## My Dilemma

As I study about the issue of sin, and am researching through the scriptures exactly what the outcome of it is, I have somewhat of a dilemma.

Through the example of the Old Testament, it is obvious that the Children of Israel were the chosen ones of the Lord, however they continually grumbled and griped at the Lord for the least provocation they faced.

Miraculously they were delivered from Egypt only to find themselves in the middle of the desert without food and water. Grumbling against God and Moses, the Lord sent them manna and quail, water from the rock shade during the day and pillars of light to show them the way during the nighttime.

Still, they murmured against Moses and God, and eventually God gave them a program wherein they could cleanse themselves annually with the Passover lamb and the sacrifice. Poor folks could use a dove, but everyone was provided for.

Their sin was "covered" by their sacrifice for another year.

Then along comes God's provision to pay for the sin issue forever.

He Himself, in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ would pay with His life the price necessary to cleanse all who believe forever. No longer would sin and its penalty be on the table. The price was paid, the Lord God was satisfied and the issue had become a finished issue in His mind.

That would leave two kinds of folks on the earth today. Those who believe that the work of Jesus Christ on the cross as He became sin and God the Father poured out His wrath on the Son and the issue of sin on the earth had been settled, and those who did not believe that. Believers and unbelievers (John 3:17)

What was lost in the garden through Adam, was now recaptured by the finished work of Jesus Christ on the cross. Man could once again have fellowship with God Himself because that which had separated man form God (sin) had been paid for.

In the Holy of Holies within the temple the Jews build in the wilderness, the veil (a thick 3 inch wall of meshed steel) had been torn into two pieces from the "top to the bottom" that being important because it was initiated by God Himself tearing it from the top to the bottom signifying that there was a "new and living way in which man could now fellowship with a Holy God.

He started it, He finished it, man was now able to come directly to a Holy God because of what He did.

Who could come? All of those who believe the truth of what I have just said.

A very simple program. It did not depend upon someone's station in life, upon their upbring or their wealth but merely on their "belief" that Jesus had paid the price for their entrance into His fellowship.

Whosoever that believed could now come to their creator. Not just the chosen group of Israelites, but anyone who believed in what Jesus had done.

I understand that there are those who have a hard time accepting this free gift and want to add something to belief in order to receive this wonderful news, but I also understand that nothing can be added to what Jesus has done.

My dilemma however is over those who profess to belong to Him because of their belief in Him, yet they chose by their way of life to live contrary to all that He stands for.

I have a hard time getting my head around His finished work on our behalf and some of the positions those who claim to be His, take regarding sin.

For the life of me, I can't rectify a position of killing a baby in the womb. I can't square the circle of those who claim to belong to Him, yet support changing the gender of someone who is struggling with their identity trying to make a boy out of a girl. It seems impossible for me to grasp how anyone could continue to take a position that is obviously contrary to the will of God and make it a "hill in which they are willing to die." Doing evil things against a man because they don't like the way in which he talks. Wanting to destroy someone just because they disagree with you. Molesting precious children for their own gratification. What on earth has happened to our most trusted institutions? What is going on with our F.B.I. the C.I.A. our entire intelligence community?

I believe, as Blake Masters has said that we are seeing "affirmative action" realized with our present leadership. The peter principle is definitely in view as so many folks have been promoted one step above their ability.

When all is said and done, I must rely on the scriptures. Clearly, they say in 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 2:19 (NIV version) "nevertheless, God's solid foundation stands firm, sealed with the inscription: The Lord knows those who are his, <u>and</u>, everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness."

The proof is in the pudding. Though we are not to judge someone's position with the Lord we are able to determine a tree by its fruit.

I have no desire to cheat them from receiving a full cup of wrath if that is what they deserve I just have a hard time receiving them as a brother or sister if in fact they are not.

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