcoholism is a DISEASE, sinful yes, but still a disease of the mind and body. Why is anybody suprised of the ranting of a alcoholic? Because it's Mel Gibson? Alcohol is a DRUG!! As a recovering alcoholic, I have said & done things countless times while drunk, only to feel the fool & remorse later. Your brain is impaired, you say things you do not necessarily truly believe. This just did not happen to Mel. Besides taking that first drink, a series of events led up to this behavior. The delusion that a alcoholic is of weak, or lacking in moral character is just silly. I have suffered & known pitiful incomprehensible demoralization well. As I am sure Mel Gibson, who is just a human does. He is sick and needs prayer for recovery, as well as spiritual direction. It would seem anybody judging if he is, or if he is not a Christian should stop and take a look at that one word, JUDGING. Mel does need to address health needs or die. And yes it seems he needs direction from God or die forever. But he is a sick man. But hey, that's just me.

Quote:

-----  
KrispyKrittr wrote:

Quote:

-----And what did Martin Luther say? Is there credible evidence?  
-----

I dont know what Gibson said, but Martin Luthers anti-semitism is well documented in his own writings. His opinions infected Germany for generations, and culminated with the Nazis. (I'm not saying Luther was a Nazi... but the seeds of his hatred for Jews leavened the whole lump)

As for Gibson's salvation, we can not judge the heart. However we can judge his own words, and his faith is NOT in the Jesus of the Bible. His faith is in the ordinances of the Catholic Church, and in Mary.

Also, if Mel knew his Bible he would cease calling his problem "the disease of alcoholism" and call it what God calls it: the sin of drunkenness. Not until people call sin sin can they really expect help from God. Mel doesnt need to "return to health" as he calls it... he needs to get right with God.

... as we all do from time to time.

Krispy  
-----

**amen Rublue, on: 2006/8/1 20:14**

Big picture time:

The Passion of the Christ was a major evangelical event that I would venture to say swept thousands if not millions into the Kingdom of Heaven.

The devil hates this, and probably put a legion of demons to attack Mel from everyone weak point of his, he's just a man.

Where he lives, in the Santa Monica mountains is one of the most unholy, new-agey satan worshipping areas in the country, it's a very dark area, I know, because I used to live in that same area, and I know the dive that he was drinking at, Moonshadows on Pacific Coast Highway, and I know that Mel has been sober a great many years, and what drove him into Moonshadows is what I'm getting at....

we can all fall, and when you make art that God uses to sweep sinners into the Kingdom, the devil's gonna go after you BIGTIME.

and we all can fall. Mel's done, you cannot be perceived as anti-semitic and work in the entertainment industry.

and its sad, becoz the Passion was a great evangelical event.

**Re: - posted by Compton (), on: 2006/8/1 20:17**

Rublue,

Within the bigger picture here, this is an interesting and important point to me.

Quote:

-----I have said & done things countless times while drunk,...You brain is impaired, you say things you do not necessarily truly believe.  
-----

I'm sure you've heard of the phrase "three-beer honesty" or similar. Thankfully I've not had to battle with this issue personally so I am curious as to what others might have to say. I guess I've assumed that alcohol acts like a kind of 'truth serum', breaking down our social behavior, causing us to speak uninhibited about what's really on our minds. Is this an incorrect perception?

Much thanks brother for sharing from your own precious walk with the Lord regarding this painful issue.

MC

**Re: - posted by WorldView (), on: 2006/8/1 22:31**

As for me I wont even read any reports of what Mel Gibson said. It is not my business to study his faults, just as it is not your busines to study mine. I am not implying that we do not acknowledge that he has faults.

That is where people lose their true Christ-like love. They begin to study the faults of others rather than first observing th eir own. Some know their own faults but seek to justify them by pointing our bigger faults in others. It is so easy for peo ple to believe and dwell on the wrong things that others have done, rather than the good things. A person can do 1 milli on righteous deeds and a single unrighteous one and the devil will use that single unrighteous deed to eclipse all the rig hteous ones done.

Satan knows how the mind of man works. People like to know the faults and flaws of others so that it makes them feel g ood about themself. You can see this in a the gossip websites, papers, magazines and tabloids.

