

If It Ain't Broke, God Won't Fix It

A common saying in our culture is, *“If it ain't broke, don't fix it,”* meaning basically, “If it's still tolerably functional, leave it alone.”

Many people live their lives that way as well. Their motto is, **“My life is functioning just fine, so I don't need ‘fixing’** – I don't have any problems right now that need outside help.”

What they **don't** realize is, **“IF IT AIN'T BROKE, GOD WON'T FIX IT!”** In other words, **until you admit you've got a problem, God won't help you with that problem!**

It's kind of like this **“RECALL NOTICE”** ...

***The maker of all human beings** is recalling all units manufactured, regardless of make or year, due to a serious defect in the primary and central component of the heart. This is due to a malfunction in the original prototype units code named Adam and Eve, resulting in reproduction of the same defect in all subsequent units. This defect has been technically termed, **Sub sequential Internal Non-Morality**, or more commonly known as **S-I-N**, as it is primarily symptomized by a loss of moral judgment.*

***Some other symptoms are:** (a) Loss of direction, (b) Foul vocal emissions, (c) Amnesia of origin, (d) Lack of peace and joy, (e) Selfish or violent behavior, (f) Depression or confusion in the mental component, (g) Fear, (h) Idolatry.*

***The manufacturer**, who is neither liable nor at fault for this defect, is providing factory authorized repair and service, free of charge to correct this SIN defect. The number to call for the recall station in your area is: **P-R-A-Y-E-R**. Once connected, upload your burden of SIN by pressing **R-E-P-E-N-T-A-N-C-E**. Next, download **J-E-S-U-S** into the heart.*

***No matter how big or small the SIN defect is**, the J-E-S-U-S repair will replace it with: (a) Love, (b) Joy, (c) Peace, (d) Longsuffering, (e) Gentleness, (f) Goodness, (g) Faith, (h) Meekness, (i) Temperance.*

Please see operating manual, H-O-L-Y B-I-B-L-E, for further details on the use of these fixes. WARNING: Continuing to operate the human unit without correction, voids the manufacturers warranty, exposing owner to dangers and problems too numerous to list and will result in the human unit being permanently impounded.

For ***free emergency service***, call on ***J-E-S-U-S***.

DANGER: The human units not receiving this recall action will have to be scrapped in the furnace. The SIN defect must not enter heaven or else heaven will be infected.

Because of sin, human beings are fundamentally “broken.” The Psalmist David discovered this principle during his life ...

Psalm 34:18 NIV - ¹⁸The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

Psalm 51:17 NIV - ¹⁷My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.

Because of our cultural expressions, we primarily think of a ***“broken heart”*** or a ***“broken spirit”*** as a ***“weeping heart”*** or ***“sad spirit,”*** but the primary meaning of David’s Hebrew expression was what we normally think of when we think of the word **BROKEN**:

BROKEN: violently separated into parts, shattered, damaged, fractured, violated, disrupted, made weak or infirm, subdued, crushed, bankrupt, reduced in rank, cut off, disconnected, not complete or full.

David realized two very powerful truths:

FIRST, that his heart was ***“broken”*** – not merely that it was sad, but that something was fundamentally wrong with it;

SECOND, that ***GOD IS ATTRACTED TO BROKENNESS!*** He knew that ***“if it ain’t broke, God won’t fix it,”*** and that’s why David didn’t mind admitting his problem.

Psalm 31:12 NIV - ¹²I am forgotten as though I were dead; **I have become like broken pottery. (A broken vessel)**

In fact, the whole purpose of the Old Testament law was to **show man that he was fundamentally BROKEN**, and that he **needed God's help!**

Romans 7:7 NKJV - Sin's Advantage in the Law

⁷ What shall we say then? *Is the law sin?* Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, "You shall not covet."

Galatians 3:24 NKJV - ²⁴ Therefore the law was our tutor *to bring us* to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

The Law of Moses contains many illustrations concerning brokenness:

Any earthen vessel contaminated by an unclean object, animal or person was to be **BROKEN**.

When **leprosy had BROKEN through the skin**, a person was unclean and ***had to be separated*** from everyone else.

When leprosy had **BROKEN** out in the walls of a house, ***the house was to be broken down***.

The Old Testament is really an ongoing contest between God and the devil's false gods for the affections of Israel.

