

Heart to Heart

*Bringing our hearts to Him,
Receiving His Heart for us!*

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Dear ,

*The "**Accuser of the Brethren**" certainly gets around. Almost every day at the Mission someone comes to me torn up by something someone said about them behind their back. It is all too easy for them to recognize this kind of accusation, and relatively easy for me to help them find freedom from it. Far harder is learning to recognize and gain freedom from the whispered accusations in the back of your mind...*

Steve

The "Voice" That Seeks to Enslave

You have to "hear" it to effectively turn it off...

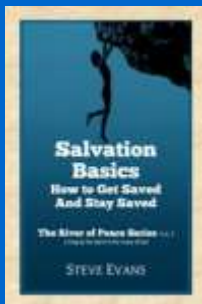
There is "static" on the dial. If all we needed to discern were the thoughts of the Lord, our lives would be so much simpler. But there is another kingdom speaking to us, seeking to bring us into agreement with its ways of thinking and acting upon the earth. Think of it as "**Radio Satan,**" always trying to jam the airwaves.

One of the strategies of that other kingdom is to make their thoughts seem like our own thoughts or God's thoughts--so that wrong thoughts will go unrecognized. There is therefore a great need on our part to learn to discern these hidden ways of the enemy and to **recognize his voice**. Paul said that the Early Church was no longer "in the dark" about the enemy and his ways, "ignorant of his devices" (2 Co 2:10-11).



The voice of accusation has both a content of accusing words, and an oppressive quality of voice in the way those thoughts are formed--*an insistent pressure to tear down, but never to build up*. The Spirit of the Lord does not speak in that way. Let your spiritual senses, as well as your intellect, become fine tuned to recognizing and resisting this voice.

But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil. Hebrews 5:14

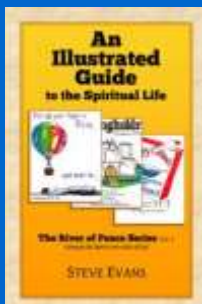


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Just as the enemy seeks by his deceiving words to draw us deeper into agreement with his ways of thinking and acting, he is also seeking--at the same time--to isolate us, separate us, and divide us by drawing us away from the peace of Christ into turmoil, fear, suspicion and judgment. If he can also cut us off from our fellowship with others by a back stab, so much the better! The accuser divides by using **truth with a twist in it** that is hard to recognize and which brings convincing accusations in three areas. He tries to separate us:

- * From God, His Word or His Person
- * From our true self, the person we could become
- * From others, as God sees them

Accusation and condemnation are the exact opposite of what God is doing through Christ. Paul says that God neither accuses, nor condemns us (Romans 8:32-35). His desire is for the one in sin to be gently restored (Galatians 6:1-2). **Until death comes, there is always hope** for restoration to God and separation from sins through repentance, grace and faith. We are meant to keep heaven's hard won, hope-filled perspective in our hearts towards everyone.

So let's settle this once and for all. Accusation and condemnation come from the enemy--not God. Satan measures out his charges with just enough apparent truth to hook us, but he always twists our thoughts away from God's perspective of grace and mercy. **Don't give in to it!**

From the Garden to the Globe

It's been growing like a weed ever since...

PHASE 1) How accusation got its start: Satan, whose name means "adversary," began with accusations against God's Word in the Garden (Genesis 3). Drawn away from trusting God, Adam and Eve fell into separation from God and spiritual death along with it.



Although they did not realize it at first, they now had a new father--the devil--whose nature entered them and whose own image and ways were beginning to distort the Image of God they carried (John 8:31-38).

When the Lord returned, He said something astonishing to Adam: "Who told you that you were naked?" God's word to Adam was meant to open his eyes to see that the Accuser was still speaking to him, no longer through the snake, but **through Adam's own thought processes!**

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Under pressure from his own sense of guilt, Adam accused Eve of being the reason for his decision to sin. Adam's words also carried with them a subtle accusation against God for giving Eve to him in the first place. Then Eve joined in by accusing the serpent, thus seeking to shift blame from herself. Here it is evident that ***the Accuser subverted humanity to do his work of accusation for him unaware.***

PHASE 2) Accusation goes global: Having established his kingdom through such slight devices of accusation in the Garden, the enemy expanded his operations to cover the earth. John on Patmos was given a vision of the enemy as no longer a serpent, but a mighty dragon.

