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BlackSDA _ 3ABN _ Can Danny Change

Posted by: Truly Blonde Sep 9 2006, 08:53 PM

I have been reading the different posts about the hardening of Danny's heart and that we don't see a change and what he would need to do for us to see a change or by your fruits we shall know you. I have been doing a lot of thinking about this and here is what I think. Danny CAN change. Even if the Lord is hardening his heart he can still change. If he stops long enough to listen. We had a guest pastor for our church campout and he told us his story. He was raised in an SDA home. (In the country) At the age of four he was sexually molested by a farm hand. He told no one. From that point on he had abnormal sexual fantasies. In his college years he went as a student missionary and ended up staying for several years. He thought he wanted to be a minister. Felt the Lord was calling him to this. Took Theology but kept having sexual thoughts. Prayed about it over and over. Came to the conclusion that if he got married it would solve all his problems. So he did. Had two children. When he finished schooling he was offered a church. He turned it down. His wife had to go take care of her parents. While she was gone he went to his first gay bar. He became immersed in the gay lifestyle. His wife was told by leaders of the church to divorce him. "That kind never changes." She did. He was in this lifestyle for 16 years. Had three semi permanent partners. Took up all the vices, smoking, drinking, drugs. His parents never gave up on him. They would come to visit and stay with him and his partners. When they left they would always forget and leave something. A book, a pamphlet telling him of God's love for him. He wouldn't look at them. After sixteen years he was by a pool at a gay bar in Palm Springs and another gay came up to him and said "Hey pastor what are you doing in a place like this?" He had never told any of his friends or even strangers he had taken theology. He hit rock bottom lived so high he couldn't pay his child support, couldn't pay his bills etc. He thought he could just go to court and straighten things out. WRONG!!! He was arrested and sent to jail til his hearing. Through all of this his exwife was supportive of him. At this time he started praying and asking the Lord to forgive him and to help him turn his life around. The Lord answered that prayer. He started reading all the books his parents had left him and studying his Bible. He was rebaptized and he was offered a church to pastor. An elder in the church said "I give you 2 years and you will be back a homosexual, your kind never change". He was very discouraged and hurt but he clung to the Lord. The Lord heard him and not only that , He brought a new women into his life and they got married and have 2 children and he has been straight for 14 years. His former wife and new wife have become friends. This man is a changed person and he preaches the grace of God. He doesn't tell the details of his story because he doesn't want to glorify Satan. (He has written a book telling more of the details you can get it at the ABC. Its called That Kind Can Never Change, Can They?) He preaches repentance and change. He tells you without repentance and change there can be no forgiveness. I tell you you can see God shining in his eyes. He loves the Lord and the Lord has done a good work in him. It oozes out of him he can't hide it. He tells you we must die to self, surrender everything to God.

Today in church we had a guest speaker who also talked about surrendering ourselves to God. Dieing to self and he said I can tell you an easy way to tell if you are surrendered to God. Have you ever been hurt by someone? Of course everyone said yes. He told us that if someone hurts our feelings and/or us we are not surrendered to God. If God lives in us these things won't matter to us because there will be no self to hurt. I have to say that hit home to me. There are times when I start feeling a pity party comming on because of things people have said or done to me. I now know that that is self getting in the way of my relationship with God.

SOooooo-the way I see it. Danny can change if he repents and changes. His hard heart can be softened by the Holy Spirit--IF he surrenders his whole self to God. That means--NO ME in 3abn. Just God. I believe that God is working through 3abn. It is winning souls to Jesus Christ everyday. However until Danny surrenders and repents God cannot work through HIM!! As long as he allows

people to call him the annointed one and takes credit for 3abn God will not use him for his will.

What do you think? tb

Posted by: princessdi Sep 9 2006, 08:57 PM

As long as he is breathing and in his right mind, he still has a chance. Jesus died for him, also.

