

Jesus Christ releases from guilt

Erkki Kuisma

Copyright © 0 - 2011 Jesus Christ

I strive to agree with Jesus Christ in all things, because He loved me and suffered the punishment of my sins. It is possible that I have been mistaken in some matters. However I trust that He will correct me, if I have misunderstood something. I love His reprimand and His comfort because without them I cannot remain in truth. Thus, if there is something wrong in these writings it is the fault of Erkki Kuisma. Jesus deserves the credit for everything that is right.

Issued 12.10.2009

Contents

The battle between good and evil	4
Personal good and evil.....	4
Evil man.....	4
Denying one's own evilness.....	5
Conclude cause from effect.....	6
Victory for good over evil.....	8
New Creation.....	9
Hard-hearted toward goodness or toward evilness?	10
Hard face and hardened heart.....	10
Save hard-hearted people!.....	11
Breaking speech.....	12
Words in the Holy Spirit of God.....	14
Jesus is a witness in sackcloth to the hard-hearted.....	15
Jesus scourges your evil thoughts.....	16
Self-esteem and conscience	19
Good self-esteem or good conscience.....	19
Jesus gives a good self-esteem.....	19
What I did was wrong!	21
Forgive me!.....	21
Correct names of evil deeds.....	21
Fair judgement is for your health.....	21
The correct address of the confession.....	22
What I did was wrong!.....	22
Repenting one gets forgiveness without asking it.....	23
Appreciate purity of heart	24
Dirty or pure?.....	24
Pure heart and clear conscience.....	25
Power of the blood of Jesus.....	26

The battle between good and evil

People are willingly watching battles between evil and good in movies and books. Everybody wants to identify himself with a good hero and to see what happens to the evil. In this way one escapes the reality of one's own evilness. From what you see around yourself you can conclude that God is good and all people are evil.

Personal good and evil

So - who is fighting and against whom? Or is it so that goodness and evilness are fighting only against each other? Who is good and who is evil? Or is it so that actually nobody is evil? Often it is talked as if there existed an impersonal evil and good, which are fighting over man and the right to rule us.

In many books and movies man is described only as a pawn in the game of this battle, but not as a real source of evilness. The movie of the Lord of the Rings is a good example. People like this fairy tale because the evil ring makes man evil, and evilness doesn't come from man himself. In real life man is the source of evilness. Thus there is no need to throw an evil ring into the lake of fire, but evil man.

In this world there has been only one so a good person that he has been able to carry this evil man into the lake of fire avoiding himself to be thrown into it. He is Jesus Christ, the Son of God. He experienced all our temptations without uniting with our evilness. He transported this evil man to Golgotha and destroyed him there.

Evil man

Man's evil will is like a tree and bad deeds are like its fruit. Wanting evil comes from the influence of a lie. When man has a liking for a lie, he takes a fancy to evilness. A little seed of a lie grows into a big tree of evilness.

Already a child learns to resort to lies. First only a white lie slips from the lips, but easily it grows to lying on purpose to deceive others. When lying to others a liar finally may not anymore realize

that he lies, but considers his own lies the truth. Then he is able to bear the ripe fruit of evilness.

Every man has taken to lying and thus has become evil. Every man is a liar. Some have practised lies more than others, but nobody is without lying. Only God is pure from lies. No human being is good, but one is only less untruthful than another.

If I show my anger against some of your evilness, you easily experience that I hate you. This proves that you cannot make a difference between yourself and your evilness. Every time when you reject a truth in any matter, you reject God. Every time when you resist a truth you resist God, although you would not even believe that He exists. Every time when you resisted God, evilness was pressed deeper into your ego.

You can demand me to rebuke you kindly, but it doesn't guarantee the result. It is difficult to demonstrate real love to an evil man so that he would experience that he was loved. Evil man doesn't experience love if his evilness is not accepted.

It is not love to accept evilness. By love to man the good God strikes evil man with truth. Those strokes are real love. Do not become embittered towards God because of His hard treatment. Through the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross you can understand the loving purpose of God's strokes.

Do you know yourself? Do you know your evilness? Examine your wantings, not only your deeds. Hate your evil wills whenever they appear in you. Hate your wanting to lie. Hate your wanting to boast. Hate your wanting to be selfish. Hate your wanting to commit adultery. Hate your wanting to resort to violence. Hate your wanting to steal. If you hate these, you hate yourself. This kind of hating yourself is healthy, for Jesus promises: *"The man who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life."* John 12:25

If you know the truth about yourself, do not become hopeless. God has opened for you a door into a new life. He will make you new.