We should not allow satan to manipulate our minds and perspectives. We should see people the way God sees them a nd not the way the world does.

Has Mel Gibson believed on the name of the Lord unto salvation, maybe so; does he have the mind of Christ, obviously not, but neither does a majority of "Christians" in the church. What should we do? Pray for him and stand in the gap on his behalf. Help bear his burden through prayer.

**Re: - posted by WorldView (), on: 2006/8/1 23:52**

See, look at what the devil has done.

"The ABC television network has pulled a miniseries about the Holocaust it was developing with Mel Gibson 's productio n company, the Wall Street Journal reported Tuesday, quoting an unidentified representative for the network."

"The incident has raised questions about the future of projects Gibson and his Icon Productions company are working on , like the ABC television miniseries based on a memoir about a Dutch Jew during World War II, the newspaper said." quoted form Newsmax

**Re: - posted by GaryE (), on: 2006/8/2 2:17**

{quote} Rublue

Alcohol is a DRUG!! As a recovering alcoholic, I have said & done things countless times while drunk, only to feel the fo ol & remorse later. You brain is impaired, you say things you do not necessarily truly believe.

Rublue, I went to the altar and not AA over thirty years ago. Jesus set me free. I would never say that I am a recoverin g alcoholic. I say IÂ'm free. The sin of drunkenness was one of the sins that made me realize that I was a sinner. It wa snÂ't until I admitted this sin that I could be set free from it.

{quote} MC

I guess I've assumed that alcohol acts like a kind of 'truth serum', breaking down our social behavior, causing us to spea k uninhibited about what's really on our minds. Is this an incorrect perception?

Mike, To some degree this is true, however, a person who is drunk can think that something is real, when it is not. Mayb e this is because the person is predisposed to delusion or maybe hypnotic drug use with alcohol use plays a part in this. Years ago, I experienced this.

I believe that the Lord has shown me that there will be people on the other side who I would not think would be there, an d that there are people who I would expect to be there that wonÂ't be found. I donÂ't know if Mel is saved or not, but IÂ' m sure that if the Lord puts him or anyone else on my mind for prayer that I should pray for that person.

{quote} Paul West

I believe that our salvations are partly the result of someone praying for us while we were yet heathen.

Paul, I have a close friend that believes this. Do you have any scriptures that make you think this? This may be true but I can't think of any.

GaryE

**Re: - posted by Compton (), on: 2006/8/2 2:30**

Many thanks Gary for your answer and your testimony.

MC

**Re: - posted by W\_D\_J\_D, on: 2006/8/2 5:33**

im still appaled at some terrible theology going on.....

listen peoples.....NO hater NOR blasphemor NOR drunkard shall enter in the kingdom of God.....yeh???

1Corinthians 5:11 But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat.

1Thessalonians 5:5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

1Th 5:6 Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.

1Th 5:7 For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.

1Th 5:8 But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.

Ephesians 5:18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;

Galatians 5:21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

What did that verse say again?

Galatians 5:21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

1 Corinthians 6:10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.

Romans 13:13 Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying.

About blasphemy.....again

2Ti 3:1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

2Ti 3:2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

2Ti 3:3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,

2Ti 3:4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

2Ti 3:5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

2Ti 3:6 For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts,

2Ti 3:7 Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

And in a past post i wrote some verses concerning hate.....My only suggestion to you if one of these is present in your life .....REPENT in the name of Jesus.

If u think that u can hate Jews (and go to heaven), you need to repent.

If u think that u can be a drunkard (and go to heaven), you need to repent.

If u think that u can be a blasphemor (and go to heaven), you need to repent.

1John 3:7 Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.

God bless u all.

Krispy in my opinion if u had hate in your heart u were still in darkness.....just like me when i thought i was saved for a while whilst i still hated jews and other people.....

ciao

**Re: Please pray for Mel Gibson, on: 2006/8/2 6:48**

bartle said

Quote:

----- I know that Mel has been sober a great many years, and what drove him into Moonshadows is what I'm getting at....  
-----

I'm glad to have this testimony from you, because it makes it all the more disappointing for Mel.

