WALKING IN FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD

Text: 1 John 1:5-9
Intro: The book of I John was written to saved people. Those who believe you can lose your salvation teach these verses are for lost people. John is addressing sin in the life of believers in Christ. We have sinned. We do sin. We will sin. John teaches us what to do with our sins. The saved must confess that we sin against the Lord. Our words, ways, wills, and wanderings prove we sin beyond any doubt. Let’s see how we can walk in fellowship with God.

I. THE FATHER AND FELLOWSHIP V5
A. The Father of light
1. John tells us that God is light. Jesus, God’s Son, said He was the light of the world. John 8:12
2. Light and darkness often represent truth and lies, right and wrong, righteousness and wickedness.
3. In the context it has to do with the relationship to the Word or teachings of God. There is no darkness in God.
4. God does not try to deceive you or cause you to remain without knowledge. The Bible is profitable for doctrine (teaching), reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness. II Timothy 3:16

B. The Father of love
1. God is the Father of everyone who has repented of sin and received Jesus as Saviour. Study Galatians 3:26 to verify this truth.
2. His Word, will, and way reflect His character which is love unmerited and unearned and undeserved.
3. The Father deals with His children in divine love. He gives us light to live by so that we may avoid the snares and traps in life. The heavenly Father loves us with an unquestionable love.

C. The Father of life
1. Jesus came to give life and give it more abundantly. John 10:10 This life is a spiritual life.
2. A walk in the light is a walk full of life. John is trying to tell us how to keep from walking through life with one big lasting guilt trip.
3. God wants to fellowship with His people. He tells us how we can enjoy that fellowship. That wonderful, heavenly fellowship makes life worth the living and life makes sense with Him.
4. Without God in your life a lot of things will not add up and your life will not make any sense to you at all. Living with the Father is much more than just existing physically.

II. THE FALSE AND FELLOWSHIP V6
A. The declaring
1. John says, "If we say..." We can say or declare some things that may not be true. John is pointing out the possibility.
2. You must understand the truth in these passages to walk in fellowship with God. Many claim they have fellowship with God, but do not walk in the light of His holy Word.
3. Your life must agree with your belief. Many can be doctrinally sound and practically unsound. The test and truth about fellowship is revealed in the way you walk.
4. Be careful what your mouth says about your heart. The Lord wants us to be truthful about our relationship with Him.

B. The darkness
1. You can say that you have fellowship with God as you walk in darkness. This almost seems impossible, but it isn’t. The master deceiver is still doing a great job deceiving people.

2. A walk in darkness is a walk contrary to God’s Word. It is walking outside of the light of God’s Word and person of Jesus Christ. Psalm 119:105

3. The believer who walks in darkness cannot fellowship with God even if he says he can. God’s Word is always true. We know that truth and so does God.

4. When we are walking in darkness we will not want to pray, study the Bible, or go to church. We will live a distant life from the Lord as we walk in darkness.

C. The deceived

1. If we say that we have fellowship with God while walking in darkness we lie. The Lord uses pretty strong language here. You can be deceived to the point you are lying before God.

2. You cannot live with a person outside of marriage and have fellowship with God. God’s Word teaches the holiness of marriage and the act of love making.

3. You cannot cheat, lie, steal, get into fights all the time, drink alcohol, and live immorally and fellowship with God. Some people get to the point that they think they can be right doing wrong.

4. You are lying. You are not telling the truth. The Holy Spirit will convict and convince you of the truth that you are deceived about.

D. The doing

1. A walk in the darkness is not doing or practicing the truth. Truth is not a relative thing like a lot of people want to think it is.

2. The very life that you are living testifies that you are not in fellowship with God. The Lord teaches in Matthew 7 that you can know people by the fruit they bear.

3. John teaches us that this can happen to us. It happens because the Devil deceives or blinds us. He can only do that to saved people because they lack knowledge of God’s Word.

III. THE FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP V7

A. The conduct-walk

1. The word walk means to conduct your life. It is your behavior as a believer. As people look at your life they can see your conduct.

2. Your life will reflect a conduct. You will be living one way or the other. People can see your conduct and you know of your conduct.