Denying one's own evilness

How willingly we entertain ourselves with exciting battles, where we ourselves are the good ones and others are the bad ones. This is

an attempt to repress our own evilness from consciousness. Blaming other people for the same evilness that appears in own life is another attempt to heal a bad feeling that comes from our own evilness.

Oh, how willingly people say: "No man is evil, but one is weaker than the other." Denying facts is the essential part of man's evilness. In competition people assure each other that basically all people are good. Evilness is explained to derive from bad conditions such as from poverty. Often news analysts are downright ridiculous when claiming poverty to be the reason behind a piece of news, although it is very obvious that this news gives proof of man's evilness.

Often mass media conveys this untruthful message: "Poverty produces evilness and wealth goodness". Although they don't say this directly, many news broadcasts train us in adopting this attitude. Many have received this message. Therefore they seek money and riches as if it made them good.

For instance when they are speaking about terrorism, they explain that poverty pushes to deeds of terrorism. Poverty and ignorance get the blame for all evilness. In fact this kind of speaking is mocking the poor grossly. The poor are not more evil than the rich. If this matter were investigated, it would be just the other way round.

Conclude cause from effect

From what you see around yourself you can conclude that God is good and man is evil. The battle between good and evil is the battle between God and man. The whole creation gives proof of this battle. Realize that God has cursed nature for the evilness of man. Because of our evilness a lion tears, diseases kill and many gardens have become deserts.

You can understand that the earth could be a paradisaic place. What we now see around us tell us about the cursed nature. We are able to perceive what is ruined. We know what should be different have a paradise. Nowadays it is known that man's body could live forever. Even a matter in our biology is known, which - if were differently - would prevent us from growing old.

Only God has been able to take away the paradise from us. The facts in nature tell about degeneration and not about evolution,

about a curse and not about a blessing. These negative things are the result of the mankind's rebellion against God.

Nature bears witness to the existence of God and to the mankind's rebellion against God. To nullify the proof of God evil man says that nature has not been created, but it has been evolved by itself. In this way man behaves according to his evilness.

Many evolutionists admit man to be partially evil, but they believe that man takes a turn for the better. Really, do you believe in the power of evolution that changes man good? If you believe that evilness is undevelopedness, you actually wait for the lucky coincidence, which would transform man into god, because only God is good.

In practice the evolutionism has evolved nothing good for the mankind. It has inspired Hitler to kill the weak and the sick, and communists to handle people as machines. Also the free market economy is based on the belief of evolutionism, because it trusts "the natural selection's" ability to promote good evolution. Capitalists have destroyed nature, because their belief in miracles of chances has given the right to exploit nature. The theory of evolution is a lie, which serves man's will to play god.

Everybody can notice how much evil has been done also in the name of God. This evilness is the effect the cause of which should be clear to everybody. Only the man's insurgency against God can be the cause. How else anybody would dare to say that he knows God and at the same time act just the other way round than God wants? When we wonder why God allows all this blasphemy to happen, we will find the cause. He is so kind and good that He patiently suffers the religious pretending of the evil mankind.

"The man who says: 'I know Him', but does not do what He commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him." 1John 2:4

Who is a genuine Christian? Many claim to be reborn Christians, but actually they live in self-deception. When somebody bears witness of his Christianity to me, I do not believe him only because he says so. If I don't know how he lives in practice, my only possibility to assure myself of his genuineness is to get a testimony from God about him. In the same way I don't believe the testimony

of my own heart concerning myself, but I live on the testimony that God has said about me.

Thus do not assure to yourself that you are saved, but let the Spirit of God do it. Untruthful faith in God has produced the greatest evilness on earth. Many feel they have peace with God, because they have fully succeeded in considering lie truth. Jesus said that a tree is recognised by its fruit. The untruthful Christianity produces evilness.

Victory for good over evil

The good God is fighting against evil man in a wonderful way. In the battle between good and evil goodness is first defeated completely. God became Man in Jesus. He received upon Himself all judgement that belongs to evil man and atoned our sins on Golgotha. The curse was upon Him so that we could get a blessing. Jesus didn't resist evil man, but allowed Himself to be crucified. Although He died He was raised from the dead.

The resurrection is the victory for the good God over evil man.

The reconciliation with God can be gained by the sacrificial death of Jesus. The Almighty God calls us to confess our evilness and receive Jesus as the redeemer of our own sins. The war against God changes into peace in the power of the blood of the Son of God. How wonderful it is to experience this peace! The curse and the rebellion have gone away. The reconciliation with God gives us a good resurrection.

Jesus is like a seed that died and rose up and produces abundant crop, all the believers having faith in Him.