I hope the other contributors to this thread noticed you said '**I know Mel has been sober a great many years**' because it gives a much needed perspective to your prayer request, and to some of the discussion which has passed so far.

C'mon beloveds, let's pray for this man, who **obviously** gave up drinking as a **lifestyle** a long time ago.

Who of us does not find thoughts, or words coming out of our mouths sometimes **when we're sober**, which make us wonder if we really think (what we just said) without realising we're in denial about something?

God allows these things to happen, that we might be more honest with ourselves, so that He can change us from glory to glory.

8-) Amen?

**Re: - posted by Rublue (), on: 2006/8/2 8:48**

First I would like to say, I found God at the altar not AA. This is explained in my intro post. And I can only speak for myself, and the 1000's of alcoholics seeking recovery I have come in contact with over the past decades. Alcohol is not a truth serum!! It does lower your inhibitions, so therefore you might say something to someone (boss) you might not normally say. But there is a line you cross the more you consume. I call this the line of no return. I myself was a blackout drunk. Meaning just that. I would drink to a point where I did not remember hours to days. In this extremely dangerous state of mind, a person may say or act just STUPID, for lack of a better word. The worse part is you truly have no clue or memory of what happened during that drinking episode. The following guilt and remorse of your unknown actions are truly horrible. As a person who is insane, you can not hold that person responsible for their actions while in this state. Yes, this person must be held accountable for letting his/her self get to that point. But to seriously take to heart what this person said or did, as what they were just holding in is not reality. And yes, if a crime is committed they must pay the price. Alcohol is a serious drug. And people with the DISEASE of alcoholism should be prayed for just as a person with cancer, or any other disease. A disease is defined as an illness that is both progressive and fatal. This is not just my opinion, it is fact. God Bless All!!!



Re: - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2006/8/2 9:44

Quote:  
-----Paul, I have a close friend that believes this. Do you have any scriptures that make you think this? This may be true but I can't think of any.  
-----

Hi Gary,

Sure, I have plenty of scriptures, though you may not accept these scriptures because they do not say word-for-word: "salvations are partly the result of someone praying for us while we were yet heathen." But I believe God's will to pray for certain unsaved people is implied throughout the Old and New Testaments. God wants us to pray for the lost. Are you unsure that our salvations are largely due to the part of someone interceding for us? If the term "pray for the lost" is not found in the Bible, word-for-word, does it mean we are to eschew praying for the lost? And if we pray for the lost, could not their salvations be, at least in part, an answer to the prayer of the intercessor?

Now, I'm sure that you are not against praying for the lost. You probably have unsaved loved ones that you pray for. If you read my statement more closely, you will notice I said *partly* the result of someone praying for us. I didn't say it was "always" the result. I know that God can do all things. Yet I'm sure people prayed for me while I was a sinner. And even if no fleshly man or woman prayed for me, I believe Jesus Christ prayed for me. I know William Tyndale prayed, "Lord, Open the King of England's eyes!" as he was being chained to the stake. If the King of England got saved, would it not be "partly" the result of God answering Tyndale's prayer? If you talk to people who are saved and radically serving God, many times you will discover that there was an old grandmother or brother or sister or church family earnestly praying, supplicating God for sometimes years and years before God granted their salvation. Think of all the people soundly saved during the Great Awakening and during Finney's revivals. Do you have any IDEA how much prayer and prevailing intercession went into their salvations? If you're not saved, I venture to say that someone, somewhere is probably praying for your soul right now. And the intercessors do not even have to know you personally. Do the South Koreans know by name the millions and millions of Japanese souls that are brought before God's throne daily in petition for their salvation?

The Israelites could thank Moses for their lives, as his pleadings on their behalf prevented God from slaying them. How about Paul on the ship? If it weren't for Paul knowing the Lord, the entire ship would have sunk and all aboard would have perished. Their lives were spared as result of one man's intercession with God. Now think of yourself, the relationship you have with God, your new life in Jesus Christ. Would it be presumptuous to say that because of someone's intercession you were granted repentance? The truth is, we don't know what goes on behind the scenes of each person's salvation.

