

**May 20, 2022**

The Lord wants you to experience real and abundant life:

**Ps. 11:7 *For the LORD is righteous, He loves justice; the upright will see His face. (NIV)***

The LORD is righteous. Let that soak in for just a moment. He is not mostly righteous. He is not righteous in most of His acts. He is righteous. He is the standard of all that is right and just. It is not what He does, it is Who He is, and He cannot act any different. He blesses those who walk in His righteousness. Our pursuit of a righteous life will continually bring His blessings and His favor. However, this is not a pursuit of the keeping of the law per se, but of knowing the One Who gave us His law. It is in knowing Him and because of that, and keeping His law, that we find the freedom to truly live.

Now here is an important part of living in His presence and enjoying His life. We must love the things He loves and hate the things He hates. Not people, but actions. We are to hate the sin but love the sinner. That's how God loves us. No matter how bad we have been. No matter what egregious act we may have perpetrated, He will still love us. This reminds me of an illustration that Chuck Colson shared in his book, *Who Speaks For God?*

*In 1961 a man by the name of Adolph Eichmann went on trial for his crimes as one of the principle architects of the Jewish Holocaust. One of the men who testified against the ex-Nazi was a concentration camp survivor named Yehiel Dinur. A film clip from Eichmann's 1961 trial shows Dinur walking into the courtroom, stopping short, seeing Eichmann for the first time since the Nazi had sent him to Auschwitz eighteen years earlier. Dinur began to sob uncontrollably, then fainted, collapsing in a heap on the floor as the presiding judicial officer pounded his gavel for order in the crowded courtroom. Was Dinur overcome by hatred? Fear? Horrid memories? No; it was none of these. Dinur explained that when he saw Eichmann he realized Eichmann was not the godlike army officer who had sent so many to their deaths. This Eichmann was an ordinary man. "I was afraid about myself," said Dinur. ". . . I saw that I am capable to do this. I am . . . exactly like he." Mike Wallace, of CBS' 60 Minutes summed up Dinur's terrible discovery by saying, "Eichmann is in all of us." That is a horrifying statement; but it captures the central truth about man's nature. For as a result of the Fall, sin is in each of us, not just the susceptibility to sin, but sin itself.*

May we walk in His love today instead of in our own way. May we remember that we are His.

**Dear LORD, You alone are righteous. We honor You and bow before Your holiness. Help us to so desire to be in Your presence, that all of our own desires would fade away. We need You LORD. In Jesus Name, Amen**