Although Jesus was raised up and got all authority in heaven and on earth, we don't yet see Him entering His office on earth. The victory for God over evil man has not yet been carried through. God loves the soul of evil man and would like to change evil into good through Jesus Christ. Therefore He is waiting quite a long time.

The honest reconciliation can be effected only through submitting oneself to truth. The gospel never opens to a man living in lies. Therefore God testifies to truth in us. The truth of our own evilness is the hardest truth for us.

Becoming good requires a resurrection from dead. Do you want to become good? Your only possibility is to die together with Jesus Christ so that you also would rise up together with Him.

New Creation

Evilness has gone so deep into every adult human being that it cannot be separated from us and said that evilness is here and I am here. The longer we have lived the more difficult it is to separate the evilness and our personality from each other. Also God doesn't try to do it, but He has decided to create a totally new man. This new one is good and cannot even become evil, because it is born of God.

The criminal, who was crucified on the cross beside Jesus, said:
"We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong. Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' Jesus answered him, 'I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise.'"

Luke 23:41-43

When the criminal confessed that he deserved his punishment, he also confessed his evilness. He wanted to die to his evilness and Jesus opened for him the way to the resurrection from dead. You, too - would you like to die together with Jesus to be able to be admitted to the resurrection of the righteous?

God loved you so much that He sacrificed His only Son for you. What wanting does this deed arouse in you?

The Bible version used in references is NIV

Hard-hearted toward goodness or toward evilness?

All of us have sometimes hardened our heart toward goodness and softened it toward evilness. Repent your softness toward evilness and your hardness toward goodness! Allow goodness to rebuke you so that you could be disobedient to evilness!

Hard face and hardened heart

He knew that he did wrong, but he wanted to hide it from others. Someone uncovered it and admonished for it. He thought that I surely will not receive the reprimand and will not submit myself to shame, though I am a wrongdoer. In this way he hardened his heart with his thoughts.

Again he did wrong but cared less and less of being exposed. He had hardened his heart for rebuking. The same was repeated many times and he was even more ready to reject all reprimands. Little by little he became harder and harder when he stifled the voice his conscience. Finally his heart became as hard as stone.

When he met a person, who did right in the same situation where he himself had done wrong, he for a while was ashamed of himself. His countenance fell and the wave of anger swept over him. "Does this person believe himself to be better than I! Actually I have not at all done wrong."

Again he did the same wrong deed, but without concealing it at all. Instead he started to be proud of it saying evil is good. In this way he gained for himself, not only a hard heart, but also a hard face. Woe to him, was it so difficult to receive shame of his deeds!

He didn't harden his heart toward the words of temptations, but for a bad lust he was soft and pliable. Could the hardness and softness of his heart be turned the other way round? If only he would be hard toward temptations of sin and soft toward reprimands of God! *"He who covers his sins will not prosper, but he whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy. Happy is the man who is always reverent, but he who hardens his heart will fall into calamity."*

God became Man in Jesus Christ for this turning of our hardness and softness. He suffered the shame of our sins on the cross so that our hard heart could break and take the responsibility of our deeds. God's love is able to cause us to repent our wickedness.

Save hard-hearted people!

He lied and it didn't feel bad. He stole and was not afraid of a punishment. He committed adultery and was not ashamed of it. He did research work and falsified the results, but didn't consider himself a betrayer. He cut a baby into pieces in the womb of a mother considering himself a defender of women's rights. He killed his neighbor in a war and boasted to be a hero. Additionally he believed to be on the journey to heaven.

The whole world is suffering because hearts are hard toward the speech of God and soft toward the sermons on sin. Bad lusts are preached publicly and secretly and its message is praised to be good and tolerant. Instead speaking of God is defamed to be hard and insulting. God and His believers are considered hard, because they do not accept what many love.

All of us we are changing as the result of our moral choices. Every change draws us either closer to God or farther from Him. At one moment someone can be frightened at the fruit of his hardness. His hardness can be near breaking but then he gets consolation from other hardened ones, which helps him to remain hard. Together they proclaim to each other these ancient words of comfort: *"I shall have peace, even though I follow the dictates of my heart."* De.29:19

"What have I done! It is awful how evil I am! If only I had not done it!" In this way it is thought when the hardness of heart breaks. God approaches this kind of a person and offers the atonement in the sacrifice of the death of Jesus Christ. The worth of His blood is able to cleanse your conscience and His death can remove your penalty of death. If you are breaking do not take comfort of people but seek God.

Refuse to be comforted before you will be comforted by God. If comfort of people is enough for you, you will be left without mercy

of God. Many have been near the salvation of their soul but at the last moment turned back to the way of hardness.