Why would the Holy Spirit burden us to pray for certain heathen, if the resulting salvations would not be 'partly' the result of us praying for them?

Your servant in Jesus Christ,

Brother Paul

Re: - posted by enid, on: 2006/8/2 9:52

Scripture says we must all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. In light of this, will God say to Mel Gibson, well done good and faithful servant..., or will He say, depart from Me...  
You answer that one yourself.



**Re: - posted by boomatt (), on: 2006/8/2 9:59**

I was prayed for by my now best friend Julian, and all of his friends for months before I even came to the lord, so praying for someone can go a long way.

We need to be in prayer for the lost, and if we dont feel like it or led to, then something is wrong with your walk ( and I a m speaking to everyone in general).

God Bless

**Re: - posted by murdog (), on: 2006/8/2 10:24**

Rubblue,

I better double up on washing my hands so I don't catch a nasty bout of alcoholism. I am saying this to show the foolishness of labeling sin a disease.

Alcoholism is not a disease. Lust is not a disease. Bitterness is not a disease. Although they can all be fatal. The wages of sin is death.

I was addicted to Crack, Cocaine, and used a host of other narcotics for years. It was not a disease I caught somewhere. It was MY bad choices to start messing around with these substances. I started smoking and drinking when I was 11 yrs. old. I "progressed" from marijuana to hallucinogens to amphetamines and everything in between.

Thanks be to God that he delivered me from those vices.

It is the world around us that tries to tell us that addictions are a disease. If it were true that it were a disease that would remove all the culpability from us. And that is exactly what the world wants; to be absolved from guilt of their choices.

"Do not be deceived:  
God cannot be mocked.  
A man reaps what he sows.  
The one who sows to please his sinful nature,  
from that nature will reap destruction;  
the one who sows to please the Spirit,  
from the Spirit will reap eternal life."  
Galatians 6:7

Murray

**Re: - posted by WorldView (), on: 2006/8/2 10:57**

Quote:  
-----  
The Israelites could thank Moses for their lives, as his pleadings on their behalf prevented God from slaying them. How about Paul on the ship? If it weren't for Paul knowing the Lord, the entire ship would have sunk and all aboard would have perished. Their lives were spared as result of one man's intercession with God.  
-----

Yes, and Job too.

Job 42:8 "Now therefore, take for yourselves seven bulls and seven rams, and go to My servant Job, and offer up a burnt offering for yourselves, and My servant Job will pray for you. For I will accept him so that I may not do with you according to your folly, because you have not spoken of Me what is right, as My servant Job has."

As well as Abraham, see Genesis 18. Of course Sodom was not saved, but but because of Abraham's standing in the gap, God was willing to have mercy on behalf of 10 righteous men in the city.

Re: - posted by GaryE (), on: 2006/8/2 12:22

{quote} Steven

I myself was a blackout drunk. Meaning just that. I would drink to a point where I did not remember hours to days.

Hey Steven, isn't it neat that all that past guilt has been buried and drown with Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea. Those accusations from the enemy of past sins, though they are true, are buried with Christ and there is now no condemnation in Christ Jesus. Before God, all those sins have been blotted out or could we say blacked out. Through confession of sin and faith in Christ, God has a blackout of our blackouts.

.....  
{quote} Paul

Sure, I have plenty of scriptures, though you may not accept these scriptures because they do not say word-for-word: "salvations are partly the result of someone praying for us while we were yet heathen."

This would probably be my answer if I was asked the same question.

I'm convinced that revival only comes through people praying for it. It may be that God's grace to the lost is what puts that desire in the person praying, but in my opinion from reading revival history, revival comes through someone or usually many praying for a revival.

Quite a few people that I have prayed for in the past have apparently become Christians. The obituaries of two people who I had lost contact with had become members of churches. One friend of mine from the world that I prayed about 30 years ago became a Christian about 5 years ago. These are people that I either knew from county jail time or through alcoholism. They were, like myself at the time of being around them, in sin and very blind to it. Another person who I prayed for years ago, just before his death, prayed the sinners prayer with a friend while I was there. Still I don't have what I would call proof scriptures on this subject and don't believe that my wanting someone to become saved is going to cause them to be saved.

