HIS COUNTENANCE FELL

GENESIS 4:5

Your countenance can say a lot about you. Cain’s expressions said that he was angry without him audibly saying a word. He could not hide his anger. It is evident to many around us when things aren’t right in our heart. When we are mad; when we are sad; when we are hurting; when we are worried; all these things have ways of showing up in our expressions. Cain was upset that God had not accepted his offering. He didn’t say anything to God but God could tell by his sour attitude and the frown on his face that he was not a happy camper.

I encourage you to read this story again which is covered in the first eighteen verses of Genesis Chapter Four. Cain’s countenance wasn’t fallen over him killing his brother but he was mad because God had not received his offering. God did not quit talking to him in fact he wants to know why he is mad. He points out to Cain that this situation was totally in his (Cain’s) control. “If thou doest well” is the main point. The whole problem was that Cain had not offered the proper sacrifice. He had held back on the Lord. Cain’s sadness was his doing. If you do well then God will accept it. God will receive it. If we pray well God will receive it. If we live well God will be glorified. Many times our happiness depends on our doing.

I was writing a devotional the other day. Ella was playing with my marbles and became quite. Red flags began waving in my mind. I turned to her and said “Ella, what are you doing?” She would not say anything. I said “Ella, look at me.” She would not face me. “Ella, do you have a marble in your mouth?” She still would not face me. “Answer me.” She lifts her hand to her mouth and turns around. “What is in your hand?” She finally speaks and says “nothing.” I said “open your hand.” She drops her hand to her side and I heard the marble hit the carpet.

She would not look in my eyes. Her little face was fallen. Well that is not the end of the story but enough said. Our countenance says so much. Instead of being sad and receiving punishment she could have been happy and talking if she had done right and not broken the first rule in playing with my marbles. “Thou shalt not put marbles in your mouth.”

This may say something about why we often come to church in the mully grubs. It is not God’s doing that we are down and out; it very well may be our doing. So let’s do well and lift up our heads and see, hear, feel, experience the blessings of the Lord!

Yours in Christ,

Brother Randy Burtram