Breaking speech

God's speech in Jesus Christ breaks hard hearts. God's reprimand gives us remorse over our own evilness. In this way He helps us to genuine repentance so that He can forgive us. *"For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death."* 2Co.7:10

You can regret your deeds, because they broke your proud dreams. That is "sorrow of the world", which has driven many to desperation. It is a totally different thing to regret one's deeds because God sacrificed His only Son for them.

If we have not repented our own evilness, we are not able to face evilness of others in the right way. He who doesn't confess his own wickedness surely is able to rebuke wickedness of others to hide his own guilt. Such abusing doesn't cause any good and it easily marks all rebuking to be a bad thing. However if one has a good conscience he is able to rebuke his neighbor with love.

Love is the motive of God when He admonishes us. He doesn't yell to us or defame us and He doesn't speak about our sins to show us how much better He is than we are. At least sometimes He rebukes everybody, because He loves all people. He also sends His servants to admonish people on His behalf. Once He sent Ezekiel, the prophet to admonish the nation of Israel: *"For they are impudent and stubborn children. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD. As for them, whether they hear or whether they refuse - for they are rebellious house.'"* Eze.2:4-5

God prepared His servant so that he was soft toward words of God and hard toward words of injustice and lawlessness. *"Behold, I have made your face strong against their faces, and your forehead strong against their forehead. Like adamant stone, harder than flint, I have made your forehead; do not be afraid of them, nor be dismayed at their looks, though they are a rebellious house."* Eze.3:8-9

God set hard against hard. However, do not forget that these two different hardnesses had their opposite soft sides. A man who loves

his bad lusts feels that a reprimand is hard talk no matter what kind of words are used and with what tone they are said. How easily a messenger of God is dismayed at the hard faces of the godless, when they rise up to defend themselves to repel the reprimand.

Woe to us the witnesses of Jesus, for we have been soft and shrunk from admonishing the godless! In this way we have muddled the spring of the gospel and distorted people's idea of God's love. *"A righteous man who falters before the wicked is like a murky spring and a polluted well."* Pr.25:26

The softness of Christians toward sin has caused them to preach the gospel in the spirit of lawlessness. It is ingratiating speech which doesn't cause repentance, although it has caused many to make a decision of faith. The gospel in the Holy Spirit is breaking speech producing in us sorrow of our sins according to God's mind. Repentance is the effect that the gospel tries to cause in us.

"Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And you are witnesses of these things."

Lu.24:46-48 Jesus commands to preach repentance for the forgiveness of sin. He does not make the decision of faith but the repentance the condition for the forgiveness of sins. God wants to break your heart and not your will.

Many have wanted to become a Christian from a wrong motive. A heart, hardened toward reprimanding of God, only wants to misuse God's mercy to gain the freedom of the gospel to cover one's evilness. The mercy of the gospel doesn't belong to those who remain in their hard-heartedness, but to those who turn away from their evilness. Also Peter preached about the turning away from iniquities as the condition to the blessing of God. *"God having raised up His Servant Jesus, sent Him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from your iniquities."* Ac.3:26

Also a hard-hearted person can ask God for mercy and make the decision of faith, because he wants to be saved from the punishment. Because his heart is hard his love to bad lusts remains and before long this makes him a scoffer of God's grace. *"For*

certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ." Jude 1:4

Woe to many who converted to Christians and have become children of hell! They have hardened to Christians. They have a reputation of being alive, but they are dead. They have a form of Christianity but deny its power.

The person who has hardened his heart could make such a decision of faith that he starts to listen to the reprimand of God until his heart is broken and he is able to receive the salvation. God's love makes it possible to want this kind of decision. This is the strongest reprimand that you can hear: "God's only Son, Jesus Christ suffered the punishment of your evilness by dying for you!"

Still God sends someone to admonish those whose impudent faces consider evil good and whose hearts have become hard to listen to a reprimand of God.

Words in the Holy Spirit of God

No believer can lovingly meet hard faces and hardened hearts of the godless without the power of the Holy Spirit. Therefore Jesus said to His own not to go and preach the gospel "until you have been clothed with power from on high". Jesus appears in the Holy Spirit in His own.

The face of Stephen shone as a heavenly diamond and from his heart strong words flowed produced by the Spirit of God striking like a sledge the hard hearts of the listeners. His listeners didn't want God's reprimand to break their hearts and therefore they killed him. For the same reason they earlier arranged the killing of Jesus. They were allowed to hear about themselves the truth they didn't want to be aware of. *"You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do you."*

Ac.7:51

Paul noticed that in the congregation assembled in Corinth there were people who believed from a wrong motive. He mourned over them and admonished them in love, but in plain terms. *"When I*

come again, my God will humble me among you, and I shall mourn for many who have sinned before and have not repented of the uncleanness, fornication, and lewdness which they have practiced."

