AIE 102 PURGING YOUR CONSCIENCE

Bible speaks of 3 kinds of "Works"
1 - "Evil Works" Col 1:21 "And you, that were sometimes alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works..." Normal things recognized.
2 - "Good Works" Eph 2:10 "... Created in Christ Jesus unto good works which God hath ordained we should walk in them" Service areas he planned for us.
3 - "Dead Works" Heb 9:14 "How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal spirit offered Himself without spot to God, PURGE YOUR CONSCIENCE from DEAD WORKS to serve the Living God."
The key statement: those things "we ought to do" to become better christians will help us understand and expose this destructive work in most lives. - ought to: be more prepared to be used of God - pray more - read more - church more - give more - witness more - care more.

I - The right things we try honestly and seriously to put into practice but fail to fulfill, never quite succeed in doing persistently.

II - The right things we fail to do and a hidden sense of guilt that most fail to recognize.

III - The right things we do not so often make us miserable, ill at ease, interfere with relationship with God and others.

IV - Periods of "dead works" later interfere with joy and satisfaction from service we may enter - causes to seem heavy - hard - requires too much.

V - Failure to continue in what you start, adds additional sense of guilt that is usually justified - excused - ignored because not "evil works."

VI - "Dead Works" are not classified as "evil works" and so reject any conviction by saying - legalism - puts under condemnation to justify not doing it.

VII - Blindness to "dead works" as sin prevents repentance so Satan uses to dry up and defeat.

VIII - Attempts to serve without cleansing from "dead works" (ought to's) births failure, just like evil works.

IX - Failure in "dead works" slowly dilutes concept of commitment - cannot see real value since do not do "evil works."

X - "Dead works" mentality eliminates serving God as a priority - not really, really, necessary.

XI - "Dead works" attitude says: they're just trying to get me to do this when I don't see any personal benefit from serving.

"You shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free"
STOP AND THINK: What is it in me that keeps me from fulfilling the "ought to's" ? Why don't I want to?

AM I ENOUGH SERIES

AIE 103: Recovering Your High Level of Faithfulness

JO. 14:12-14 "Verily, verily, I say unto you (Elbert Willis) the things that I do shall you do also.

TEST QUESTION: Why are you faithful ?

I. RECOGNIZE YOUR CURRENT SPIRITUAL POSITION

A - Message I taught in 1983 "growing continually"
B - Heavenly manna becomes earthly memory - familiar truths go stale
C - Sensitivity to what is sin weakens
D - Harder to be stirred so blame someone or something.
E - Realize JESUS still loves you and understands your struggles and condition.

II. RECOGNIZE PROVISIONS HAVE BEEN MADE

A - Every sin was anticipated and paid for by the blood of JESUS once and for all at calvary.
B - Knowledge itself is not enough, but must acknowledge & apply for cleansing (strength usually comes after cleansing).

III. THE PERSONAL CHOICE AND DECISION MUST BE MADE

A - The call to complete faithfulness has already been issued.
B - A choice and decision we must face again & again between the levels of Christian commitment & living.
C - We choose to remain faithful, return if fail OR settle to a lower level.

IV. THE DOORWAY TO, or BACK TO, FAITHFULNESS IS WIDE OPEN

A - Am I Enough Series - Which is greater? Your sins of comission or omission OR the cleansing blood of JESUS?
I John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."
B - Joshua says "Choose you this day whom you will serve"

- CHOOSE YOUR LEVEL ALSO -

" AM I ENOUGH SERIES "

AIE 104 ENDURING TO THE END

I. PLAN OF ENDURANCE
- A. The word "endurance" itself is an alert sign that the Christian walk is paved with difficulties that are to be overcome - the normal Christian thing to do.
- B. The plan is to teach and train us that we cannot handle the pressures by ourselves - Heb. 13:5
- C. The plan is to break our self-confidence to replace it with the best - God's confidence.
- D. II Tim.3:10 "Thou hast fully known my manner of life- endurance - persecutions."
- E. Ja.5:11 "We count them happy who have endured, you have heard of the endurance of Job."
- F. Rom.5:3 "Knowing that tribulation worketh endurance", not slow up or stop.
- G. Rev.2:2"I know thy works, thy labor, & the endurance"

II. PLACE OF ENDURANCE (ROLE- Number one supporter of faith)
- A. Heb.6:12 "Followers of them who through faith and patience (endurance) inherit THE PROMISE."
- B. Heb.6:15 "Abraham, after he had endured, obtained THE PROMISE."
- C. Heb.10:35 "For you have need of endurance, that AFTER you have done the will of God, you might receive THE PROMISE.
- D. Rom.8:25 "If we hope for that we SEE NOT (have by faith), THEN do we with endurance wait for it".
- E. Ja.1:3-4 "The trying of YOUR FAITH worketh endurance"
- F. Ja.1:12 "Blessed is the man who endureth temptations (not give in to)"

III. POWER OF ENDURANCE -Divine quality that must be developed - Quality that necessitates commitment.
- A. Heb.12:2-4 LOOKING UNTO JESUS (not yourself) the finisher of our faith, who endured the cross (and we complain), consider Him that endured such contradiction (grievous opposition & bitter hostility) of sinners against Himself, LEST you be wearied & faint.
- B. Heb.11:13 "These all died in faith, not having received THE PROMISE.

CONCLUSIONS:
-If you make CHOICE, you can change BUT make a COMMITMENT that is UNCHANGABLE !!
-Until Christians learn & develop the quality of endurance, many will be defeated either slowly or swiftly.
-All Christians when born again receive what is necessary but Satan dilutes, drys up & defeats because of lack of

COMMITMENT TO ENDURE ALWAYS !!

" AM I ENOUGH SERIES "

AIE 101 GOING ON OR GOING BACK

I - PAUL SAID in I Cor.9:27 "..lest by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway"
1. Going back is a possibility, as well as a probability. Even CHRISTIANS must be alert, especially if the Apostles mentioned it. The bible lists many of those who stopped going on.
2. Standing still is the Impossibilty.
3. The Christian life is like riding a bicycle, if you do not go keep going on, you lose your balance and fall.
4. Here are some scriptures to alert and warn you to the possibility of danger.

Hebrews 3:12 "Take heed, lest you depart from the living God"
Hebrews 10:22 "Let us draw near"
Hebrews 10:23 "Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering"
Hebrews 10:35 "Cast not away therefore your confidence"
Hebrews 10:38 "If any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him"
Heb. 10:39 "We are not of them who draw back unto perdition"

II - HARM FROM HARDNESS :
Hebrews 3:13 "but exhort one another DAILY, while it is called today; lest any of you be hardened through deceitfulness of sin."
1. Justify themselves, will not admit anything wrong or a fault because sin has masked itself & deceived them.
2. Pride now rationalizes their compromise by compassion with sins they see in others as worse or really bad!
3. Hardness causes them to hide themselves more and more among other people they do not know; thinking that is the solution. Old saying: "grass is greener over the hill (another church)"
4. Pressure discourages: Mt. 13:21 "He hath not root (endurance) in himself, but does for a while; for when tribulation (affliction or troubles) or persecution ariseth because of the Word, by and by he is offended (falls away - drops back).

III - SOLUTION TO THE SITUATION :
1. Mt. 24:13 "He that endureth to the end shall be saved"
2. Heb. 3:6 "If we hold fast the confidence and rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end"
3. Heb. 3:14 "If we hold fast the beginning of our confidence steadfast unto the end"
4. Heb. 10:27 "Let us hold fast the profession (lips and life) of our faith without wavering; (for He is faithful who promises) - REWARD for faithfulness and JUDGEMENT for un-faithfulness.