

SUBJECT: Christian Living.

TITLE: Crossroads.

PROPOSITION: To see how Solomon handled the crossroads he came to.

OBJECTIVE: So we can know to handle the crossroads we come to today.

INTRODUCTION:

1. Read the text.

2. Regarding the text.

(1) Solomon had become king at a very young age, and he knew that he was not old enough to have enough wisdom to lead an entire nation.

A. He had come to a crossroads in his life in which he did not know where to go.

B. Many times people today would go to some friend and ask what to do; and the problem with that is that they are human and subject to mistakes.

(2) Solomon didn't go to his advisors, or anyone else; he went to God.

A. He understood that God could give him the understanding he would need to lead his nation.

B. He understood that **ONLY** God could do this.

(3) Let us look at some crossroads in our lives and follow Solomon's example.

3. Reference To S.T.P.O.

DISCUSSION: WHAT DO WE DO WHEN WE COME--

I. To The Crossroads Of Temptation?

1. Young people, today, are especially tempted with the ways of the world.

(1) The works of the flesh are everywhere (Gal. 5:19-21).

(2) It is so easy to get caught up in the wrong crowd (1 Cor. 15:33).

(3) Young people need to be a good example and remember God (Eccl. 12:1; 1 Tim. 4:12).

2. Older people are not past temptation.

(1) The older person is glorious if he remains righteous (Prov. 16:31).

(2) The older person is one who honors God (Lev. 19:32).

(3) The sad part is when a person lives his life for God all his life only to lose his soul at the end because he became disobedient at the end (Num. 20:12).

3. We are not to yield to temptation, whether young or old, we are to resist it.

II. To The Crossroads Of Submission To God.

1. We are all to submit ourselves to God.

(1) What God says we are to do (Eccl. 12:13).

(2) Where God sends we are to go (Mk. 16:15-16).

(3) We are to submit ourselves wholeheartedly to God (Col. 3:23).

2. The only way we can submit ourselves to God is to do the following--

(1) Deny ourselves and follow Christ (Mk. 8:34).

(2) Leave God's word as it is (Deut. 4:2; Rev. 22:18,19).

(3) Love God and keep his commandments (Jno. 14:15 1 Jno. 5:3).

3. When we do these things then we will make the right turn when we come to this crossroads.

III. To The Crossroads Of Death.

1. All of us are going to die unless we are alive when the Lord returns (Heb. 9:27; 1 Thess. 4:13-17).

(1) The 23rd Psalms comforts us (Psa. 23:1-6).

(2) Paul didn't look at it with disdain (Phil. 1:21-23).

(3) Christ took the sting of death away for us (1 Cor. 15:54,55).

2. We need to make sure that we are ready for death.

(1) We never know when our lives will end (Jas. 4:14).

(2) We need to be ready at all times in our lives (Mt. 25:13).

(3) If we are ready, it won't make any difference when we die because we will be ready to die.

3. As we come to the crossroads of death, let us always be ready and we won't have to worry about it.

CONCLUSION:

SUMMARY: What shall we do as we come to--

1. The crossroads of temptation.

2. The crossroads of submission to God.

3. The crossroads of death.

APPEAL: Let us always be faithful and we won't have to worry about what road to take.

Preached at Belle, MO on March 29, 2009 morning lesson.

SUBJECT: Salvation.

TITLE: The Essentiality Of Repentance.

PROPOSITION: To look at Repentance.

OBJECTIVE: To show that it is essential.

INTRODUCTION:

1. Read the text.

2. Regarding the text.

(1) There are several steps in man's salvation.

A. He must hear God's word (or in some other way find out what God's word has to say) (Jno. 5:25).

B. He must believe in Jesus as the Son of God (Jno. 8:24).

C. He must repent of his sins (Lk. 13:3).

D. He must confess that Jesus Christ is the Son of God (Rom. 10:10; Acts 8:37).

E. He must be baptized into Christ for the remission of his sins (Acts 2:38).

(2) Each one of these steps is essential, but no one is more important than the others.

A. This is why, when we are accused of placing baptism over all others, we deny such.

B. All of God's commands must be followed (1 Jno. 5:3).

(3) Even after becoming a Christian repentance is essential to our salvation.

A. Some say it isn't, but the Bible teaches that it is.

B. Since the Bible will be our judge (Jno. 12:48) we ought to heed its precepts.

3. Reference to S.T.P.O.

DISCUSSION: IN OUR STUDY, LET US NOTICE THAT—

I. SOME TODAY DENY THE ESSENTIALITY OF REPENTENCE FOR CHRISTIANS.

1. They argue that there is nothing that man can do to be saved, it has to be by direct operation of the Holy Spirit.

(1) The Holy Spirit reproves, but how (Jno. 16:8; Tit. 1:9)?

(2) The word is what saves us (Jas. 1:21).

2. They argue that when we sin and don't repent the blood of Christ cleanses us from sin (1 Jno. 1:9).

(1) They don't understand the difference between temptation and sin (Jas. 1:13-14).

(2) John explains verse 7 with verse 9.

II. REPENTANCE IS ESSENTIAL EVEN FOR THOSE WHO ARE CHRISTIANS.

1. The case of Simon the Sorcerer.

(1) He was a Christian (Acts 8:12,13).

(2) He sinned (Acts 8:18-20).

(3) He was told to repent (Acts 8:22).

2. The church in Corinth repented of sins (2 Cor. 7:9,10).

3. Elders are to lead the erring back to repentance (2 Tim. 2:25,26).
4. God waits to have his son return because he wants all to come to repentance (erring brethren included) (2 Pet. 3:9).

III. ONE MUST REPENT WHEN—

1. One commits a public sin.
 - (1) Working the works of the flesh (Gal. 5:19-21).
 - (2) Falling away from the service of the Lord (2 Pet. 2:20-22).
 - (3) Failing to assemble with the saints because one does not want to be there (Heb. 10:25).
2. One committs a private sin (a sin only God and the offender knows about).
 - (1) The repentance must be as public as the sin.
 - (2) If it is a private sin, then only private repentance is necessary.

CONCLUSION:

SUMMARY: We have seen in this lesson that—

1. Some in the church deny the essentiality of repentance.
2. The Bible affirms that repentance is essential.
3. One must repent when one either sins publicly or privately.

APPEAL: Repentance is essential. If you need to repent then do so now, for today is the day of salvation.

Preached at Belle, MO on March 29, 2009, even. Serv.