2Co.12:21

Their reckless attitude to sin revealed to Paul that they had not got the repentance caused by the Holy Spirit. He therefore seriously admonished them. *"Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? - unless indeed you are disqualified."* 2Co.13:5 How is Jesus Christ in us? Exactly so that we have His mind. Therefore it is written: *"We have the mind of Christ."* 1Co.2:16

Our mind cannot be changed into the mind of Jesus without having the sorrow of our own evilness caused by the gospel. The Holy Spirit or Jesus in us appears so that we have the mind of the Spirit. *"Those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. ... If anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His."* Ro.8:5-9

Do not believe a spirit who claims to be the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit of God has the same mind as Jesus of the Bible has. He brings out Jesus and not Himself likewise Jesus brought out His Father and not Himself. In the same way don't consider every person a Christian who claims to be a new born Christian. A genuine Christian brings out Jesus and not himself.

Jesus is a witness in sackcloth to the hard-hearted

God is sad because of the hardness of people and yet now He is waiting for the repentance of many. His sorrow causes the same sorrow also in those who belong to Him. Jesus baptizes His own with the Holy Spirit and fire and sends them to preach the gospel that gives *"repentance to life"*. Ac.11:18

In olden times mourning and repenting people clothed themselves in sackcloth. Thus they expressed their sorrow for something. *"Zeal for Your house has eaten me up, and the reproaches of those who reproach You have fallen on me. When I wept and chastened my soul with fasting, that became my reproach. I also made sackcloth my garment; I became a byword to them."* Ps.69:9-12

Before Jesus will come onto the earth on clouds taking power He will appear in two sack clothed witnesses. They represent God's reprimand to the whole mankind. Through them God will harden the people who have hardened themselves. *"I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth. These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire."* Re.11:3,6

The beast together with the mankind will make war against them and kill them. This encourages them to think that it would be possible to take a victory over God. So they are filled with so great self-confidence that they finally go to make war against God Almighty. In this war of the hard-hearted it will happen as it happened in the days of Pharaoh. God struck him with ten plagues, but ten times he hardened his heart. Finally God hardened his heart so hard that he went to make war against God and was so destroyed.

Jesus scourges your evil thoughts

When Jesus drove out with a scourge those who sold merchandise in the temple of Jerusalem, the disciples connected this event to this word of the psalm 69: *"Zeal for Your house has eaten me up."* Joh.2:17 Now no building can be a house of God, because *"we are His house if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end. Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says: 'Today, if you will hear His voice, do not harden your hearts.'"* Heb.3:6-8

The bodies of believers are the temple of God and His Church. Now Jesus appears in us through His Spirit and drives out evil thoughts from His house with the scourge of words, *"for whom the LORD loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives. But if you are without chastening of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons."* Heb.12:6,8

If you have all the time thoughts according to the Spirit of Christ, you don't need chastening. However nobody has remained in the narrow road in his thoughts without reprimand of God's Spirit. Therefore it is written that every child, of whom God acknowledged His paternity, has experienced His chastening. *"He who keeps*

instruction is in the way of life, but he who refuses correction goes astray." Pr.10:17

Many have rejected the reprimand of Jesus as being under the law. That is logical behaviour of those who live in lewd grace. Paul said that keeping the mind of Christ is the same as being under Christ's law. *"Not being without law toward God, but under law toward Christ."* 1Co.9:21 Also John, the apostle has the consistent statement: *"By this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, 'I know Him', and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him."* 1Jo.2:3-4

The sack clothed witnesses, about whom I mentioned earlier, will first admonish Christians and after that they will be the judgment for all the world, for *"the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God?"* 1Pe.4:17

What is the judgment the house of God will get? Peter said it in the previous verse: *"Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter."* 1Pe.4:16

Are you ashamed of suffering for the sake of Jesus? Are you ashamed of being a mourning Christian? Are you ashamed "to be clothed in sackcloth" to be able to drive out the thoughts of your evilness? Godly sorrow is one part of suffering as a Christian. The two sack clothed witnesses will encourage Christians to cleanse their minds. They have the same message as James, the apostle. *"Purify your hearts, you double-minded. Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up."* Jas.4:8-9

If you have based your hope on the gospel of God, I am sure that you have heard the Holy Spirit admonishing your thoughts. Stick to that reprimand with your love to your Redeemer. Do not always say when you heard an evil thought in your mind, that it was the devil who spoke to you. Confess the thoughts of your own evilness and mourn for them in the Holy Spirit. Hate yourself as a person who wants evil things. Let your sinful nature get the scourge of God. The Holy Spirit is powerful to put to death your evilness.