And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world--he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. Revelation 12:9-10

How does a serpent become a mighty dragon? You guessed it--by eating a lot! In this case the enemy and his kingdom have been "feeding" on us, especially anything about us that is unsundered to the Lord. Hell is enlarged when the unredeemed die in their clutches; it's base of operations is extended whenever we "give place to the devil" through our sins.



But here is the good news! Notice that salvation, strength, kingdom and power come when this formidable enemy is cast down. ***The choice is ever before us:*** will we serve the Accuser or will we make a quality decision to cast down all accusations that try to rise up within us against God, self or others? Let the voice from the Garden become silenced. ***Turn off "radio Satan" and live in the Kingdom!***

Learn to Discern the "Voice"

It feels crummy in your ear or your mouth...

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Mercy of the Son with stream

Accusation is a counterfeit of the true knowledge of God. It is a wrong use of genuine discernment. The Holy Spirit may indeed allow us to see sin in another person (or in our self). But a spirit of accusation will seek to bind the person to their sin and separate us from them.

Learn to recognize the voice of the accuser--the way self-condemnation speaks **to you** or the way offended self-righteousness seeks to speak **through you** to others. Seek to be aware of where your thoughts are coming from.
Check the source!



* Any internal accusation, no matter how legitimate and well-deserved it may seem, is still coming from the enemy, not from God. The Spirit within us convicts us or reveals the wrongs of others, but **never condemns us or others** (Romans 8:1-2, 32-35).

* A spirit of accusation seeks to turn discernment into judgment and condemnation. We are indeed called to discern good and evil, but **one of the greatest evils is to accuse or judge another** (Matthew 7:1-5).

Accusing thoughts come from:

The world
Other people (speaking by the enemy's influence)
An accusing spirit
Our un-renewed mind (the mind of the fallen nature)

Godly thoughts come from:

God's Word
Other people (speaking by the Spirit's influence)
The Holy Spirit
Our renewed mind (the mind of Christ in us)

We cast down the Accuser the way scripture describes:

For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ. 2 Corinthians 10:4-5 NKJV

Accusation is a "high thing," because it puts us above others in judgment of them and because it rises up within us against the clear command of God not to do it. Recognize accusing thoughts and separate from them before they separate you from God, self or others.

Cast down accusations

...against God (anger, unbelief, discouragement);
...against others (judgments, un-forgiveness, slander);

...against self (condemnation, shame, regret).

***Join with Jesus in continual
intercession on the Mercy Seat!***

From We to Thee ***Preparing for the Harvest...***



From the pages of our new
website forerunners4Him.org
has come a new book:

Salvation Basics: How to Get Saved and Stay Saved.

This is also the book that the men at the Mission have helped me to write. It has been through working with them that I have gained far more clarity (I believe) into the deeper issues of how to stay saved. Hey, we all know that getting saved is easy--it is staying in the joy of His salvation (Ps 51) that is the tricky part. Check out a sample at amazon.

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Steve and Eunice

Truths with Traction!



A lifetime of learning has gone into the workbook that forms the basis of what we teach. Steve likes to say that these truths have been field tested! They are ***"truths with traction,"*** guaranteed to get your emotional life unstuck from those pesky stronghold areas that the enemy loves to bring our walk to a halt with.

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Healings Streams is a Christian ministry dedicated to helping people find peace and freedom from troubling issues of the emotional life. Such deep roots often become the source for a host of stress related diseases, psychological disorders and addictions. Even so, our goal for people is not just escape from emotional stress and its consequences, but full entry into true Kingdom living - plunging into the river of Peace that flows all around us from the throne of Grace.

Let's all jump in!

Sincerely,

Steve and Eunice Evans

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