Usually, when I pray for a certain person who is blinded to sin, I pray for that person to be able to see and have a fair chance to respond to the Lord's words to them.

Re: - posted by Rublue (), on: 2006/8/2 13:40

Yes I know the drug scene well starting at 13, back in the 70's for decades of Hell on earth. I am not here to argue or debate. But to make light of addiction to double up on washings your hands, I just don't know. Guess I should not post and just read and listen. I am obviously seriously off on the scripture I study, as well as my career working in recovery. God Bless All!!!

Quote:  
-----

murdog wrote:  
Rublue,

I better double up on washing my hands so I don't catch a nasty bout of alcoholism. I am saying this to show the foolishness of labeling sin a disease.

Alcoholism is not a disease. Lust is not a disease. Bitterness is not a disease. Although they can all be fatal. The wages of sin is death.

I was addicted to Crack, Cocaine, and used a host of other narcotics for years. It was not a disease I caught somewhere. It was MY bad choices to start messing around with these substances. I started smoking and drinking when I was 11 yrs. old. I "progressed" from marijuana to hallucinogens to amphetamines and everything in between.

Thanks be to God that he delivered me from those vices.

It is the world around us that tries to tell us that addictions are a disease. If it were true that it were a disease that would remove all the culpability from us. And that is exactly what the world wants; to be absolved from guilt of their choices.

"Do not be deceived:

God cannot be mocked.  
A man reaps what he sows.  
The one who sows to please his sinful nature,  
from that nature will reap destruction;  
the one who sows to please the Spirit,  
from the Spirit will reap eternal life."  
Galatians 6:7

Murray  
-----

**Re: - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2006/8/2 13:43**

Quote:

----- One friend of mine from the world that I prayed about 30 years ago became a Christian about 5 years ago.  
-----

Praise God for this! I've been praying for my brother - a Buddhist - for about 5 years now. Those prayers you prayed 30 years ago - God didn't forget them. I look so forward to the day when my faith becomes sight. Brothers and sisters, we must pray and pray and fight and wrestle and plead and tread the powers of darkness down as we interceded for the souls of men and women. We must never give up the fight. It took Gary 30 years to see God's manifest answer. Hallelujah - what's thirty years measured up against eternity? God answers prayer and saves to the uttermost - but everything is on His timetable.

Thank you for the inspiring testimony!

**Re: - posted by murdog (), on: 2006/8/2 15:44**

Rubblue,

I am not here to argue either. I am clarifying that alcoholism is not a disease. If you believe differently, I trust the Holy Spirit will guide you and me into all truth.

Don't stop posting because of something I said.  
We are meant to sharpen one another as iron does iron.

As someone who lived a life of addiction, I would be the last person to make light of it. I went to jail, I was homeless, I was insane, I was penniless, and I was hated.

Please don't be misguided into calling sin a disease.

In Love,

Murray

**Re: - posted by beenblake (), on: 2006/8/2 17:08**

WHO HERE IS GOD? DO NOT JUDGE!!!

Which of you is perfect, holy, and without sin? Which of you can look into the heart of a person and determine the true motives? Who can do this?

There is only one who is worthy of such. There is only ONE who can save a person.

It is the decision of God to decide who is saved and who is not. We are granted God's grace, God's favor. No one is saved by your favor. Only God can determine the actions of a person.

No person on earth has the capacity, capability, or authority to say who is Christian and who is not!! You cannot judge a

book by it's cover!!

Did not Abraham deceive Pharaoh? Did not King David commit adultery? Did not Moses sin when he brought forth water from the rock in anger? Did not Peter deny Christ three times? And what of you? Are you without sin?

None of us can say who is Christian and who is not. None of us can say who is saved and who is not. We can only observe the fruit, and can only see a person's actions.

While a person's actions may speak to the condition of their heart, it does not tell all. And just because a person is deceived and walking in blindness under a false teacher, a false doctrine, or false organization, does not mean their heart is in the right place. There are many whose hearts are right, but minds are deceived.