It is a great happiness to experience the circumcision of your heart in the Holy Spirit! Receiving the mind of Jesus gives you the acceptance of God the Father, but remaining in it will recreate you. How blessed it is to experience God detaching me from the identity of my godlessness and new identity in Jesus Christ filling my consciousness.

"The word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of our soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." Heb.4:12 The Spirit of God is the heavenly surgeon. You can trust His operation. Be not afraid, Jesus stands behind the door of your heart and asks your permission to cut you off from your evilness.

The Bible version used in references is NKJV

Self-esteem and conscience

It is not possible to have a good self-esteem without a good conscience. If you know yourself as a sinner, you cannot have a good self-esteem. If you know yourself as a child of God, you really have a good self-esteem.

Good self-esteem or good conscience

Nowadays it is discussed so much about good self-esteem that good conscience is almost forgotten. Self-esteem is your heart's testimony of your personal features. Conscience is your heart's testimony of matters that are right and that are wrong.

If you have done wrong, your conscience judges you. Then also your self-esteem gets a hit. Am I this kind of person?

Although there is not the word self-esteem in the Bible, the concept is there. As a man I am either an old creation or a new one. In Adam I am a sinner and evil. It is described in the following way:

"I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature."

Rom.7:18 In Jesus I have a new nature that is good. It is described in the following way: *"For in my inner being I delight in God's law."*

Rom.7:22 *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"* 2Cor.5:17

To experience God's grace in Jesus Christ gives ability to inspect the one's own evilness without a fear of a punishment. Thus there is no need for a believer to build a false self-esteem for a hiding place. He can with pleasure agree with God's opinions about matters that are right and wrong. A believer doesn't hesitate to confess being guilty, because he knows that Jesus is able to take the guilt away.

Jesus gives a good self-esteem

The forgiveness of sins takes care of conscience, but the position as a child of God gives good self-esteem. *"The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children."* Rom.8:16 On the other hand I am a sinner that cannot commit anything but sin and on the other hand I am God's child who never commits a sin. I can carry out myself as a sinner or as a child of God.

Every believer is striving at just this point to know oneself as a child of God and not as a sinner. It is my every day battle that the new creation in me would live and get power to follow Jesus and the old one would be dead and get no power to commit a sin.

The good self-esteem of a believer comes from a good conscience receiving from the Holy Spirit the testimony that you have been accepted. *"But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect."* 1Cor.15.10 How much greater it is to be a child of God than only a sinner who has received mercy! On the other hand no one can become a child of God, if one's conscience is not at first cleaned with the blood of Jesus.

The Bible version used in references is NIV

What I did was wrong!

Many beg forgiveness, if they have been caught in doing wrong. However usually it is not heard from their mouth the most important sentence of the situation: "What I did was wrong." The apology of an unrepentant person mocks one's victim. It is possible to get forgiveness without asking it, but never without a repenting confession.

Forgive me!

People have been taught to apologise, if they have been caught in doing wrong. It is considered already an expression of humbleness, if one begs forgiveness. However, usually it is not heard from his mouth the most important sentence, which the victim expects to hear. They don't say: "What I did was wrong."

Maybe he, who begs forgiveness, felt his guilt genuinely in his heart, but he has not enough humbleness to say aloud the name of his bad deed to the person whom he has wronged.

Correct names of evil deeds

Often the confession is given evasively because the truth is considered too humiliating. It is important that a criminal confesses his crime using the correct name of his deed, so that he would be reconciled with his victim. Confession which is defending oneself prevents forgiveness. Hiding one's crime leads to lying.

Lies are like glue which joins evil deeds to one fortress. It is needed absolute honesty to get out of this jail.

Fair judgement is for your health

Because all evil things are not condemned by public opinion, people cannot repent their evil deeds. The truthful condemnation of a bad deed makes it possible to experience a healthy repentance. Indefinite guilt leads easily to sick penances or self-pity.

It reflects the unjust thinking of our time when the doping of athletes is wanted to be added to the criminal law of Finland, though adultery and sexual intercourse between the same sexes are missing there. In the eyes of God adulterers and gays and lesbians deserve the death sentence. It tells about the perverted sense of justice of

people when the Finnish coach that supported doping has been threatened to be killed. The rules of sports are made by man, but the sexual behaving is defined by the law of God

Because God has postponed death sentences to the last judgement, some kind of judgement should be added to the criminal law concerning adultery so that this deed would get the judgement of the public opinion. It is really sick thing that crime of homosexuality and lesbianism is accepted by the law, though it should be added to the criminal law. The life style of Sodom and Gomorrah has gained power.