Posted by: sister Sep 9 2006, 09:51 PM

Blondie,

The Pastor you mentioned was a guest on one of the 3ABN Today programs, interviewed by Danny Shelton. It was one of many opportunities the Lord has given Danny to hear the wooing of the Holy Spirit upon his heart, the call to humble himself and repent...

Sister

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Sep 9 2006, 10:50 PM

QUOTE(Truly Blonde @ Sep 9 2006, 07:53 PM)

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What do you think? tb

Truly Blonde, I heartily agree with you. I saw that pastor on 3abn and was so moved by his testimony!

Through Jesus all things are possible. His power is limited only by our own choice.

QUOTE(sister @ Sep 9 2006, 08:51 PM)

Blondie,

The Pastor you mentioned was a guest on one of the 3ABN Today programs, interviewed by Danny Shelton. It was one of many opportunities the Lord has given Danny to hear the wooing of the Holy Spirit upon his heart, the call to humble himself and repent...

Sister

Sister, the loved ones of that pastor kept leaving materials for him to read. He read them once he was open to having a change of heart. Perhaps all of these opportunities are not lost on Danny.

Posted by: Clay Sep 10 2006, 12:45 AM

where there is life, there is hope.... given that, anyone can change....

Posted by: Jewel50 Sep 10 2006, 12:57 AM

QUOTE(Clay @ Sep 9 2006, 11:45 PM)

where there is life, there is hope.... given that, anyone can change....

Amen Clay. That was one of my late husbands favorite sayings. So yes all long as anyone has breath in this and allow the Holy Spirit to work in them there is HOPE. Amen

Jewel

Posted by: husbandoftheyear Sep 10 2006, 04:38 PM

It is always hard to look at someone you would like to take behind the woodshed as a child of God. Dan is, in fact, exactly that and should be graced with God's limitless forgiveness and love.

On the other had - I expect to see a whole lot a whoopin goin on!



Posted by: PrincessDrRe Sep 10 2006, 06:54 PM

QUOTE(princessdi @ Sep 9 2006, 09:57 PM)

As long as he is breathing and in his right mind, he still has a chance. Jesus died for him, also.

QUOTE(Clay @ Sep 10 2006, 01:45 AM)

where there is life, there is hope.... given that, anyone can change....

Now...will he change?

Probably nope.



Posted by: sonshineonme Sep 10 2006, 07:10 PM

QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Sep 10 2006, 05:54 PM)

Now...will he change?

Probably nope.



Anything is possible. But God is limited by a persons willingness to surrender. I'm watching for that white flag....

Posted by: Expression Sep 11 2006, 07:13 AM

QUOTE(Truly Blonde @ Sep 9 2006, 10:53 PM)

Today in church we had a guest speaker who also talked about surrendering ourselves to God. Dieing to self and he said I can tell you an easy way to tell if you are surrendered to God. Have you ever been hurt by someone? Of course everyone said yes. He told us that if someone hurts our feelings and/or us we are not surrendered to God. If God lives in us these things won't matter to us because there will be no self to hurt. I have to say that hit home to me. There are times when I start feeling a pity party comming on because of things people have said or done to me. I now know that that is self getting in the way of my relationship with God.

There is much to be said in regard to change. I feel that many have been thinking about this and I'm glad it was brought up. I may post later about the question at hand, but first I want to address the above statement. If you follow this line of thinking to it's end result it's rather disturbing--at least to some.

We say that God created us, true? But we must remember that we're not just a body. God created us with feelings and emotions. This is what makes us different from mere automations. He made us in His image, with the ability to feel not only joy, but pain.

You might be thinking, "Yeah, we know. What's your point?"

If we say that hurt equals sin we are attempting to take away the most basic component that makes us different than a machine or robot.

God tells us that in heaven there will be no more pain. Is this because we have turned off our emotions? No. It is because the outside factors that once brought us pain will no longer exist. If we take away someone's freedom to feel the pain they have experienced we are telling them to deny what they have gone through. This is dangerous and extremely unhealthy.