We can warn others of ungodly actions, we can point out a person is a bad Christian, we can say a person is not properly following Christ, we can point people to the teachings of Christ, but only God can say a person is not saved. Only God can say a person is a Christian or not. Only God!!!

Do not be so prideful or arrogant to think that in your limited earthly wisdom you can pass judgment just because you have seen the way a person acts. You cannot see all things, and even if God Himself had granted you such knowledge, you are not in a position to make such a declaration.

**YOU ARE NOT GOD! STOP JUDGING!**

And stop using scripture to justify this wickedness!

In Love and In Christ,

Blake

**Re: is sin a disease? - posted by roadsign (), on: 2006/8/2 17:21**

Quote:  
-----And people with the DISEASE of alcoholism should be prayed for just as a person with cancer, or any other disease. A disease is defined as a illness that is both progressive and fatal.  
-----

I understand the concern about calling alcoholism or sin a disease - because that could imply that there is nothing to repent from.

Quote:  
----- the foolishness of labeling sin a disease.  
-----

If I may, I'd like to take a stroll through scriptures and examine references that express sin as a disease:

Isaiah pronounced a dreadful diagnosis on the rebellious nation of Israel by referring to them as a wounded body:

Your whole head is injured,  
your whole heart is afflicted.  
From the soul of your foot to the top of your head,  
there is no soundness -  
only wounds and welts and open sores,  
not cleansed or bandaged or soothed with oil. Is. 1:5,6

Jeremiah also pronounced an utterly hopeless diagnosis on the rebellious nation of Israel:

"Your wound is incurable,  
your injury beyond healing.

There is no one to plead your cause,  
no remedy for your sore, no healing for you." Jer. 30:12

"Since my people are crushed, I am crushed;  
I mourn and horror grips me.  
Is there no balm in Gilead?  
Is there no physician there?" Jer. 8:21,22

Jeremiah spoke about heart disease (spiritual of course):

"The heart is deceitful above all things  
and beyond cure." Jer. 17:9

For sure, you here who have shared about your struggle with substance addictions know literally how true the following verse is:

The wages of sin is death.

Sin is a terminal condition. Band-aids and aspirin don't work. Yet people offer remedies like that:

"Prophets and priests alike all practice deceit.  
They dress the wound of my people  
as though it were not serious.  
Jer. 6:15.

The prophets warned them that their remedies wouldn't work:

"... not able to cure you,  
not able to heal your sores." Hosea 5:13

The prophets also foreshadow a remedy was coming that would work:

"...the leaves are for healing..." Ezekiel 47:12

"I will restore you to health and heal your wounds..."  
Jer. 30:17

"By his wounds we are healed." Is. 53:5

The cure is a heart transplant.

"I will give you a new heart  
and put a new spirit in you.  
I will remove your heart of stone  
and give you a heart of flesh.  
And I will put my Spirit in you  
and move you to follow my decrees..." Ez. 36:26  
"I will put my law in their minds,  
and write it on their hearts.  
I will be their God and they will be my people.  
For I will forgive their wickedness  
and remember their sins no more."  
Jer. 31:33,34

This cure is available to anyone!

"The tree of life ...and the leaves of the tree  
are for healing of the nations.Rev. 22:3

Sadly, many refuse the cure, and so on the final day, they will have no remedy:

"... in that day he will cry out, "I have no remedy." Is. 3:7

You may be rolling your eyes by now. But wait, I add one more point and it relates to Murray's comment:

Quote:

----- If it were true that it were a disease that would remove all the culpability from us.  
-----

Murray, may I suggest that we refer to sin as a fatal disease which has infected us through and through. We don't have much choice about having this sin disease and all the bad effects, but we do have the choice of choosing God's remedy.

It's sort of like, this: It doesn't make much difference if you have cancer because you smoked recklessly or because of pollution or a congenital weakness. But it makes a huge difference if you accept or reject the cure. And THAT is the responsibility of each sinner. Doesn't that give hope to the alcoholic?

Does that make sense?

Diane

**Re: - posted by murdog (), on: 2006/8/2 17:32**

Diane,

I understand where you are going with that line of reasoning. The key words used in the scriptures you cited were "injury, wound, etc.", which are distinctly different than a disease.

