

Changing the Measuring Tape

By Marlene R.

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This morning God was showing me something that I have never seen before, and I would like to share it with you. If we really want to know if our walking as Christians has been according to the word of God, we should not measure ourselves by those who are doing right neither by those who are doing wrong. Because this can be a huge opened door for self-righteousness and judgment, and it will block us from seeking the fullness of Christ being formed in us!

Be honest with yourself, if you see somebody doing something wrong, wouldn't you say right away..."Thank you God that I'm not like them."? Your self-righteousness makes you think we're better than them. And if you see somebody doing something right, your self-righteousness makes you think, "Thank you God I'm just as good as they are." But the Word says that when we do this we are without understanding and behaving unwisely. Because the measuring tape that we are using is the wrong one.

"For we dare not make ourselves of the number or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves but they measuring themselves by themselves and comparing themselves among themselves they are without understanding and behave unwisely." II Cor 10:12

God kept talking to me about measures...And He reminded me about His temple made by the hands of men. Every bit of it was so perfectly measured. Every inch of it was planned and measured very precisely. Then He took me to this scripture in I Cor. 3:16, "Do you not know that you are the **temple** of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?" How much more perfectly measured is to be this temple, the temple made by the hands of the Most High Holy God?!

Can't you see God is at work? We need to cooperate with him and follow His instructions until His project is done. God is extending a measuring line on all of us (Isaiah 65:7). He will not stop until He sees us growing into a holy temple in the Lord.(Ephesians 2:19-22). We can accelerate His process if we just stop wasting our time with comparisons and measuring ourselves with the imperfect man because our goal is CHRIST!

JESUS is our best measuring tape. We should measure ourselves by Jesus and compare ourselves with Him, and Him alone. He is our aim. Our example. The author and finisher of our faith. This new temple has new instructions: His Word!

Get this measuring tape and try to measure yourselves this time with this in your mind: How much of Him do I have? How much do I act like Him? What is the stature of Christ inside of me? We cannot let our self-righteousness define how good we look as the sons of God. These filthy rags need to be torn. When we see someone falling we have to fight the thought that somehow we are better than they are because we are not falling like them. This feeling of relief is coated with self-righteousness and judgment.

We all are far from being perfect according to the kind of perfection that God is looking for, but one thing we do is to set our eyes on Him and keep moving forward. He is our standard! We don't want to be like anybody else but Jesus. We don't want to be Christians according to our own measure of Christianity. We want the fullness! We are those who want the fullness of Christ!

“till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;” **Ephesians 4:13**

I long to see the perfect measure of Christ in you and in me. He walks among His people with the measuring tape in His hand. He doesn't measure us by how we measure ourselves. It's not about our performances, it's not even about how ahead or behind we are when we compare ourselves with others. It's about how we follow His instructions written in His Holy words so this Holy temple can be built according to His own heart!

Let us be wise and get understanding. How big is He in you? What is this weight of His glory that you carry? Have you gotten the fullness of Christ yet? Have you reached the perfection which is in Christ? What is the stature of Christ in you? Are we as the Body of Christ coming together to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God? Are we as saints being fitted together? Are we growing into a holy temple in the Lord? Have we gotten to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ? He is extending HIS measuring line on all of us. According to Christ, how mature are you?

Love you,

Marlene H Roessiger.