Sitting in the seat of the scornful...

DO NOT BECOME A SPIRITUAL BULLY -

Psalm 1:1-3

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, Nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; And in his law doth he meditate day and night.

Sitting in the seat of the scornful – looking down upon others, holding them to perfection and laying upon them expectations that can never be attained – to the point, they eventually will just give up – when one does this, they are standing in the way of a sinner's growth process, causing them to feel defeated and worthless and wanting to give up. The Bible also calls this – laying heavy burdens on people, burdens that the Lord never intended us to carry.

Mathew 23:4

For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers.

As these burdens are laid upon another – these expectations deemed important by man, not only are they standard setters, they also will not assist you to carry the burden they lay upon you, which only promotes a defeated thought process, in opposition to bringing the Good News to people, which sets captives free and cultivates growth and intimacy with the Lord Jesus.

Let's define scornful by Hebrew meaning:

It is describing a teacher, interpreter of the Word, an ambassador for the Lord who in turn becomes a mocker, scorner and in derision.

Going deeper – it is one who talks arrogantly, is boasting on self, mocks other believers and is proven to have an inflated ego based on their interpretation of God's word. They like to cast blame on those who are suffer and accuse them for being responsible for the condition they are in.

Proverbs 3:34 says – the Lord will scorn the scorners but give grace to the lowly. It also says to not reprove a scorner or he will hate you, but rebuke a wise man and he will love you.

Job's friends were doing this very thing to him – as written in Job 16:20, it says, My friends scorn me, but my eyes pour out tears unto God.

This happens a lot... scorners do not know your heart, so they attack rather than comfort and encourage. We've all been scorned at times, rather than embraced or scrutinized when we were doing our very best to serve the Lord and seek Him. I actually just went through this myself and it is very hurtful. Yet, I am grateful because feeling the pain of it, keeps me from doing this to others.

My daughter Shelby has taught me the most about not sitting in the seat of the scornful. She's taught me to listen rather than correct at times she is at her lowest and to not expect her to be perfect, just to be loving and kind and compassionate. She's taught me more about rules without relationship with someone breeds rebellion and they withdraw from you, while wanting love from you at the same time, they almost fear your touch. I've learned to pick my battles with her and what is and is not important to address and that her qualities that are unique to her, but are

different than me are not necessary wrong... just different and that although we all are created equal, we are not the same. I've learned to let go of things that do not matter and to not sweat the small stuff as long as she loves Jesus He will direct her path and I am to encourage, not provoke her to anger.

Most importantly, I've learned to listen... I've asked questions like – tell me how to love you and what makes you cry, so I am not the source of your tears. I've learned to stop talking long enough to let her speak without interrupting to correct. I've learned to take turns in conversations without talking over her while attempting to change her mind before all her thoughts have been expressed.

I've learned a relationship with her is more important than being right and that she too has much to offer to the World and she too is a work in progress just like I am. I see now I do not need to Lord over her as a task master, but do my part to cultivate a soft place for her land for the sake of love in a place where love seems to be dwindling by the moment.

I learned to not raise the bar each time she reaches my approval, so she doesn't feel defeated like I cannot be pleased no matter what she does. I encourage her with my words, tell her I am proud of her and seek the small things to point out she does right.

Why did I go from being scornful to encouraging? A couple years ago she looked me in the eyes with tears streaming down her face and said... "I will never be able to please you, you expect me to be perfect, so I am giving up..." I knew in that moment – I was the one who needed to change, not her and I also knew that she was not just giving up trying to do the right thing – she was giving up on us and our relationship would fragment and dissipate quickly, if I did not love her like Jesus does. I also learned in order to be in relationship and keep fellowship with someone you must adhere to being slow to speak and quick to listen because it is through listening you learn the most compassionate ways to love another.

Jesus showed me I was the one who needed changing and just how scornful I had been.

Scornful people demand perfection out of others, using control to infuse who they perceive you should be to meet their needs as if you are there to bend to their demands and criteria.

They judge before the time others, while neglecting to judge themselves as we are commanded to do. And like we spoke yesterday, they use the Scripture as a sword to harm others with, convinced they have the full knowledge of the truth, but they are in truth every learning and never understanding without love – we are clanging cymbals.