Well you say, "We are to be dead--dead to self." Does this mean we are to become a doormat? Theologians can go into great detail on this subject, but when we begin to say that people can no


longer be hurt and still be Christian something is wrong. Very wrong. Our emotions are there to protect us, but too often we just shut them off and say, "I gotta forgive and move on." Thus we are quiet when abuse is rampant and many of the families that compose our churches are in need of serious help.

Those within Adventism need to be learning how to listen and work through their emotions. All too often we suppress them in order to be "Christian" but you can only do that for so long. Our church is filled with people who are emotional wrecks on the inside, but they look good at church because they are "supposed to."

If we can get people to turn off their emotions we are much more likely to be able to control them. This is something that you often see within cults, and though the Adventist church is not a cult, it surprises me how often ideology such as this appears inside our church.

As long as we live in this sinful world we will be hurt. But we are not to destroy our emotions. Instead of stuffing our feelings we need to ask, "Why do I feel this way?" and begin to work through them. This is the healthy approach. It is only as we work through the hurt that we can begin to find healing.

Posted by: Hersheys99 Sep 11 2006, 08:36 AM

Very good points Expression & I agree with what you are saying.  

Posted by: summertime Sep 11 2006, 10:58 AM

QUOTE(sister @ Sep 9 2006, 09:51 PM)

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Sister

I thought that tb said that this man never told his story--but he wrote a book and appeared on 3ABN? Maybe I have lost the storyline completely. If his ex-wife had continued to believe in him, why did they not reconcile? Apparently he found himself another wife. So where does that leave his ex-wife?

Posted by: Truly Blonde Sep 13 2006, 02:28 PM

Summertime

What I meant when I said he doesn't tell his story is that he doesn't go into all the nasty details that are better left unsaid. He does tell about his life in general just not in specifics. When he preaches and alludes to his story it is in passing, spending much more time on repentance and change. For example he did not tell us he had been a homosexual in his sermon just said he had lived a very very very bad lifestyle and then told us of his coming to Christ and his asking for forgiveness and repenting and changing. Does that make sense?

When you read his book you find out about his homosexuality. Once again he doesn't go into the nitty gritty that makes people speculate about all the sexual innuendos of a homosexual lifestyle.

About his first wife. He does not tell us if she remarried during that 16 years or not. He just says that she helped him in different ways and that after he remarried that his first and second wife (who by the way had known him thru all of this because she was a good friend of his sisters and knew all his history good and bad) were able to hug and there was no animosity by the first wife to the second wife. I have to assume that the first wife was able to truly forgive him and was a Christian and that was why she was able to help him and to hug the second wife without wanting to be married to him herself, (if she was even in a position to marry him.)

tb

Posted by: simplysaved Sep 17 2006, 06:54 PM

She has to be a remarkable Christian woman to support her ex-husband emotionally as he struggled with homosexual lifestyle...not every woman can do that....

I do have a better understanding of what Terry McMillian meant in her situation with her now ex-husband.

QUOTE(Truly Blonde @ Sep 13 2006, 02:28 PM)

Summertime

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tb

Posted by: justme Sep 19 2006, 08:21 AM

Truth Will Triumph Gloriously

Open ye the gates, that the righteous nation which keepeth the truth may enter in. Isa. 26:2

The truth of God must be enshrined in the heart, and we must be determined to fight the battles of the Lord, if we would come off conquerors with the final triumph of the truth; for the truth will

triumph gloriously. . . . If you are seeking to be a blessing to others, God will bless you. We should bring all the good possible into our lives, that we may glorify God and be a blessing to humanity.

The church is God's agency for the proclamation of truth, empowered by Him to do a special work; and if she is loyal to Him, obedient to all His commandments, there will dwell within her the excellency of divine grace. If she will be true to her allegiance, if she will honor the Lord God of Israel, there is no power that can stand against her.

Zeal for God and His cause moved the disciples to bear witness to the gospel with mighty power. Should not a like zeal fire our hearts with a determination to tell the story of redeeming love, of Christ and Him crucified? It is the privilege of every Christian not only to look for but to hasten the coming of the Saviour.

