

IT'S TRASH DAY, AGAIN

Tim King

There's a pit-in-the-stomach feeling when you realize you've forgotten it's trash day. That low rumble of the truck in the distance, the overstuffed bin still sitting by the house instead of at the curb—it's a sinking sensation. And the worst part? Now you have to wait a few more days to redeem yourself. Sigh.

Think about that unwanted trash. It doesn't go away. It festers and stinks, making even clean spaces feel unclean.

Now take that same reality and apply it spiritually.

Sin that isn't removed lingers. It doesn't just sit idly in the corners of your life—it builds. Pride left unchecked becomes arrogance. Bitterness turns into hatred. Lust doesn't stay a passing thought—it becomes a habit that wrecks lives. And before long, what could've been cleared out weeks ago has become an overwhelming weight—proof that neglecting the small things lead to much harder tomorrows.

Scripture teaches confession and repentance are the way we take out the spiritual trash. *"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness"* (1st John 1:9). That word *"cleanse"* is everything here. God doesn't just cover up the mess; He removes it. But unconfessed sin piles up, like garbage that should've been dragged to the curb long ago.

And if it stays too long, it affects everything.

Peter felt the tension of that when Jesus knelt to wash his feet. It didn't feel right. The Son of God scrubbing the dirt from between his toes? It was unsettling. *"You shall never wash my feet,"* Peter said. But the Lord insisted: *"Unless I wash you, you have no share with me"* (John 13:8).

Salvation cleanses us fully, but our daily walk still picks up dirt. The grime of sin requires regular maintenance—just as a home that isn't cleaned begins to feel unlivable, so does a soul weighed down by unremoved sin. If left unchecked, filth accumulates, and what could have been dealt with easily becomes an infestation.

And then there's the Lord's Table—a weekly reminder of purification. The blood of Christ washes away sin, but we are called to examine ourselves before we come (1st Corinthians 11:28). What does it mean

– Continued on page 3 –

I RECOMMEND JESUS

Wayne Welsh

I have a King and Messiah who is without sin, without spot or blemish, holy, glorious, compassionate, gracious, who loves all, and freely offers rest to all.

I've never had to justify His wrongs to others because He has no wrongs to justify.

I've never had to feel ashamed of something He did because He is glorious and takes away shame.

I've never had to "hold my nose" to speak in His name because He is a fragrant aroma, given as an offering.

I've never had to defend His cruelty because He is not cruel.

I've never had to wonder why He broke a promise because He keeps His promises and is faithful to them.

I've never had to feel like I was choosing a "lesser evil" by choosing Him because He is the greatest good.

I've never had to worry if He would be defeated since He defeated death itself.

If you find yourself preoccupied doing these things with some chosen champion on earth, maybe it's time to find another Messiah. I recommend Jesus.

– Continued from page 2 –

if we approach with a heart full of unrepented sin, refusing to take out the trash but pretending everything's clean? It's the very thing Jesus condemned in the religious leaders of His day—those who appeared righteous on the outside but were full of corruption within. Their downfall was self-deception, convincing themselves they were clean while refusing to let God cleanse them. And in doing so, they mocked the very grace meant to restore them.

God's forgiveness isn't a loophole for sin. Grace isn't a free pass to keep doing what we know is wrong. When we refuse to deal with our sin, we're not just ignoring the mess—we're choosing to live in it. That's not how purification works. Confession is surrender. Repentance is release.

– Continued on page 4 –

**"WHAT MUST I DO
TO BE SAVED?"**

ACTS 16:30

LEARN THE GOSPEL

John 6:45; Romans 10:17

BELIEVE IN CHRIST

Hebrews 11:6; John 3:16

CONFESS CHRIST

Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10

REPENT OF SIN

Acts 3:19; 17:30

BE BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST

Mark 16:16; Romans 6:3-6

REMAIN STEADFAST

1st Corinthians 15:58; Revelation 2:10

**"THE ASSEMBLING OF
OURSELVES TOGETHER"**

HEBREWS 10:24-25

SUNDAY

Worship @ 10:00 a.m.

Studies @ 11:45 a.m.

WEDNESDAY

Studies & Worship @ 7:00 p.m.

75 Sherrod Boulevard
Belén, New Mexico

**Seekers Welcome.
Members Expected.**

**"IF A MAN IS OVERTAKEN IN
ANY TRESPASS...
RESTORE SUCH A ONE"**

GALATIANS 6:1

CONFESS TRESPASSES

James 5:16; 1st John 1:9

REPENT OF SIN

Acts 8:22

PRAY FOR FORGIVENESS

Acts 8:22

REMAIN STEADFAST

1st Corinthians 15:58; Revelation 2:10

– Continued from page 3 –

When we hold onto what should be removed, we don't just inconvenience ourselves—we rot spiritually.

So, let's examine. What's been piling up? What needs to be dragged out before it mucks what's still good?

God's mercy isn't on a schedule like the garbage truck—it's available now. But the longer you wait, the more personal that stench gets.

Let today be the day you take it all out.

"WHOLE COUNSEL"

ACTS 20:27

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THE DIVINE WEAVER

Author Unknown

My life is but a weaving
Between my Lord and me:
I cannot choose the colors
He worketh steadily.

Ofttimes He weaveth sorrow
And I, in foolish pride,
Forget He seeth the upper,
And I the underside.

Not till the loom is silent
And the shuttles cease to fly,
Shall God unrolleth the canvas
And explain the reason why.

The dark threads are as needful
In the Weaver's skillful hand,
As the threads of gold and silver
In the pattern He has planned.

RIO GRANDE VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

505-864-0282

rgvcoc@gmail.com

Box 989, Belén, NM 87002

www.RGVChurchOfChrist.org

75 Sherrod Boulevard

Facebook.com/RGVChurchOfChrist