



Daily Devotion



“For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.” 1 Corinthians 3:11

When you hear “satisfactions,” therefore, declare that only that satisfaction is true which is called and is the satisfaction of faith, namely, that Christ Jesus bore your sins. If this satisfaction stands alone and pure, without any addition of your satisfactions, then you may chastise and mortify your flesh, then you may zealously exercise charity, serve your calling, and do everything that the Word of God permits you to undertake. This obedience is pleasing and acceptable to God because it is done with the right aim, namely, of obeying God and not setting up your own satisfaction.

Martin Luther

It's human nature to want to do things for ourselves. Children are always telling mom or dad, "Let me do it!" Adults are the same way. It's difficult for an adult who has been self-sufficient all his life to allow someone else to do things for him and be a servant to him.

We react this way to God as well. We do not want to accept what God's Word tells us--that Jesus has made satisfaction for us; that He satisfied the Father by keeping the Law on our behalf. We want to do it ourself! But we can't. The foundation has already been laid. Only Jesus could lay the foundation upon which we stand. We build our lives on this foundation, but not to satisfy God. Jesus satisfied His Father for us. This is our only hope and salvation.

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness. No merit of my own I claim, but wholly lean on Jesus' name. On Christ, the solid Rock I stand; all other ground is sinking sand. Amen.