The correct address of the confession

It is important to confess one's crime to the victim of one's deed. Many times it happens that one is struggling with one's guilt and one confesses one's crime to a friend, but not to the victim. It is commonly recommended that you should tell your feelings to somebody to get a relief. So did also Judas Iscariot and ended up in a suicide. He had wronged Jesus, but he went to confess the crime to the priests, not to Jesus.

If a crime is made publicly then it also must be confessed publicly, but not before it first has been confessed to the victim.

Every sin against a neighbour is also a sin against God. If you first confess your sin to God and get forgiveness from Him it is for you easier after that to confess your sin to your neighbour. Many times it happens that God gave you His forgiveness but your neighbour didn't forgive. However it is important to confess to the both of them, because the truth will set you free, not the mercy of man.

What I did was wrong!

Pretending Christianity has created the culture of apologising, though the Bible speaks very little about apologising. Instead of that it speaks much about forgiving and confessing your sins. An unrepentant person has even no right to apologise. Is he trying to atone his bad deed with apologising? He must first humble himself to tell how much he is sorry about what he did. Then he should seek how he could compensate his deed and finally he can apologise.

The formal Christianity is so blind when stressing apologising that they even cannot read the Bible correctly. They say: "Jesus teaches that you must forgive your brother even seventy-seven times a day, if he apologises you." They create with these speeches such an image that you must get forgiveness endlessly if only you ask it. But listen to Jesus: *"If he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times comes back to you and says, 'I repent', forgive him."* Luke 17:4

Repenting one gets forgiveness without asking it

God forgives him who confesses his sins, not him who apologises them. Apologising is not needed, for He forgives without asking it.

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and, will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." 1John 1:9

Every man regrets sometimes, but only few dare to come back to their victim and say: 'I repent. I have wronged you'. Every man knows that he has wronged God but only them who believe in Jesus dare to confess their sins to God using the correct names of sins - because they know that the atoning blood of Jesus is enough for God to reconcile everything.

The Bible version used in references is NIV

Appreciate purity of heart

You keep yourself pure because you appreciate purity or because you hate to be dirty. Keeping your heart pure is not possible with your own strength neither with human cleaners.

Dirty or pure?

When do you consider yourself dirty? Everybody has his own standards on dirtiness and purity. This is true concerning the dirtiness of clothes and human body and much more with the dirtiness of heart.

The things that make your heart dirty come from both outside and inside you. What you hear, see or feel can make your heart dirty and also what you think, say or do. Because your bad thoughts have been food for your inner man, you have become a sinner. You are what you have thought.

Did the ears of your spirit rejoice at a dirty thought and did the mouth of your spirit eat fruit of pride? Did the eyes of your spirit admire a filthy sight and did the eyes of your soul fasten on greediness? Did the members of your spirit feast on an unclean feeling and did the hands of your spirit reach for dissolute selfishness?

Your bad thoughts are the dirt which tempts you to do evil things that are condemned by your conscience. The being produced by your bad thoughts is the sin that lies in ambush at the door of your heart. Its desire is for you, and you cannot rule over it, if your spirit is deadened by your guilt. When you open your heart for bad thoughts sin occupies you so that you cannot make a difference between it and your ego.

Although sin has killed you, clean thoughts can make your spirit alive again. If you have not awoken to desire clean thoughts, you cannot get a clear conscience. If you don't want to face the judgments of your conscience, you don't allow clean thoughts to settle down in you either.

Of what kind of dirt you, in your opinion, should be cleansed? In this matter we usually follow the public standard. If you face

someone who is more pure than you, you realize yourself to be unclean. Jesus, the Son of God is pure! Compare yourself to Him. He who loves God, adopts the opinion of Jesus about what is dirty and what is pure.

God's words can wash you pure. Let the ears of your spirit rejoice at His pure thoughts and let the mouth of your spirit eat fruit of the humbleness of Jesus. Let the eyes of your spirit admire the revelation of God's love on Golgotha and let your soul fasten on the sacrifice of God. Long for the presence of Jesus and enjoy peace given by His grace and reach the hands of your spirit for His deeds.

