

Donna's Devotional *"God's Restoration Project"*

"He is faithful . . . To cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

I John 1:9

I am reminded again how easy it is to miss my own sin. In Luke 6:41, the Scripture talks about having concern for the blemish in our brother's eye and missing the beam in our own. God has been convicting me about searching my life like David talks about in Psalm 139: 23-24, "Search me, O God and know my heart, try me and know my thoughts; and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

David Jeremiah stated that "visitors to the Sistine Chapel once saw Michelangelo's beautiful frescoes marred by muted colors and dark shadows. Many people assumed the artist had painted them that way on purpose." The real culprit, however, was the dirt and pollution over time.

In the 1980's, a major restoration project showed that a thorough cleaning could restore the beautiful color. "Using computer technology and chemical solvents, experts repaired damaged sections and wiped away accumulated grime. The result is a brilliant, colorful room that reveals Michelangelo's genius and leaves us breathless with his vivid images."

Sometimes Christians allow a little bit of sin to accumulate over time until the pollution in their lives hides the once beautiful image of Christ in them. They need a thorough cleansing of pride, dysfunctional attitudes, destructive habits, lack of faith, harsh words, self-defeating actions, and secret sins.

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."
John 1:9.

Wipe away the sin and see the beauty of the Master Artist.