3. The Lord has given us His will about the conduct or behaviour we should have. Romans 12:1,2

4. As individuals we will decide the way we want to live. We can walk in the light or we can walk in the darkness. We will make a decision about it.

B. The course-in the light

1. In order for us to enjoy fellowship with God, we must walk in the light as He is in the light.

2. We must learn the Word and will of God and then put it into practice in our lives. You have a Bible. What are you doing with it? You need to learn it and apply it to your life.

3. Study God’s Word and you will find out if you are walking in the light. The Bible teaches us how to walk in the light and it teaches us we can know that we aren’t walking in the light.

4. We can walk in the light as the Lord wants us to. It is up to us. We are to submit to God, James 4:6,7. We are to yield our members unto righteousness. Romans 6:13

C. The communion-we have fellowship one with another

1. If our walk is in agreement with God’s Word, we will have fellowship with God and His people.

2. It is wonderful to know that you are in fellowship with the Lord and you enjoy that sweet communion with Him. It is hard to explain what it is, but you can know that you have fellowship with Him.

3. A fellowship walk is free of guilt and misery. If we walk in darkness, we will experience the pains of guilt and misery.

4. A walk in the light is not a walk that is by accident. We must put forth the effort and pay the price to walk in fellowship with God and His people.

D. The cleansing-cleanseth us from all sin

1. The truth is we will sin. Sometimes we will sin knowingly and other times unknowingly.

2. When we sin, we need to go to the Lord and have our sins forgiven and cleansed. We must decide to do this.

3. If our sins aren’t cleansed, it is because we haven’t ask Him to forgive us of our sins. Study 1 John 1:9. We must experience a sorrow in our hearts that we have sinned against the Lord and confess our sins.

4. It is wonderful to be forgiven of sin. We will not have anything between us and the Lord when we are forgiven of sin.

IV. THE FAILURE AND FELLOWSHIP V8

A. The saying

1. It is possible to say or declare that we have no sin. We know better, but we do not arrive at the truth and say we haven’t sinned.

2. Some religions teach that the saved do not sin. If a man tells you this, talk to his wife. She will know if her husband doesn’t sin.
3. We know that we do sin. We know it by the way we talk and act and think. We realize that some things are not right.

4. The Holy Spirit is active in convincing us of the wrong in our lives. By His operation, we acknowledge that we are sinful and have sinned.

B. The sin
1. We can say we have not sinned. This statement is wrong, but we can say it. Sin is the transgression of God’s Word or law. I John 3:4
2. You can actually sin against the Lord, and believe that you have done nothing wrong. We have a way of trying to justify ourselves. We want to feel right about doing wrong, but we can’t.
3. A saved man can commit adultery and think that he has done nothing wrong. A study of God’s Word will reveal that he is wrong and the Holy Spirit will convict him of his wrong.
4. This passage is dealing with sin in general. There is nothing specific, except the fact that we are sinners by nature and choice.

C. The seriousness
1. If you say you have no sin, you deceive your own self. The Devil deceives us. We allow ourselves to be deceived.
2. John said the truth is not in you when you say you have no sin. You are speaking a lie and the truth is not in you. You.
3. A scriptural view of sin is needed in order to have a right relationship with the Lord. We desperately need His fellowship.
4. Many people have quit on God because they do not know or accept the truth about sin in their lives.

V. THE FORGIVENESS AND FELLOWSHIP
A. The conviction of sin
1. The Holy Spirit reproves or convicts of sin, John 16:7-11. He convicts the lost, but He also convicts the saved.
2. The Devil and our flesh deceive us. The Holy Spirit is the only One that convinces us of the fact we have sinned.
3. Read and study the Bible and the Holy Spirit will operate on our hearts and show us the truth.
4. He will show us sins of commission and omission. We fail to do what the Lord tells us to. We do what the Lord tells us not to do.

B. The confession of sin
1. If we confess, He will forgive and cleanse. If you won’t confess, He won’t forgive or cleanse.
2. Confess means to speak the same thing as God does about your sin. It is more than owning up to sin or admitting sin.
3. Confession involves agreeing with God about the sin and asking for forgiveness. This is very hard because of our sinful nature and pride.
4. Confession is having a broken heart over our sins against God, Psalm 51:17. It is more than admitting that your life is a mess and you were caught doing something wrong.

