

I die daily.....

I can remember back before I got saved, and I know I talk about that right along, but with reason. I try and reflect back to where I was because I never want to forget what I've been given. "I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee". Forgiveness and a new birth were things I didn't fully understand. I look back and I realize I simply did not think about this stuff. I was living in opposition to the ways of God, but the thought was not in my mind that, "I am an enemy of God". But that is exactly what I was. I am reminded in the moment of what God says, "Those that are not gathering, are scattering". No matter how good we may think we are, if we are not walking in Christ, we are scattering.

There is no righteousness outside of Jesus Christ. Our right standing is in Him, and can be found no other place. So many people are gauging their righteousness on their deeds. And good deeds are great, but it's not the deciding factor. You can have good deeds and a wrong heart. Why we do things can be just as vital to what we have done. No amount of right living can cleanse us from sin. We can't live good enough to be saved. It's not something any one of us can earn, it's a gift from God. It levels the field. It takes all the things this world would like to elevate, completely away. Your righteousness in the eyes of God will never have anything to do with how much money you have, where you were born, the color of your skin, how many or certainly how few sins you have committed. God is no respecter of persons. I am thankful for that. I am thankful for "the way" that God has provided. That any one of us, can come as we are. We can come broken, hurt, over our heads, having failed, having hurt others, and I could just keep listing, but you get the point. God loves us and invites us to come to Him. He gives us the opportunity to put that old man off. We can put away the old ways, we can set sail on a new course. That was the greatest day of my life. 22 years ago, I got saved, I was reborn......that day I was made

righteous in Christ, I can promise you it wasn't earned. He is my Rock! I have failed Him since that day, but He has always been there to lift me back to my feet.

".....and I will clothe thee with change of rainment", that precious robe of righteousness. "Blessed is he whose sin is covered"! Is yours? Have you been washed by the blood of Jesus Christ? Have you put off the old man? Have you been renewed, reborn? If you have, then give God praise! You have received the greatest gift man has ever known. If you haven't, be thankful for this moment in time that God is giving you an opportunity. You can confess your sin, ask for forgiveness, accept the Sacrifice of Christ Jesus, and today, this very moment, you can receive the robe of righteousness. It's not about who you are or even who you were, but about the brokenness we all have felt because of sin, we all need forgiveness.

That's what I remember more than anything about the day I got saved, it was the fresh start. God is in that business! I just want to thank Him today for a new beginning in life. I never want to forget what's been done. God love you......have you enjoyed a fresh start? Do you need to?

God bless – Pastor Paul

July 9

I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment. Zech. 3:4

Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Psa. 32:1

We are all as an unclean thing. <u>Isa. 64:6</u>

I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not. <u>Rom. 7:18</u>

As many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Gal. 3:27

Ye have put off the old man with his deeds; and have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him. <u>Col. 3:9</u>, <u>10</u>

Not having mine own righteousness which is of the law, but ... the righteousness

which is of God by faith. Phil. 3:9

Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him. Luke 15:22

The fine linen is the righteousness of saints. <u>Rev. 19:8</u>

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness. Isa. 61:10