

Elder Bobby Willis



Apathy or Insensitivity?

The two words, apathy and insensitivity, are very closely related, even to the point of being interchanged at times. They both carry the meaning of *“Indifference, inattentiveness and the lack of emotional attachment.”* No matter which word you may choose to indicate the state of a child of God, neither would be good.

Our human soul is a wonderful thing. Bearing our mind, it can be full of understanding of God’s word, or void of knowledge due to our own apathy or insensitivity to the things of God. The Apostle Paul alluded to this condition in Ephesians 4:18-19, **“Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.”**

Notice the phrase **“past feeling”** as found in verse 19. In the Greek rendering, it means one who knows no shame or honor. Let me use this example: Hardening of the arteries is not a good condition for our natural body. Neither is it good for our spiritual body as our hardened heart (conscience) becomes like a stone which has no understanding or usability.

In Jeremiah 6:15 we find a good observation of many in Israel in the time of Jeremiah and it is still true today, **“Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush:...”** You see, their sin no longer affected them (their conscience) as it should. They had become insensitive to the covetousness (vs.13) that was so rampant in their lives. Today, God’s born again children, who should know better, have fallen into the apathy trap where there is virtually no form of perversion which brings a negative response. No response can be a positive for the advancement of ungodly perversions.

Is it possible that we, a portion of God’s people, will allow ourselves to become so immune to the evils around us, that it results in what has been viewed as

“a mere shrug of the shoulders?” Perhaps some have already gotten into a condition where nothing shocks them anymore, therefore they become insensitive to what is around them. We find this warning from Paul to young Timothy in I Timothy 4:1-3, **“Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.”**

Having one’s **“conscience seared with a hot iron”** would render them unfruitful in the service of God, unable to even recognize their own sinful condition. Let us now, today, examine ourselves that we be not found smothered and bound in apathy or insensitivity. But, rather be found desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fall from the master’s table and **“As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby...”** (I Peter 2:2). Is it not time to be up and about your Father’s business of worshiping Him? **“Think About It!”**