Sermon Summary
Sunday, February 8, 2009
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“You Can Do Whatever You Like - But You Will Pay a Price!”

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. - Romans 6:23

The rapper T.I. performs a very popular song that simply states that the woman of his choice can have whatever she likes. In this song T.I. states: “Stacks on deck (money), Patron’ on ice, and we can pop bottles all night. Baby, you could have whatever you like…”

It is true that you can have or do whatever you like – but you will have to pay the price!

In the beginning, God gave man dominion and power over all the earth, but we gave it all away through disobedience. In essence, God said you can do whatever you like – but do not eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. If you do you shall surely die. Yet, Eve entertained a conversation with the devil along with her husband who was with her. And they both were convinced to be disobedient to God. We must be careful not to have conversations with the devil. We should only speak what God has said. Eve should not have entertained the notions placed in her head by the serpent. Just because the enemy sends negative thoughts our way does not mean that we should consider them. You are not obligated to entertain thoughts from the enemy. Someone once said, “you can’t control birds flying over your head, but you can control them building a nest in your hair”.

Why is it that we want to place the blame for original sin squarely on Eve’s shoulders? Contrary to popular belief, Eve was not solely responsible for the fall of man. The Bible clearly states in Genesis 3:6 that “She took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her”. Why didn’t Adam stand up and exercise his God-given authority? Men, if we would stand up and line up with God’s word, our households, and our children would line up as well. The curse came upon the earth because of disobedience to the Word of God. Sin, sickness, and disease are here - but we also have healing, provision, and protection through Jesus Christ our Lord! We must renew our mind on a regular basis. Our minds will not be renewed by watching Judge Judy, The Young and the Restless, and One Life to Live all day long, but by meditating on the Word of God. Satan says we can do what the world does and serve God too. But God’s Word is still true. The wage of sin is death. When you sin, you will receive the wages (or payment) of sin which includes poverty, sickness and disease, and eternal damnation - but the gift of God is eternal life. So the question is: Who pays your wage?

You Can Do Whatever You Like - But You Will Have to Pay a Price!

Have a blessed week,
Pastor Williams

Scripture Reference: Romans 12:1-2; 6:15-23; Genesis 1:26-28; 3:1; 11:15-17; 2:8-9,15

This sermon was summarized by Alison Moore, a member of Hopewell AME Church.