You nailed it when you said "calling it a disease, implies there is nothing to repent from"(my paraphrase). Which is exactly my point.

The sinful nature is like a disease, especially to our spiritual well being. But calling each sin itself a disease implies you do not have a choice to give in to it or to abstain.

Murray

**Re: - posted by roadsign (), on: 2006/8/2 21:24**

Quote:

-----"calling it a disease, implies there is nothing to repent from"  
-----

Murray, This is not MY thought, just what some fear would happen by using health-related words to express a sin condition.

I see no difference in any of the health related terms - illness, disease, malady, injury, wound. Which ever way, the sinner still has the responsibility of accepting the cure. That IS repentance. Repenting from certain sinful behaviors - ie, stopping them - just won't cure the disease. I know some former alcoholics who stopped drinking and then became workaholics. They still needed the cure.

A recovered alcoholic who works with alcoholics once said to me that he sees far better and more permanent results by referring to alcoholism as an illness. I guess that is because you have to recognize the utter hopelessness of your condition before you are ready to accept the cure. So long as you still believe that maybe YOU can fix yourself up, you will remain in bondage.

Does that make sense? Don't you think that God had a good reason to refer to sin as a fatal malady? Why not read through those verses again, and see if they twig in a different way now.

Diane

**Re: Please pray for Mel Gibson, on: 2006/8/3 4:25**

enid said:

Quote:

-----will God say to Mel Gibson, well done good and faithful servant..., or will He say, depart from Me...  
-----

Hi enid,

I think Beenblake has responded to the key thoughts in your post. I add some scripture.

(NKJV) Acts 10

42 And He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that **it is He who was ordained by God, Judge of the living and the dead.**

43 To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins.

Acts 17

29 Therefore, since we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, something shaped by art and man's devising.

30 Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent,

31 because **He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained.** He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead."

I believe these verses should sober us all up, (I'm not laughing, btw. This is a life and death serious business for all of our souls.) in regard to our own 'judgment' in that Day, and it may be that some denominations make their adherents more aware than others, of the finality of that moment. The reality of my own coming judgment is making me think favourably of Paul's words here:

(KJV) 1 Corinthians 9:27

But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

(NKJV) 1 Corinthians 9:27

But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.

(TEV)1 Corinthians 9:27

I harden my body with blows and bring it under complete control, to keep myself from being disqualified after having called others to the contest.

(NKJV) 1 Corinthians 11

30 For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep.

31 For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged.

**32 But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world.**

33 Therefore, my brethren, when you come together to eat, wait for one another.

Let's be patient, remembering that also is part of the fruit of the Spirit.

**Re: - posted by murdog (), on: 2006/8/3 9:55**

Diane,

I did see what you meant.

Usually with a disease, the sufferer doesn't have a choice to have it. The scriptures you chose use the words wound and injury. Which to me sound self inflicted.

My pastor always says the problem is never the problem. After I stopped using drugs, alcohol, and cigarettes, I started eating too much. I still had a hole to be filled inside me. No drug, no food, no sex could fill it. It took me a while to figure out what was missing. I was trying to substitute the joy of things for the joy of the Lord. It will never work.

P.S. Mel Gibson just hasn't entered into the Fullness of God yet. (This is me trying to stay on track.)

Murray

**Re: - posted by murdog (), on: 2006/8/3 10:08**

Diane,

I am not just trying to be right. I totally understand where you are coming from.

Since I was an addict, I feel I understand the desperate deceitfulness that comes with addiction. And believe me if I could have blamed my addictions on anything or anyone I would. In the beginning of getting straight, I told people I was an addict because my dad drank, or because my brother died, anything but admit that I made a choice to use drugs. Day after day. Yes drugs are addictive. So is pornography. Let's face it pleasure feels good. For a moment. And then what are we left with. More emptiness.

I believe it is dangerous to label sin a disease. If it leaves the person who is sinning feeling like he never had a choice to do right or to do wrong. And most of all that he is a victim and is to be pitied.

Murray