

WHO'S IN CHARGE HERE?

Dear Friend:

When President Reagan was shot on March 30, 1981, chaos ensued behind the scenes at the White House. With no real protocol in place for such a situation, everyone involved had to improvise and hope that everything turned out right (apparently everyone in the room forgot the 25th Amendment of the Constitution...when the President is ill or injured (or killed) and not able to perform his/her duties, the Vice President performs the duties of the President). Back to the day Reagan was shot; in a room filled with politicians and Cabinet Members, the Secretary of State, Alexander Haig, blurted out to the media: "I'm in control here". That's human nature and it has been since Adam and Eve!

"I'm in control here" is a part of human nature" but it is not a part of our spirit when we have been born again. Apparently, James had to deal with the "I'm in control/in charge here" attitude in multiple churches. James 4:2b, "You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight". 2,000 years later, 2023, Christians still have not learned the lesson God should be in charge of our life 24/7. In James 4:1-10 we discover 2 truths that teach us how to put and keep God in control of our life.

First, James says we must understand the struggle we face. From Ephesians 6 we must realize we are in spiritual warfare. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of this world. You and I have battles that are within us. It is our unredeemed flesh fighting against our redeemed spirit. Before we are born again the flesh rules 100% of the time. After we are born again the flesh doesn't die but our born-again spirit can overcome fleshly desires. Second truth: we find the solution to the spirit vs flesh problem. James 4:7, submit completely to God and resist the devil. You cannot resist the devil completely until you have completely submitted to God. Will you always sin? Yes, however, as your faith ages your resistance should grow as you age.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Mike

Prayer: Sue Sloan, Frank Sanford, a non-Christian friend or relative

Events: Men's Prayer Breakfast tomorrow, July 28th at Tim Hortons of Fodor Road, 5th Sunday Potluck this Sunday, July 30th