C. The compassion for the sinner
1. The Lord is faithful and just to forgive us of sin when we confess it. His sacrifice for sins paid the price for all sins to be forgiven.
2. He knows us and He knows we are but flesh. He has compassion for us, Matthew 9:36-38. He understands our weakness and is ready to forgive when we take the proper steps.
3. He has laid down a principle and plan whereby we can have sin removed from our lives. We may not follow the plan. We may not want to be forgiven, but we can.
4. The Lord put into Paul the spirit and love for others as described in Romans 9:1-3 and 10:1-3.

D. The cleansing of sin
1. The only reason that we can be forgiven of sin is that Jesus died for our sins on the cross. He paid our sin debt.
2. The only way that we can be forgiven is by confessing our sins and asking for forgiveness of the sins.
3. When we confess, the Lord cleanses all sin and unrighteousness. He actually removes the sin from us. He takes it out of the way.
4. When the Lord gives us a spiritual bath, the joy of His salvation will return to our hearts. He removes sin as far as the East is from the West. Psalm 103:12

From Ghana

I have much appreciated your books as well as hand out which I receive every month. Your books of the various outlines had been a help to in the teaching and preparing of messages as far as the feeding of God’s church is concern. I therefore say God richly bless you in abundance.

From Nigeria

Thank you for your faithful and effective work in mission of Christ through the SOUNDING OUT THE WORD. I am always blessed whenever I am reading any new issue. I have shared the magazine with several pastors and evangelists. I remember one Pentecostal pastor whom I shared with said, "Baptist is rich with materials."

Each time I receive my copy, I share it with a friend. I have used some of your material in church and many people are converted.

NEW BOOK: THE FINISHED WORK OF CHRIST by
Elvin Crocker is ready and available.
From Ohio
I greet you in the name of our Lord with salutations and many thanks. What a blessing your paper has been to me after just receiving one issue from another brother. I, by the power of the Holy Spirit, preached from the outline about "If I were the Devil" on a Sunday evening and saw a young lady come forward to receive Christ.

What an added blessing it was to receive the large shipment you sent me after speaking with you on the phone.

Please accept this check with my thanks for all you sent to me. I will be sharing your ministry with other preachers also.

MARKS OF THE LAST DAYS
Text: I John 2:18-29
Introduction: The last days are marked by perilous times - having a form of godliness - ever learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. Last days are marked by deceivers, deserters, and those who deny. II Timothy 3

I. THOSE WHO DENY CHRIST.
   A. Deny His person - saying He is not the Savior.
   B. Deny His presence
   C. Deny His pardon - rejecting the plan of salvation.

II. THOSE WHO DESERT THE CHURCH
    I John 2:19
   A. Desert it because of the preaching
   B. Desert it because of her practice
   C. Desert it because of her paying
   D. Desert it because of her problems

III. THOSE WHO DECEIVE OTHER CHRISTIANS
     I John 2:26
   A. Leading astray or deluding Matthew 7:15-20
      1. Deluding the doctrines
      2. Doubt the Word of God
      3. Desire to do evil
      4. Division among God's people
      5. Dissension among God's people
      6. Drinking is the 'in' thing to do
   B. Four lines of defense of the Christian
      1. Abide in Christ
      2. Abide in the Word
      3. Abide in the Spirit
      4. Abide in the church

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GUIDELINES FOR CHURCH MEMBERS
Text: I Timothy 3:15
Introduction:
A. PRE-OCCUPATION with the wrong things can stifle spiritual development and rob us of eternal treasures.
B. PROMINENT need for time management in our lives.
C. PRESENTATION utilizing words beginning with the letter "N".

