

God's Heart Is Absolutely Settled - Part I

- *There is an entire psychological substructure that, due to the fall, is a near-constant manufacturing of relational leveraging, fear-stuffing, nervousness, score-keeping, neurotic-controlling, anxiety-festering silliness that is not something we say or even think so much as something we exhale. You can smell it on people, though some of us are good at hiding it. And if you trace this fountain of scurrying haste, in all its various manifestations, down to the root, you don't find childhood difficulties or a Myers-Briggs diagnosis or Freudian impulses. You find **gospel deficit**. You find **lack of felt awareness of Jesus's heart**. All the worry and dysfunction and resentment are the natural fruit of living in a mental universe of law. The felt love of Christ really is what brings rest, wholeness, flourishing, shalom — that existential calm that for brief, gospel-sane moments settles over you and lets you step in out of the storm of work-ness. You see for a moment that in Christ you truly are invincible. The verdict really is in; nothing can touch you. He has made you His own and will never cast you out.*

Gentle and Lowly Dane Ortlund

1 Corinthians 6:9-11 Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.

And such were some of you.

But you **were** washed,

but you **were** sanctified,

but you **were** justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

Colossians 2:11-15 In Him

you **were also circumcised** with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ,

buried with Him in baptism, in which

you also **were raised** with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

And you, **being dead** in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh,

He has made alive together with Him,

having **forgiven** you all trespasses,

having **wiped out** the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us.

And He has **taken** it out of the way,

having **nailed** it to the cross.

Having **disarmed** principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

Colossians 2:8-10 Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit,

according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.

For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and

you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.

Colossians 2:6-7 As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him,
rooted

and built up in Him

and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with
thanksgiving.

Ephesians 2:1-10 And you

He made alive,

who were dead in trespasses and sins,

in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince
of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among
whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the
desires of the flesh and of the mind,

and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.

But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us,

even when we were dead in trespasses,

made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

and raised us up together,

and made us sit together in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus,

that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of
God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.

Titus 3:3-7 For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and
pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another.

But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of
righteousness which we have done,

but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing
of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our
Savior, that

having been justified by His grace

we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

- ***“If you are part of Christ’s own body, your sins evoke his deepest heart, his compassion and pity. He “takes part with you”—that is, he’s on your side. He sides with you against your sin, not against you because of your sin. He hates sin. But he loves you. We understand this, when we consider the hatred a father has against a terrible disease afflicting his child—the father hates the disease while loving the child. Indeed, at some level the presence of the disease draws out his heart to his child all the more.”*** Ortlund
- ***“He is not flustered by your sinfulness. His deepest disappointment is with your tepid thoughts of His heart.”*** Ortlund