If the church will put on the robe of Christ's righteousness, withdrawing from all allegiance with the world, there is before her the dawn of a bright and glorious day. God's promise to her will stand fast forever. He will make her an eternal excellency, a joy of many generations. Truth, passing by those who despise and reject it, will triumph. Although at times apparently retarded, its progress has never been checked. When the message of God meets with opposition, He gives it additional force, that it may exert greater influence. Endowed with divine energy, it will cut its way through the strongest barriers, and triumph over every obstacle.

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Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Sep 20 2006, 10:47 PM

justme, your post reminded me of some passages that have been such a blessing to me. I thought I'd share them with all of you!

Jeremiah 29:13 You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

Isaiah 26:3 You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you.

Philippians 4: 4 Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! 5 Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. 6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

May you all rejoice in the Lord and have this peace!

Posted by: Expression Sep 27 2006, 12:40 PM

QUOTE(Truly Blonde @ Sep 9 2006, 09:53 PM) □

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softened by the Holy Spirit--IF he surrenders his whole self to God. That means-NO ME in 3abn. Just God. I believe that God is working through 3abn. It is winning souls to Jesus Christ everyday. However until Danny surrenders and repents God cannot work through HIM!! As long as he allows people to call him the annointed one and takes credit for 3abn God will not use him for his will.

Tomorrow evening 3ABN camp meeting is scheduled to begin. Though I'm not sure exactly what to expect, I wonder if what we saw during The Most Amazing Prophecies seminar was a sign of things to come. Danny is a smooth manipulator, and whether we see it this coming weekend or at a later time, I would not be surprised if at some point he plays the forgiveness/change card.

Christianity, especially Adventism, loves to buy the phrase "I've changed" and glorify God for the result. Too often however we do not know the real result. Things look good on the outside and so we tell ourselves they are. But looks, especially when it comes to abusers, can be extremely deceiving.

We owe it to ourselves to understand what constitutes true change so that we do not fall for the counterfeit.

I have referred several times to the book "Why Does He Do That?" by Lundy Bancroft. The reason being is that without excusing abuse Dr. Bancroft explains why it occurs. He talks about the attitudes that drive a controller and looks at the subject of change with a frankness and honesty I have come to appreciate.

Dr. Bancroft gives 13 ingredients for true change. If one of them is missing genuine change will not be the result.

The steps of an abuser who is truly changing are as follows:

1. Admit fully to his history of physiological, sexual, and physical abusiveness toward any current or past partners whom he has abused. Denial and minimizing need to stop, including discrediting your memory of what happened. He can't change if he is continuing to cover up, to others or to himself, important parts of what he has done.
2. Acknowledge that the abuse was wrong, unconditionally.
3. Acknowledge that his behavior was a choice, not a loss of control. For example, he needs to recognize that there is a moment during each incident at which he gives himself permission to become abusive and that he chooses how far to let himself go.
4. Recognize the effects his abuse has had on you and on your children, and show empathy for those.
5. Identify in detail his pattern of controlling behaviors and entitled attitudes.
6. Develop respectful behaviors and attitudes to replace the abusive ones he is stopping.
7. Reevaluate his distorted image of you, replacing it with a more positive and empathic view.
8. Makes amends for the damage he has done.
9. Accept the consequences of his actions.
10. Commit to not repeating his abusive behaviors and honor that commitment.
11. Accept the need to give up his privileges to do so.
12. Accept that overcoming abusiveness is likely to be a lifelong process.

13. Be willing to be accountable to his actions, both past and future.

("Why Does He Do That?" pg. 339-342)

On page 360 Dr. Bancroft makes the following statement: "An abuser doesn't change because he feels guilty or gets sober or finds God. He doesn't change after seeing the fear in his children's eyes or feeling them drift away from him. It doesn't suddenly dawn on him that his partner deserves better treatment. Because of his self-focus, combined with the many rewards he gets from controlling you, an abuser changes only when he feels he has to, so the most important element in creating a context for change in an abuser is placing him in a situation where he has not other choice. Otherwise, it is highly unlikely that he will ever change his abusive behavior."