I. NOBLE!
A. The MEANING - this term noble means:
   1. Morally good or virtuous.
   2. Superior in rank or character.
B. The MESSAGE
   1. Many people have made a correct RESPONSE to Biblical enlightenment.
      a. They are seeking to be doers of the Word and not just hearers only.
      b. They are positive believers.
   2. These people are RADIATING the character of Christ.
      a. There is an input of Biblical material.
      b. There is a submissiveness to the ministry of the Holy Spirit.
      c. There is the outflow of the fruits of the Spirit in their lives.
      d. This makes them NOBLE - gives nobility to the cause of Christ - DIVINE DIGNITY.
II. NOTABLE!
   A. INSIGHTS regarding the term - NOTABLE means:
      1. One deserving notice.
      2. One who is remarkable.
      3. One who is prominent or distinguished.
      4. Acts 17:11
   B. IMPACT of the notable.
      1. Influence for Christ and His church.
      2. Influence in the propagation of right principles.

III. NOISELESS!
   A. The DISCERNMENT
      1. They are calm - still - and quiet as opposed to being gossips and clamourers.
      2. They are not promoters of strife - confusion - and discord.
   B. The DIVINE format
      1. PRAISE the Lord OUTWARDLY - This enhances, beautifies and benefits the work of the Lord.
      2. PRAY about the problems - INWARDLY.
         a. We would not have near the problems, in the Lord's work, if we would pray about the problems - instead of telling everyone else.
         b. In fact, the problems are intensified when we refuse to be noiseless.
         c. The next time someone comes up to you and begins to talk about the problems - you have prayer right then with them.
      d. Proverbs 6:16-19

IV. NOURISHERS! I Timothy 4:6
   A. The UNDERSTANDING - A nourisher is one who feeds, trains, educates, helps, develops, and cultivates.
   B. The USEFULNESS - What are you doing to help someone else spiritually?

Glen E. Tropp 402 Shenandoah Dr., Benton, AR. 72015

We have accomplished our goal in 1985!!! I have set a goal to print 40,000 books in one year. I have set this goal for the last two or three years. We reached it in August with 43,000 copies of books. If fact we may even reach 50,000 copies of books this year.

SATAN WANTS YOU
Introduction: You need to understand from the beginning that Satan is a real person. He considers it a great achievement to convince you that he does not exist. He is as real as the person sitting next to you.
He is not some ugly creature from a Stephen King movie. He is the master of deception. "And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light." II Cor. 11:14

Here are some of his titles: the Devil--Lucifer--the destroyer--Father of liars--the evil one--a roaring lion--the old serpent--the accuser--angel of light--god of this world--Beelzebub--Prince of darkness--the adversary--the murderer--the wicked one--the dragon--and the prince of the power of the air.

So why do I need to know all this? What does all this about the Devil got to do with me? HE WANTS YOU! Look at our text. Just as Satan wanted to get to Peter and did, he wants to get to you.

I. THERE IS A BATTLE GOING ON.
   A. There is a spiritual warfare raging every day and every hour. God's people are under attack. Satan controls a spiritual underworld system which consists of...
      1. His angels
      2. Satan worshippers
      3. False christians
      4. All unbelievers
      5. People in high government
      6. Backslidden christians
   B. Listen to these verses...
      1. "You therefore must endure hardship as a good (soldier) of Jesus Christ." II Timothy 2:3
      When you accepted Christ as your Savior then you have enlisted in His army and a lot of christians are A.W.O.L. YOU ARE A SOLDIER!
      2. "For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual (hosts) of wickedness in the heavenly (places)." Eph. 6:12
      YOU ARE WRESTLING.
      3. "Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to CONTEND earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints." Jude 3
      YOU ARE A CONTENDER.
      4. YOU ARE A WEAPON. "And do not present your members (as) instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members (as) instruments of righteousness to God," Romans 6:13. If you fall into the wrong hands you could be used against the Lord.
   C. As you seek to live for the Lord, Satan will tempt you to go his way. TEMPTATION--being enticed to do what is wrong in the eyes of God, by pleasure, or promise of better things. Satan will draw you with your own lust.

II. WHY WOULD SATAN WANT ME?
A. You belong to God. Remember that day you gave your heart to Jesus? You bowed and prayed, "Lord, I’m a sinner. Please forgive me and save me today." Do you remember that? Satan does. He knows all about it. You are now the property of God bought with the precious blood of Christ. Satan wants to sabotage anything that belongs to God. When you get mad at somebody, you want to do something to their stuff.