Altars to Jehovah and many false deities were alternately ***built and broken***, depending on the character of the man who occupied Israel's throne at the time.

The implication throughout all these illustrations is clear:

Humanity is BROKEN by sin, and until **sin's power** (its "altar") is **BROKEN** in our lives, we live under the certain threat of eternal destruction.

EITHER YOU BREAK SIN, OR SIN BREAKS YOU!

No sacrifice that was imperfect was allowed to be offered to God, and no man who was ***"broken" or even "blemished"*** was permitted to enter the presence of God as a priest, further illustrating the fact that **our brokenness separates us** from God ...

Leviticus 21:17-19; 21 NKJV - ¹⁷ “Speak to Aaron, saying: ‘No man of your descendants in *succeeding* generations, who has *any* defect, may approach to offer the bread of his God. ¹⁸ For any man who has a defect shall not approach: a man blind or lame, who has a marred *face* or any *limb* too long, ¹⁹ a man who has a **broken foot or broken hand**, ²¹ No man of the descendants of Aaron the priest, who has a defect, shall come near to offer the offerings made by fire to the LORD. He has a defect; he shall not come near to offer the bread of his God.

People can become broken by many things ... sometimes other people break us, sometimes our circumstances break us, sometimes even God breaks us, but most of the time **WE BREAK OURSELVES**. Our stubborn insistence of doing things our own way ***is our own worst enemy!***

THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT, **NO MATTER HOW YOU GOT BROKEN, GOD IS WILLING TO FIX YOU, IF YOU’LL CRY TO HIM FOR HELP!**

Psalm 147:3 NKJV - ³ He heals the **brokenhearted** And binds up their wounds. (sorrows)

Luke 4:18 NKJV - ¹⁸ “The Spirit of the LORD *is* upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to *the* poor; **He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted**, To proclaim liberty to *the* captives And recovery of sight to *the* blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed;

The only thing God asks is that we **break our PRIDE** and **admit our need for His help** – then **He steps in and breaks the power of SIN**. What a great trade!

YOU MUST TAKE THE FIRST STEP ...

Hosea 10:12 NIV - ¹² Sow righteousness for yourselves, reap the fruit of unfailing love, **and break up your unplowed ground**; for it is time to seek the LORD, until he comes and showers his righteousness on you.

Matthew 21:44 NIV - ⁴⁴ Anyone ***who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces***; anyone on whom it falls will be crushed.”

1 Peter 5:5-7 NIV - ⁵In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, ***“God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.”***

⁶***Humble yourselves***, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. ⁷***Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.***

Contrary to popular belief, pride is not thinking too much OF oneself, but simply thinking too much ABOUT oneself (whether good or bad).

Pride makes ME the center, instead of God.

Jesus met up with **TWO PROUD PEOPLE** in the city of Jericho ...

The ***“up-and-outer”*** was the short tax collector named **Zacchaeus (Luke 19)**, who had to **humble himself and climb up a tree** in order to see Jesus.

We also “fall short” and need to humble ourselves and just get to “the tree”!

In spite of his outward success, Zacchaeus finally realized that he was inwardly broken.

God planted the sycamore tree (He made the opportunity), but Zacchaeus had to climb it!

The ***“down-and-outer”*** was a blind beggar named **Bartimaeus (Mark 10)**, who had to **humble himself and cry out** – even when **he couldn’t see for himself** that **Jesus was there!**

And when his friends told him to be quiet, he said, ***“You’re not the one who realizes how broken he is!***

Somebody told me God is here, and there’s **no way** I’m going to let Him get this close and **pass me by**, because **God doesn’t stop for the proud!**

Only the blind man in that crowd of seeing people actually **“saw” Jesus!**

CLOSE

These are the two reactions that keep us from breaking our pride – and a Scripture for each of them:

1. I'M NOT BROKEN (the “up-and-out” person)

Revelation 3:16-17 NIV - ¹⁶ So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth. ¹⁷ You say, ‘I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.’ But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked.

2. I'M TOO BROKEN (the “down-and-out” person)

Jeremiah 33:20-21b NKJV - ²⁰ “Thus says the LORD: ‘If you can **break** My covenant with the day and My covenant with the night, so that there will not be day and night in their season, ²¹ then **My covenant may also be broken**’

PRAISE TEAM

GOD’S PROMISE WILL ALWAYS WORK!