At the end of the chapter Dr. Bancroft lists some key points to remember, some of which include the following:

You can't make or even help an abusive man change. All you can do is create the context for change, and the rest is up to him.

Change in an abusive man is not vague; it is highly specific.

An abusive man won't change by "working on his anger," unless he also does the more difficult work of changing his entitled attitudes.

Abusiveness is like poison ivy, with its extensive and entrenched root system. You can't eradicate it by lopping off the superficial signs. It has to come out by the roots, which are the man's attitudes and beliefs regarding partner relationships.

("Why Does He Do That?" pg. 366)

May this be food for thought as we continue to watch the unfolding drama of 3ABN during the coming weeks and months.

Posted by: fallible humanbeing Sep 27 2006, 01:26 PM

QUOTE(Expression @ Sep 27 2006, 01:40 PM)

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May this be food for thought as we continue to watch the unfolding drama of 3ABN during the

coming weeks and months.

Good and valuable stuff! However, I think there is a caveat in regards to this situation. The book does not indicate, insinuate, or otherwise require that the act of change (or the 13 items) be done publicly. The results are obvious through changed behavior that is observable by all outsiders. It is not our right as outsiders in the situation to demand that these things be done publicly (no insinuation here that you have done that, I am making a generalized statement). I would contend that there are many here who feel that they will never accept a change unless they get to see it happen - not the resulting change of behavior, but the actual process in all its detail step-by-step.

- fhb

Posted by: husbandoftheyear Sep 27 2006, 06:19 PM

QUOTE(Expression @ Sep 27 2006, 01:40 PM) □

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I agree.

I think we'll either see some damage control or the forgiveness card played. He seems to like to use Campeeting as the platform for the 'first attack.'

just my opinion...

Posted by: Freedom Sep 27 2006, 06:25 PM

[quote name='fallible humanbeing' date='Sep 27 2006, 02:26 PM' post='154000']

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- fhb

[/quote]

WHOA, back off a minute FHB!

You just constricted yourself in your post.

"The results are obvious through changed behavior that is observable by all outsiders". "It is not our right as outsiders in the situation to demand that these things be done publicly".

If a person is in leadership and in such a public light - true change would be observable.

I haven't seen any other that from the 3ABN management/leadership people.



Posted by: summertime Sep 27 2006, 06:41 PM

QUOTE(husbandoftheyear @ Sep 27 2006, 06:19 PM)

I agree.

I think we'll either see some damage control or the forgiveness card played. He seems to like to use Campeeting as the platform for the 'first attack.'

just my opinion...

I just have trouble when the way is open for an abuser or a self seeking character to manipulate, abuse, coax and push until he gets what he wanted in the first place (such as a young, desired lady who is willing to marry an old man for the benefits it will give to her), and then the supposition is that when he/she has the desired changes, then we head for the forgiveness card, or the baptismal tank, or the tears of hurt and false pretense, and we are told, that whatever his/her sins may have been, that God will forgive and those who have been hurt can just get over it. After all, they were expendable all along. I would like to see all these wrongs on the part of 3ABN be made right, but to tell you the truth, I am wondering if they ever will. Am I losing faith, or what?

Posted by: Treniece Oct 7 2006, 01:13 PM

So I guess most persons who are comenting here are at least 99% sure that Danny Shelton is guilty of the things that are being said about him. Sixty percent of my intuition is sort of leaning towards his guilt. One thing for sure is, God is still using the 3abn ministry to reach others for Christ. If he is guilty and doesn't repent then he will be among those whom God will say: "depart from me I know you not" Maybe God is working through Danny Shelton's magnificent faith and his strong desire to spread the gospel. I believe if Danny Shelton wants to use God, God can use him also, this does not mean that he will make it into the kingdom of Heaven.