B. You insulted Satan by leaving his team. When you accepted Christ, Satan became angry. Listen to this verse. "He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed (us) into the kingdom of the Son of His love." Colossians 1:13. He had you right where he wanted you and you escaped by the grace of God. Now, he is mad at you for leaving.

C. You are now an Ambassador for Christ. "Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore (you) on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God," II Cor. 5:20. You represent the kingdom of heaven to the world. You have the potential of helping others escape the horrors of hell and bringing them to God. As you yield to the Lord you become His instrument (weapon).

D. Satan knows his time is growing short. He is getting desperate to gain all he can.

II. GET READY.

A. "But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to (fulfill its) lusts." Romans 13:14

B. Therefore "Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean." II Cor. 6:17

C. This message is to remind you that although Satan is real you do not have to be his victim. We can say "NO" to the things he tempts us with. We are to follow after the Spirit of God and not the flesh.

D. We are not able to stand against him alone, and thank God we don’t have to. Jesus is our defense. At the very presence of Him the demons tremble. As we continue to walk with Him we will learn how to resist the Devil and call on Jesus to help us.

Conclusion:

Just as there is a real Satan there is a real hell. There is an eternal 'lake of fire' that Satan and his company will be thrown into. He wants to take you down. Only the blood that Jesus shed for your sin can save you. There is power in the blood. Be saved today!!!

David Snelson 2401 33rd Ave. N., Texas City, Texas 77590

Another large donation: The Simpson Pasadena Paper Company has given us 51 cartons of mainly cover stock. There are several cartons of paper. This company has been a great blessing to us. They have saved the Sounding Out the Word ministry a lot of money that we would have had to pay out for paper and cover stock. Pray with me that this door will continue to be open!!

"THE PREACHER’S MESSAGE"

MATT. 13:51-52

INTRODUCTION: A preacher recently said, it is hard to find something to preach to church members which will continue to feed them. As he spoke of that, this text popped into my mind. Jesus spoke of a Scribe which is instructed unto with reference to the KINGDOM OF GOD. The scribe is plainly the preacher of our day. Truly what Jesus declares of a scribe described here must apply to the preacher who is properly instructed with reference to the KINGDOM OF GOD. The Word of God is our source book and the truths never grow old. The same scripture when studied anew will produce a gold mine of information over and over again each time it is studied. The preacher should never run out of material to feed the flock of God.

I. "EVERY SCRIBE" - THE MODERN DAY PREACHER.

A. HE MUST BE CALLED. I TIM. 4:14.
B. HE MUST BE MAINTAINED. II TIM. 1:6-8.
C. HE MUST BE DIRECTED. II TIM. 4:12.
D. HE MUST BE LED. I COR. 11:1.

II. "WHICH IS INSTRUCTED UNTO THE KINGDOM OF GOD" - THE PREACHER HAD BETTER BE INSTRUCTED.

B. INSTRUCTED THROUGH PRAYER. I COR. 7:12.
D. INSTRUCTED THROUGH NATURE. Psa. 18:33; EPH. 1:17.

III. "WHICH HAVING FORGOTTEN THE TREASURE (BIBLE)"

A. CONSISTENT PROVISION. ACTS 20:35.
B. CONNECTING PROFITABILITY. II TIM. 3:16-17.
C. CONVICTING PERSUASION. HEB. 4:12.
D. CONVERTING POWER. ROM. 11:11.

IV. "THINGS NEW AND OLD" - TRUTH.

A. NEED TO RESEARCH NEW TRUTH. ACTS 17:11.
B. NEED TO REVEAL NEW TRUTH. JOHN 8:31-32.
C. NEED TO REVIEW OLD TRUTH. GAL. 1:6-9.
D. NEED TO REAFFIRM OLD TRUTH. JUDE 113.

