P215

Grace Notes Radio Program SERIES: Revival in the land

TITLE: Part 2

SONGS: TOUCH OF THE MASTERS 4:38

WHEN I KNELT 3:27

INTRO:

Welcome to Grace Notes, an outreach of Sandbek Concert Ministries. On our last program, we saw that Hezekiah, king of Judah, began a reformation to reverse the evil practices his ungodly father had led the people into. He started by first committing himself to the Lord, and then commanding the priests and Levites to consecrate themselves, and purify the temple. We left the story in the middle of their house-cleaning. Today, Barbara Sandbek will continue with their purification process.

The lesson we learned from our last program is that before any revival can begin in us, our temple, or our heart, must be purified from the sin we've become entangled in. That's step #1.

It takes time to get rid of the JUNK in our lives, but we must persevere, or we'll revert back to our old ways. It can be a long process, but we have to start it. If we commit to making it a life-style, the cleansing won't be so difficult.

The Levites spent sixteen days cleaning up the temple. They didn't just hide the defilement; they took it completely away – outside the holy city. We know where our greatest areas of temptation lie and so does Satan. If you don't want to be tempted, remove the tempting things from sight and reach.

We've got to stop trying to figure out how close we can get to the outside of the circle into rebellion and work toward the center of holiness.

Old versus New – which will you choose?

By Barbara Sandbek

2 Corinthians 5:17 says...

Therefore, if any man be in Christ,
he is a new creature
OLD things are passed away
behold all things are become NEW.
But...

We hold on to OLD things though NEW offer more.

It's ground that we've covered...predictable...sure.

But God say, "Give it up...let them pass from your life. They'll give you no peace...just long endless strife".

The blessings far outweigh the struggle to change When God is let free to your life rearrange.

He'll make you what you've always wanted to be... A beautiful person that others can see.

It's well worth the effort to give up control

To the One who cares deeply for your very soul.

He'll never hurt you for He paid the price. He gave up His Son so that we'd be in Christ.

Resist Him no longer - you're wasting so much He'll do all the work - all it takes is His touch.

Well it was battered and scarred And the auctioneer felt it was hardly worth his while To waste much time on the old violin But he held it up with a smile, it sure ain't much

But it's all we got left
I guess we ought to sell it too
Now who'll start the bid on this old violin
Just one more and we'll be through

And then he cried, ''One, give me one dollar Who'll make it two? Only two dollars Who'll make it three? Three dollars twice Now that's a good price but who's got a bid for me?―

‽Raise up your hand and don't wait any longer The auction's about to end, who's got four? Just one dollar more to bid on this old violin'' Well, the air was hot and the people stood around As the sun was setting low From the back of the crowd a gray-haired man Came forward, picked up the bow

He wiped the dust from the old violin And tightened up the strings Then he played out a melody pure and sweet Sweeter than the angels sing

And then the music stopped and the auctioneer With a voice that was quiet and low, he said "What am I bid for this old violin" Then he held it up with a bow

Then he cried out, ''One, give me one thousand Who'll make it two? Only two thousand Who'll make it three? Three thousand twice Well, that's a good price but who's got a bid for me?''

The people cried out, "What made the change? We don't understand", then the auctioneer stopped And he said with a smile "It was the touch of the master's hand"

Now you know, many a man with a life out of tune Is battered and scarred with sin And he's auctioned cheap to a thankless world Much like that old violin

Then the Master comes and the foolish crowd They never understand the worth of a soul And the change that is wrought Just by one touch of the Master's hand

Then he cried out, "One, give me one thousand Who'll make it two? Only two thousand Who'll make it three? Three thousand twice Well, that's a good price but who's got a bid for me?"

The people cried out, "What made the change? We don't understand", then the auctioneer stopped And he said with a smile "It was the touch of the master's hand"

Hezekiah's father, King Ahaz, had done things his way. He saw no need for priests. He made his own sacrifices to whatever god he wanted to appease at the time.

But, King Hezekiah was obedient to the Lord. The reformation was well on its way. He gave the priests and Levites their orders and they obeyed by purifying themselves and the temple. When they finished, they prepared and consecrated all the articles King Ahaz had removed and placed them in front of the Lord's altar; Out with the old – in with the new. This shows me that...

God doesn't ask us to get rid of things without giving us something better to replace them with.

The king wasted no time. This is important for us, too. We must be diligent about the process. Procrastination is one of the devil's best tools. <u>Early</u> the next morning King Hezekiah gathered the city officials together and they went up to the temple of the Lord with sin offerings in hand. Hezekiah commanded the priests to offer the sacrifices to atone for all Israel. The priests slaughtered the animals, and took the blood and sprinkled it on the altar.

Let's stop here for an application for today's times. Hebrews 9:13 says...

The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. How much more then will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself <u>unblemished</u> to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to <u>death</u>, so that <u>WE</u> may serve the living God.

Without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin. When Jesus, the spotless Lamb, shed His blood on the cross, He provided THE PERMANENT WAY for us to be saved from death - the penalty of sin. We no longer need animal sacrifices or Levite priests to mediate between us and God. Jesus, the perfect High Priest is the only Mediator we need.

In order to be spiritually revived, we have to have first spiritually lived. Without Christ, we have no power to change anything in our lives. Maybe you've never asked Jesus to be your mediator. If God is speaking to you today, just pray this prayer...

God in heaven...I've sinned against you. I do believe that Jesus died for me, shed his blood to pay the penalty for my sin, and rose again to save me. I ask Him to forgive me, come into my life and be my Savior. Make me a new creature. AMEN.

Once we receive Christ as our Savior, the requirement for cleansing is a prayer of confession to maintain fellowship. 1 John 1:9 says...

If we confess our sin, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sin and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

In Hezekiah's time, only the Levites could serve God. But Christ made it possible for us to be in God's service, too. Believers are considered priests. How grateful I am that Jesus paid it all, and opened the door for us to be used to Glorify His Name. God sees us as righteous when He sees us through the blood of Christ.

VERSE 1

Sin is a captive it binds and it holds
Satan will try to abolish your soul
There's only one hope for your destiny
And that one hope is found
when your down on your knees

CHORUS

When I knelt the blood fell
Sin lost the battle the lamb has prevailed
What made all hell tremble rand heavens bell
When I knelt the blood fell

VERSE 2

After resurrection Jesus went to the throne
Presenting his sacrifice to God alone
Father It is finished He proclaimed as Heaven cheered
This blood is for all sinners for their redemption free and clear.
Repeat Chorus

Thanks for joining the program. If you prayed that prayer with Barbara, please write and tell us. We'll send you some information to help you in your walk with the Lord.

You can contact this ministry by writing to:
Sandbek Ministries
P.O. Box 581
Fallston, MD 21047
or emailing us through our web site at www.sandbekministries.com.

This broadcast is a listener supported program. Please consider sending along a gift to keep us on your station. Join us on our next program. Until then, let your grace notes be a song of Praise.