When Jesus purifies you with His words, your conscience will wake up from its dormancy. Then you will feel guilty and you begin to thirst after God's grace. If you confess your sins to Jesus, His atoning blood will touch your spirit and purify your conscience. Then He also separates your spirit from the ego of your bad thoughts with the sword of His word and you become a new creation, if you let Him do this circumcision of your heart! Starting from this moment your spirit has power to resist the thoughts of your old ego.

Do you appreciate the purity of God? Maybe you are satisfied if you are pure in the eyes of men, although you are unclean in the eyes of God. If you are going to get to Him, you have to be purified.

Pure heart and clear conscience

If you feel that your conscience doesn't accuse you, it doesn't mean that your heart would be pure. If the thoughts and attitudes of your heart are after God's heart then your heart is pure. If you are satisfied with getting forgiveness of your sins and having a good conscience, you are in danger of falling again.

Don't only reach for a good conscience and a salvation from the judgment of God, but ask for a change of your mind and for purging of your thoughts. The water of God's word changes your thoughts and attitudes. This means that you ask for yourself light of God's word that rebukes you.

If we live according to the thoughts of God then we live in light. If we live according to our dirty thoughts we live in darkness. The

blood of Jesus cannot cleanse our conscience in the darkness of our unclean thoughts.

"But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin." 1Jo.1:7

If you don't watch over your thoughts, you will fall into the power of darkness. Let the stream of your consciousness follow Jesus. If the Holy Spirit lives in you, you are able to watch yourself just by His influence. When you notice that a dark thought tries to come into your consciousness, immediately pray to Jesus to help you to reject it.

If you didn't watch, you fell into darkness and sinned. If the Holy Spirit lives in you, He will grieve in you and wait for you to come soon away from the darkness to the light of God so that He could give you forgiveness. However if you love to be in the darkness, you will finally claim that you have done nothing wrong. *"If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."* 1Jo.1:8

Power of the blood of Jesus

God has created for us a conscience that demands punishment for evil deeds. Therefore the sacrifice of Jesus is needed so that we could be set free from our guilt. Either you yourself suffer or the Lamb of God suffers your punishment. The conscience of many people doesn't accept a vicarious sacrifice and therefore they don't believe in Bible's Jesus. This results from some religious ceremony that has given their conscience a false peace.

Those religious acts are dead works. You can be released from their hold only after you have experienced the power of the blood of Jesus. *"How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God!"* Heb.9:14

You cannot serve the living God, if your conscience has gained peace by trusting on any other thing than the sacrifice of Jesus and on the power of His blood.

How can the power of the blood of Jesus affect in your heart? Firstly you must be in the faith of Jesus. To be able to experience the power of the blood of Jesus He must live in your heart by faith. If He is outside He cannot wash from the inside.

Secondly you must confess your sin just as the truth is. *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."* 1Jo.1:9

You must confess your sin to God with all your heart, in thoughts, in words and in deeds. Think about your deed deep in your heart, confessing your evilness that gave birth to your bad deed. Don't speak to God only about your bad deeds, but abhor your bad thoughts and attitudes that have caused your deeds. Repent your thoughts and accept your responsibility for your bad deeds. Prove by thinking and saying right that you want to change.

Many ask forgiveness for their bad deeds only because they are afraid of the punishment but they don't want to change their thoughts. God doesn't forgive you only because you asked. He forgives you because you repent your evilness and you confess your sins.

By confessing your sins you ask for forgiveness. By defending your sins you ask for judgment. What you confess in the light of God's words that is washed away by the blood of Jesus.

"Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus ... let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water." Heb.10:19-22

If the body of our thoughts has been cleansed by the water of God's word and our conscience has received the atonement with the blood of Jesus, we are able to enter the dazzling brightness of the face of God.

The Bible version used in references is NIV

People are willingly watching battles between evil and good in movies and books. Everybody wants to identify himself with a good hero and to see what happens to the evil. In this way one escapes the reality of one's own evilness. From what you see around yourself you can conclude that God is good and all people are evil.

All of us have sometimes hardened our heart toward goodness and softened it toward evilness. Repent your softness toward evilness and your hardness toward goodness! Allow goodness to rebuke you so that you could be disobedient to evilness!

It is not possible to have a good self-esteem without a good conscience. If you know yourself as a sinner, you cannot have a good self-esteem. If you know yourself as a child of God, you really have a good self-esteem.

Many beg forgiveness, if they have been caught in doing wrong. However usually it is not heard from their mouth the most important sentence of the situation: "What I did was wrong." The apology of an unrepentant person mocks one's victim. It is possible to get forgiveness without asking it, but never without a repenting confession.

You keep yourself pure because you appreciate purity or because you hate to be dirty. Keeping your heart pure is not possible with your own strength neither with human cleaners.