



Hello again from Quarantine. We were sitting around the house yesterday and the power went off for about 15 minutes. That 15 minutes was enough for me to realize, this could be worse. We have food on the table and Netflix ... LOL.

I remember growing up there were times when my parents would tell me there was somewhere they didn't want me to go. There were other times when they would warn me to not keep certain company. As a teenager, all I saw was a rule, I didn't really understand the why. Looking back now, I can clearly see the love my parents had for me and their desire to protect me.

I had a toddler in foster care at one point. I remember her wanting to stick something in an electric socket. When I pulled her away from it, she got mad and started crying. I understood the danger, but all she could see was me stopping her from doing what she wanted.

Today's devotion is about that very type of thing. God warns us, to steer clear of certain things. He even says it as Father to His children "...Little children, keep yourselves from idols come out from among them". He says "Touch not the unclean thing". In our flesh we may just see these things as rules. But it's so much more than that. God doesn't just set boundaries, He sets borders of protection in our life. He loves us. When you look at the "why" of God, our view of the rules change completely. He knows the dangers, He sees the end from the beginning.

I didn't always listen to my parents growing up. There were times I crossed the lines that they had drawn. I learned the lessons about their "why's" the hard way. God wants to protect us, He wants the best for us. Look at the word from that perspective. We may not always know the exact reasons "why" with God, but the one thing we can be sure of is it will always be out of love for you and I, and I am so grateful that He loves me so much.

I hope this devotion stirs your thinking today.

God bless - Pastor

April 2

If ye do return unto the Lord with all your hearts, then put away the strange gods and Ashtaroth from among you, and prepare your hearts unto the Lord, and serve him only.

Little children, keep yourselves from idols. — Come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty. — Ye cannot serve God and Mammon.

Thou shalt worship no other god: for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God. — Serve him with a perfect heart with a willing mind: for the Lord searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts.

Behold, thou desireth truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom. — Man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart. — Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God.

I SAM. 7:3. I John 5:21. -II Cor. 6:17,18. -Matt. 6:24. Exo. 34:14. -I Chr. 28:9. Psa. 51:6. -I Sam. 16:7. -I John 3:21