I get countless emails from people who have done damage to those they love and now are in situations where family and friends refuse to be around them... all because they were "telling them the truth" so they think... When we do this, we sacrifice the relationship for the cause of being right and we burn bridges to the very ones we have been anointed and sent to reach with the Gospel. It's a sad, sad situation. And more often than not, when I try to encourage them in the Lord to own their part – they get highly offended and I too become the target of their scornful ways. Lord have mercy. So many of you all have fragmented relationships with people that with one quick phone call in humility could be mended and love would prevail. To open the door for reconciliation we must be open to listen and hear, rather than command another. Chances are that person would just love to hear from you, if you put your sword down. And chances are they would not ask you to deny Jesus, but rather just realize they are imperfect too. Love covers a multitude of sin, the problem is, we often think we have none.

The scornful also easily join ranks with the accuser of the brethren and will readily falsely accuse others over encouraging them. They lack the faith to see we are all in a process and as long as

someone has breath, there is nothing the blood of Jesus cannot overcome and save a person from. They will judge today, ignoring that one is being authored by Him and not quite finished yet.

By threatening others to do what you say or go to hell is extremely dangerous ground to be on - as you make yourself like God, equal to Him, saying who is and is not permitted into Heaven. Commanding others to hear and abide by the standards you set or keep will push them away from you and possibly even the Lord.

The truth is, we do not know... we see in part and we know in part – but there is only one judge on that day and His Name is Jesus. Not one soul on Earth has the ability to speak to the end of someone's life's choices – another way to deny Jesus as He is the perfect Author and Finisher of everyone's faith. If they are still breathing – there is nothing done that the loving Blood of Jesus cannot cleanse. Nothing.

It is not important whether people conform to our opinions, convictions, doctrines and beliefs – what matter the most is they are seeking Jesus as Lord and Savior and that they repent and cry out to Him for saving – HE WILL DO THE REST.

Stop holding people's feet to the religious fire you kindled – let the Holy Spirit do the convicting in someone's life and only if they ask for your assistance should you intervene. We are not in any position to go around warning people like we got it all going on... anyone of us could fall away at any given moment if it weren't for the Lord's grace and mercy keeping us on the straight and narrow path.

Who is righteous? Not one. Let God be true and every man a liar – because He alone is the Segway to the Father. Jesus said in the Word – if you've seen me, you've seen the Father – as Jesus was the Word made flesh as a demonstration of how to walk Heavenly in the Earthly Kingdom. Anything good within us is Him abiding within.

Spiritually bullies are very self-righteous, based in works, deceived into a self-reflection of perfection. Our righteousness, the good we convince ourselves we do – is still like, filthy rags when laid out side by side to Jesus. We may do a hundred Holy things – yet they are tainted if the intentions are wrong... We like to overlook that don't we? Only Jesus can determine the eternal fate of another because He knows the intentions.... He not only knows what we do, He knows why we do it – that's a determination reserved solely for Him.

To the pure, all things are pure... Once purified, you stop all witch hunt mob activities because you no longer try to threaten and bully people to the Kingdom, you love them into it because that is what Jesus did – to the pure, Jesus is your example and if you cannot find in His word Him saying or doing something – you don't do it either.

I can see much more clearly now why it says... the peacemakers shall inherit the Earth. So many inside the Earthly church believe Jesus has delayed His coming they are smiting their fellow servants and worse... they are plundering those who have not been led to Jesus yet and even worse, they prevent them from entering in.... Jesus said it is the sick who are in need of a physician.... Speaking of Himself. But most prefer to point out uncleanliness rather than point the lame and sick to Jesus.

We cannot save ourselves and we cannot save another.

We cannot earn our way into Heaven by works and we cannot be righteous enough to enter in.

We cannot save our flesh, it will never be pure anyway and we cannot do enough Holy things to cover the flesh that is decayed and dying.

We will never live perfect lives and we are all growing in our faith doing our best to surrender, but leaning on our own understanding to accomplish salvation will lift us up in pride.

Passing an eternal sentence on someone based on outward actions will reveal our true nature of being wretched, blind and naked.

Jesus holds the keys to life and death – He and the Father are One, determining when we are born and when we die.

Never deny what Jesus has given you – hold onto those pearls – don't share them if you aren't released to do so or they will be trampled and used against you by spiritual bullies.

