Arturo Guerrero, AH-0800 Words Uncaged Submission Religious Memoir

"Finding my way back to Him"

I remember a time in my life when I enjoyed what I was doing. Subconsciously, I really enjoyed living a life of sin but please understand that even if I could, I cannot begin to reveal the true depths of my many sins.

I believe that there is something in us that blocks us from sharing a depth so ugly that we dare not touch that door. Yet we think we are humble when we share a particular sin with others in hopes of asking for forgiveness from them and or to be a teaching tool for others. Thanks be to God that He knows the heart of man. After all, it is Him who is able and willing to show me the mercy, forgiveness, and love needed for me to truly live as He intended me to. Despite all I have done and been through, I thank God I do not live in self-pity, only gladly accepting His triumphant victory over sin. The victory that allows and enables me to live with His grace in my heart. The very grace needed to stand and face myself in the mirror each and every morning, and see myself as He sees me: a sinner saved by grace. Thanks be to God! I say that to say this.

I was, I met and now I am! I was sinner in need of forgiveness, I met Christ, repented and received His forgiveness, and today I am a child of the Most High. God's Word is that mirror, and every one of us has to have the courage to look at ourselves in its reflection. God's Word will reflect who you are. Depending where you stand with Him, you will get one of two reflections back. I once saw death as I began to look into the Word of God. But God! Today I see life! Now that I see and believe who He reflects me to be, I am sorry to find that I was the sort of man who lived in sin. I am encouraged by what we find in (2 Cor. 7:10)...*For the kind of sorrow God wants is to experience leads us away from sin and results in salvation. There's no regret for that kind of sorrow. But worldly sorrow, which lacks repentance, results in spiritual death*...Being sorry that the man, myself, should have done such sins, but today I firmly stand in Hope, it was (is) possible, that somehow, and at the appointed time, I was forgiven and restored. Thanks be to God I came to the realization that Christ offers something for nothing; He even offers everything for nothing.

And so, what is the difference between worldly or godly repentance? Remember, we Christians think man lives forever. Therefore, what really matters is those little marks or twists on the central, inside part of the soul which are going to turn it, in the long run, into a heavenly or hellish creature. After this godly repentance that I found and spoke, I remember asking God, "Why and what did You make me for?" No answer. Complete silence. A door slammed shut and double-bolted from the inside. More eerie silence. Then came an admission on my behalf, "I don't exactly know why and what You made me for, but I do know what You didn't make me for." The life of sin I was living was not His purpose for me. And it's the same with you my brothers and sisters in Christ. He made us so that we may know Him; He wants to give Himself to us.

And there came the discovery for me. Every part of my being, my power of thinking or moving my limbs from moment to moment, is given to me by God. I am humbled and grateful for His residence in my heart and life. If I devoted every moment of my whole life exclusively to His service I could not give Him anything that was not in a sense His own already. *Let us be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus* (1 Thess. 5:18).

In Christ Jesus, Arturo Guerrero