Posted by: Lee Oct 7 2006, 10:43 PM

Treniece--I agree with you. I'm about in the 60% camp too. But I've noticed how much people appreciate the programming on 3ABN. I like 3ABN better than Hope, although I do watch both.

Posted by: summertime Oct 8 2006, 09:20 AM

[quote name=He brought a new women into his life and they got married and have 2 children and he has been straight for 14 years. His former wife and new wife have become friends. This man is a changed person and he preaches the grace of God. He doesn't tell the details of his story because he doesn't want to glorify Satan. (He has written a book telling more of the details you can get it at the ABC. Its called That Kind Can Never Change, Can They?) He preaches repentance and change. He tells you without repentnce and change there can be no forgiveness. I tell you you can see God shining in his eyes. He loves the Lord and the Lord has done a good work in him.

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What do you think? tb
[/quote]

I think I wonder if this man, who had given his heart to God in repentence, and I am happy for his change,----Did he commit adultry all over again when he found and married a new wife---Had his first wife remarried, thus giving him the idea that he was free to marry again and raise a new family? Praise God for his change, ---It is just that I do not understand him (in the eyes of God)to be able to pastor another church while at the same time marrying another wife. Maybe I am wrong. Will someone please explain this to me?

Posted by: summertime Oct 8 2006, 09:37 AM

QUOTE(Lee @ Oct 7 2006, 10:43 PM)

Treniece--I agree with you. I'm about in the 60% camp too. But I've noticed how much people appreciate the programming on 3ABN. I like 3ABN better than Hope, although I do watch both.

Lee, 3ABN, at this point, is being VP'd by a man who has hurt many people, used donor's money to further himself, does not admit that he has ever committed these things (plus others) while Hope TV is a Seventh Day Adventist network which is generating programs that are honest, sincere and working to line the gates of heaven--while 3ABN, is lining the pockets of a few men who live in comparative luxury--thank God for the good people who are keeping 3ABN alive. They are good people---Think how they will feel when the truth comes out. We need to pray that the leaders of our GC church will allow the truth to be told when the right time comes. There is a lot of good programming on 3ABN, but the story of Danny and his shananigans are not one of them. I chose not to watch as he goes on with his own charade. Hope TV may not yet be as polished and dramatic as 3ABN, but they are honest and truthful in where they intend for our donated dollars to go.

Posted by: summertime Oct 8 2006, 10:01 AM

[Maybe God is working through Danny Shelton's magnificent faith and his strong desire to spread the gospel. I believe if Danny Shelton wants to use God, God can use him also, this does not mean that he will make it into the kingdom of Heaven.
[/quote]

Danny Shelton's magnificent faith!. I will see his magnificent faith when Linda and Alyssia's reputation is restored and the retribution is made of the misuse of donor's money. I am not worried about him showing magnificent faith---I would just like to see him admit to the mistreatment that he has bestowed to so many. Then maybe I would agree that he has magnificent faith. BY THEIR FRUITS YOU SHALL KNOW THEM.

Is he spreading the gospel?. A lot of our evangelists are spreading the gospel and they will be blessed. But even Jimmy Swaggert and Jim Baker claim to spread the Gospel.

Posted by: justme Oct 8 2006, 11:56 AM

QUOTE(justme @ Oct 8 2006, 11:01 AM) □

[Maybe God is working through Danny Shelton's magnificent faith and his strong desire to spread the gospel. I believe if Danny Shelton wants to use God, God can use him also, this does not mean that he will make it into the kingdom of Heaven.

Danny Shelton's magnificent faith!. I will see his magnificent faith when Linda and Alyssia's reputation is restored and the retribution is made of the misuse of donor's money. I am not worried about him showing magnificent faith---I would just like to see him admit to the mistreatment that he has bestowed to so many. Then maybe I would agree that he has magnificent faith. BY THEIR FRUITS YOU SHALL KNOW THEM.

Is he spreading the gospel?. A lot of our evangelists are spreading the gospel and they will be blessed. But even Jimmy Swaggert and Jim Baker claim to spread the Gospel.