JESUS IS COMING IN THE CLOUDS, He is coming down just as He went up

THOSE WHO ARE ALIVE will be gathered to Him in the clouds and those who died before He came again, will rise first to join Him in the air.

The name of the event is not important – the event is – and the enemy is really weaving division through tiny deceitful distractions using the hook of a name.

My prayer is... none of us deny Him before His return. If we can get caught up on the event name, the enemy knows we will believe Jesus has delayed His coming and fights will break out... its happening you all at an alarming rate these days.

Spiritual bullies sit continually in the seat of the scornful –

PSALM 1:1

<u>1Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, or set foot on the path of sinners, or sit in the seat of mockers.</u> <u>2But his delight is in the Law of the LORD, and on His law he meditates day and night....</u>

We know all the angels in Heaven rejoice over one sinner when they repent – they reflect the true nature of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit –

We do not need to keep thinking ahead of time what to say, if the Father, Son and Holy Spirit abide within us — we will be given what to say at any given time as it is not us who speaks, but they as one in agreement speak through us. Those who do not have the power residing within, constantly try to formulate a plan, devising what to say. Only their words contain life altering power within another. Our words fall short at best, often lacking love and are scrutinizing. To follow in the footsteps of Jesus, everything spoken and done must be carried out in love, because He is love. It is the purity of love which draws all unto Himself.

You can do miracles, healings, wonders, prophesied, etc... but unless your heart is one with Him, He will say I never knew you, depart from Me you worker of iniquity... Again, it is not what we do, but why we do it... We need to be asking ourselves... Is what I do to reach others based in love? Demonstrated in action by visiting those deemed unclean, understand all that we do to the least of these (saved and unsaved) we are doing unto Jesus...

You are only serving Him by action if you do what He commanded us by being His hands and feet to the lost. Not preaching to the choir as so many choose to do, but truly going out and sharing the good news which is the Gospel of Jesus.

The religious look narrowly upon those who seems unworthy, but those whose hearts are close to Jesus know Him and do as He would do by...

MATHEW 7:

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. ²² Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' ²³ And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

²⁴ "Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: ²⁵ and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.

²⁶ "But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: ²⁷ and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall."

²⁸ And so it was, when Jesus had ended these sayings, that the people were astonished at His teaching, ²⁹ for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

Many people in the church hear the word, but refuse to apply them and walk them out.

There are sheep and there are goats. And honestly, you just never know who you are dealing with these days until someone reveals their true nature.

MATHEW 25:

"When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. ³² All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides *his* sheep from the goats. ³³ And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. ³⁴ Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; ³⁶ I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.'

³⁷ "Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed *You*, or thirsty and give *You* drink? ³⁸ When did we see You a stranger and take *You* in, or naked and clothe *You*? ³⁹ Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' ⁴⁰ And the King will

answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.'

⁴¹ "Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: ⁴² for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.'

⁴⁴ "Then they also will answer "Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?' ⁴⁵ Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do *it* to one of the least of these, you did not do *it* to Me.' ⁴⁶ And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

His own – reflect His nature by...

Feeding the hungry fruit off the Tree of Life only

Giving those who thirst water from pure waters to drink from.

Caring for and tending to strangers, those who are not spiritually aware or clean or saved yet.

By covering in clothing those who are spiritually naked and exposed.

By visiting those who are sick being moved by compassion and comfort.

Visiting those in prison – held captive in their sin.

Haven't we all been there ourselves at some point, needing Jesus to send one into our lives to assist us on our spiritual journey?

We've been hungry and weak, thirsting for things in the World, strangers to Jesus – not of the family of God yet – dirty and unsaved, exposing ourselves in every sort of way – naked and vile, sick in the soul with wounds unimaginable – weak, holding grudges and vengeance towards those who inflicted us with pain and bound to sin, being held captive, in the grip of the enemy, walking a path of destruction. Wasn't this us all us before we knew Jesus and began to seek His help?

Have we so forgotten how far we have fallen, that we now readily can pass by the one on their deathbed crying for help? Or refuse to touch the unclean to save our own lives? Or that we demand they pick up their beds and walk or kick them while they are down because we no longer remember the sin cased bodies that crippled us for years?

How did we get to this point? How did we fall so far away from the truth of who we used to be that we self-righteously demand others fall in our self-perceived perfected ways?