V. SUMMARY:

A. EVERY PREACHER WHO IS CALLED OF GOD WILL BE ENABLED, EMPOWERED, DIRECTED AND LED.
B. HE WILL BE INSTRUCTED IN ALL THINGS HE PREACHES BY PRAYER, BY HOLY SPIRIT, BY THE BIBLE, AND BY OBSERVATIONS OF GOD’S CREATION.
C. HE WILL BRING FORTH TRUTHS FROM GOD’S WORD.
D. HE WILL PRESENT NEW AND OLD TRUTHS - BUT IT WILL BE GOD’S TRUTHS.

Jesse R. Spurlock 305 W. Jarman Dr., Midwest City, Okla. 73110

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THE ABSOLUTE CERTAINTY OF THE WORD OF GOD
Luke 21:25-33; Psalm 111:7

Introduction:
1. The psalmist wrote, "...all his commandments are sure."
2. Jesus also declared, "...my words shall not pass away."
3. These, along with other Scriptures, declare the absolute certainty of God's Word.
4. There are several reasons why God's Word is absolutely certain. (Absolute means - free from imperfection and is authoritative; certain means - fixed, settled, sure or dependable).

I. GOD'S WORD IS CERTAIN BECAUSE OF ITS ORIGIN.
A. It was conceived in the heart of God, the Father.
   1. His Word is settled (to stand firm, fixed or established) in Heaven, Psalm 119:89.
   2. His Word originated with Him and shall remain, Psalm 119:152.
B. It was given to man by inspiration.
   1. All of it was inspired of God, II Timothy 3:16,17.
   2. Holy men were moved to speak and to record His Word, II Peter 1:21.
   3. Jeremiah was instructed to write God's Word down, Jeremiah 36:2.
   4. The Word of the Lord came expressly to man, Ezekiel 1:3; Zechariah 7:12,13; Acts. 1:16; Revelation 14:13.

II. GOD'S WORD IS CERTAIN BECAUSE OF ITS INFALLIBILITY.
A. Not a word of the promises of God can fail, I Kings 8:56.
   1. Many great promises are made to believers in Christ, Galatians 3:22.
   2. His promises are made through the Lord Jesus Christ, II Corinthians 1:20.
   3. His promises are a reliable assurance for the future, II Timothy 1:12.
B. Man should not attempt to add to or to take away from His Word, Revelation 22:18,19; Deuteronomy 4:1,2; 12:32; Jeremiah 26:2.
C. God, who cannot lie or fail, has given His Word of Truth, which cannot fail.
   1. It is impossible for God to lie, because He has thus limited Himself, Hebrews 6:18.

III. GOD'S WORD IS CERTAIN BECAUSE OF ITS PURPOSE.
A. His Word furnishes a light, which is needed by all.
   1. By it we are enlightened, Psalm 19:8.
   2. It furnishes a light for our pathway, Psalm 119:105; II Peter 1:19.
B. It is mighty in its influence.
   1. It may devour like a flame and crush like a hammer, Jeremiah 5:14; 23:29.
   2. Its message can melt the heart of stone and show the way into life eternal, Romans 1:16.
C. It brings a blessing to the ones who respect it and follow it, Joshua 1:7,8; Psalm 19:7-11; Luke 11:28.
D. It gives assurance to the saved, I John 5:13.
E. His Word is food for the soul, Psalm 119:103.

IV. GOD'S WORD IS CERTAIN BECAUSE OF ITS DURATION, Vs 33.
A. Isaiah wrote, "...but the word of our God shall stand for ever." (Isaiah 40:8).
B. It is true and even the punctuation marks shall stand as a guarantee of its endurance, Matthew 5:18.
C. Its message and its promises shall be effective even into the ages of eternity, I Peter 1:25.

II. Elvin Crocker, ThD., 6202 Winklema Road Houston, Texas 77083

TAKE YOUR PROBLEM TO THE LORD!

Text: Daniel 9:3-21

I. THE PEOPLE INVOLVED
A. The nation of Israel: The kings, princes, and fathers. V8
B. Those who had rebelled against God's command for 490 years and their descendants...the remnant after 70 years in captivity. D. B. Wright

II. THE PROPHET WHO IS PETITIONING GOD FOR THE PEOPLE.
A. A man of purpose, Dan. 1:8
B. A man of heart purpose, Dan. 1:8
C. A man of high moral values, Dan. 1:8
D. A man of prayer, Dan. 2:23; 6:10
E. A man willing to suffer rather than recant his faith or surrender his faith.
F. A man who lived his religion where he was.