May years ago, I became acquainted with a very godly man, who also, by the way, had his own 'self-supporting work" (meaning it took no conference money, including personal tithes from people). There was a new wave of "unconventional forms" of church services. At he time, a lot of "drama" was all the rage. Much controversey surrounded the subject. He like the more traditional church services, but he said that he would not speak for God. He pointed out that God can reach the sincere and repentent heart. He said that even the most seemingly-offensive thing can have a purpose. Anything be used by God when the soul is lead by the Holy Spirit.

He gave me an example of "moldy bread". He said that we regularly discard moldy bread. But moldy bread has something that may be used to save a life. Properly processed then administered in the right dose, at the right time, under the ausopices of a Physician, can save a life. Pennicillin.

Over the years I have remembered this illustration. EGW point out in regards to eating certain foods, that what nourishes one person can be poisonous to another. God knows the needs of each heart and just what He needs to use to reach that heart, if that heart will respond.

I wonder what the people thought the first time they saw "Paul" a.k.a."Saul" after his conversion experience. Saul murdered "Christians", and had quite a reputation followed him. Why? How? ... could anyone know that his preaching about the "need to become Christians" was not a ploy?

Remorse?, Repentance?, Conversion? Restitution? Dewfinitely needs to be done. Whatever it takes.

Posted by: Observer Oct 8 2006, 09:22 PM

In regard tko the statement: "I believe if Danny Shelton wants to use God, God can use him also, this does not mean that he will make it into the kingdom of Heaven."

Created beings (humans) were not placed on earth to use God. BACK up there a little.

Posted by: summertime Oct 9 2006, 08:19 AM

QUOTE(justme @ Oct 8 2006, 11:56 AM) □

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Even though I do not understand the whole moral of the story, I will agree that apparently Jimmy Swaggert and Jim Baker have shown remorse, repentence and maybe conversion. It probably would have been impossible for them to make full restitution, but I have not seen remorse, repentence, or restitution coming from 3ABN, have you? If they ever are willing to do that, then maybe God could use the 'moldy bread' to his benefit. I hope so.

Posted by: husbandoftheyear Oct 9 2006, 08:19 PM

I must admit that I was once "moldy" myself. Before I became a Christian, I was involved in some less-than-noble things. God saved my life more than once and when I realized that He loved me just as I was but enough to not leave me as He found me, I gave my life to Him. Now, years later, I have had many chances to tell others of Him and His grace and mercy.

So - moldy I once was - but I found the Light!

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Oct 9 2006, 09:32 PM

QUOTE(husbandoftheyear @ Oct 9 2006, 07:19 PM)

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So - moldy I once was - but I found the Light!

Without Him, we are all just pond scum whether we are less-than-noble or high-and-mighty!

Posted by: justme Oct 9 2006, 09:42 PM

QUOTE(husbandoftheyear @ Oct 9 2006, 10:19 PM)

I must admit that I was once "moldy" myself. Before I became a Christian, I was involved in some less-than-noble things. God saved my life more than once and when I realized that He loved me just as I was but enough to not leave me as He found me, I gave my life to Him. Now, years later, I have had many chances to tell others of Him and His grace and mercy.

So - moldy I once was - but I found the Light!

Well said!

My point is more the thought that it is not so much the "sender" who gets the "credit" fro a conversion, it the heart moved by the Holy Spirit. So anyone who thinks that their ministry is virtually "indispensible" is wrong. It is the power of the Holy Spirit in a softened heart that converts us. ANYONE who thinks he is the most powerful force for God should "beware lest he fall." Do any ministry leaders come to mind?

I actually had to be "Inspired" by non-SDA Christians who put me in touch with JESUS PERSONALLY. After I met Jesus, all the SDA stuff became easy to understand and took on a whole new meaning. It all suddenly "fit". I learned to love the Bible because I learned to love Jesus!

Saul, "moldy bread", became a power for good, after God "processed" him with love. Same man, "same bread", but now had new power through God.

Thanks for your testimonies...! (more?)

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