III. THE PROBLEM ABOUT WHICH HE WAS PRAYING.
A. Verse 5, We have sinned.
B. Verse 11, All Israel have transgressed the law.
C. Verse 8, To us belongs confusion of face.
D. Verse 16, Become a reproach to all.
E. Do you have a problem?
   1. God knows it. Proverbs 15:3; I Peter 3:12
   2. God cares. I Peter 5:7; 3:12
   3. Have a problem? God is able to...
      a. Solve it. Psalm 37:5-7
      b. He is able to work it out for your good.
         Romans 8:28
      c. He is able to give grace to accept, bear, endure it. II Cor. 12:9
   4. God may not always remove the problem, but
      will always be there to help in face of it!
      a. He doesn’t always heal the sick, but gives
         grace.
      b. He doesn’t remove all the valleys of shadows, but walks through them with us.
      c. He doesn’t put out all the fires, but gets in the fire with us.
      d. He doesn’t stop all lions’ mouths, but
         spends the night in the den with us.
      e. He doesn’t intercept all the darts of the wicked, but provides the armour and the
         shield of faith!
      f. Many a heart broken companion serves
         God in faithfulness... while God soothes a broken heart!
      g. Many a parent of prodigal sons or daughters watch and pray, ready to receive, love and forgive the returning one!
      h. Many a young person lives a dedicated Christian life regardless of the life and example of the parents!

IV. THE PETITION OFFERED ON BEHALF OF
   THE PEOPLE.
   A. Daniel’s petition
      1. Confession, V6, 11
      2. "We have not listened." V6
      3. "We have rebelled." V9
      4. We disobeyed by not obeying. V10
      5. We have not prayed. V13
      6. The basis of Daniel’s appeal:
         a. Thy righteousness, V6
         b. For the Lord’s sake, V17
         c. For the great mercies, V18
   B. Thank God for the privilege of intercessory prayer.
   C. Thank God for the challenge to pray!
      1. Ask Matthew 7:7
      2. James 5:16
      3. Matthew 18:19
      4. Hebrews 4:15,16
      5. I Peter 3:12
      6. David’s testimony, Psalm 40:1-3
      7. Jonah’s experience
         a. From a very backslidden condition he prayed.
         b. God heard.
         c. God delivered him and used him!

WHEN A GREAT MAN COMMITS A GREAT SIN

Text: II Samuel 12:1-4
Intro: David is called the “Man after God’s own heart.” This story should herald a warning to all who think highly of themselves. What was the cause of such a great man used so greatly in the past to stoop so low, be so vile, so defeated?

I. HE LOST THE CHALLENGE OF HIS LIFE. II Samuel 11:1,2
   A. He was lingering at home when he should have been leading the army.
   B. He was in the bed when he should have been in the battle. Satisfied and stagnant.

II. HE WAS COMMITTED TO SELF AND NOT TO
    GOD. II Samuel 11:3-27
   A. He satisfied the desire of the flesh. II Samuel 3:4
   B. He set out to cover up the discovery of his folly. II Samuel 11:5-27

III. HE FORGOT THE SOURCE OF HIS
     GREATNESS. II Samuel 22:27-12:8
   A. His deception fooled everyone but the One with whom you cannot hide, the God of heaven!
   B. He discovered his position, power, and possessions all came from and were controlled by the same One, the God of heaven!

IV. HE FORGOT THE RESULTS OF SIN. II Samuel 12:9-14
   A. It will be revealed, by God’s man through God’s Word.
   B. It will be forgiven, when confessed. V13;
      Psalm 51
   C. It will be reaped. V10-12, 14

Conclusion: These same mistakes are made by every Christian when they fall. Beware and be warned.
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This is one of the sermons in the book, SOUNDING OUT THE WORD V. This is a 121 page book that has 42 outlines given by 8 different preachers. Send in for your free copy today.