When People Reject Jesus Freedom  
John 8:30-40 ---- S.R. Romans 8:2  

Introduction:  
A. Our passage brings before us Jesus as the LIGHT revealing the hidden things of darkness.  
B. Jesus exposes the pretentions of religion  
C. He reveals the depths of the depraved nature.  
D. We need to remind ourselves that the Word of God is a living document.  
E. We should seek to enrich our relationship with HIM.  

I. They Become Blinded by Their Sin. Vs. 33  
A. Listen to their claim: We are Abrahams seed and in bondage to no man.  
B. Therefore they denied their guilt.  
C. They forgot that God will bring every work into judgment. Eco 12:14  

D. If thou sin, thou markest me, and thou wilt not acquit me from mine iniquity, Job 10:14.  
E. Like the sin of Esau, it may be done under the impulse of the moment. Gen 25:32  
1. Like the sin of Achan, it may be well covered up. Joshua 7:21  
2. Like the sin of Pilate, it may be done to gratify the public. Mark 14:10  
3. Like the sin of the Jews, it may be done in ignorance. Luke 23:14  

II. They Become Ignorant Through Their Sin. Vs. 37  
A. You do that which you have seen of your father.  
B. They are alienated from God through the ignorance that is in them. Eph. 4:18  
C. They are wise to do evil but to do good they have no knowledge. Jeremiah 4:22  
D. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. John 1:10  
E. Their understanding is darkened.
III. They Become Separated Because of Their Sin. Vs. 38

A. See verse 44
   B. Whoso doeth not righteousness is not of God... I John 3:10
   C. The children of Israel could not stand before their enemies because they had turned their back against God Joshua 7:11, 12
   D. God brought blindness upon Elymas for a season because he turned his back upon God. Acts 13:L10
   E. There is a way that seemeth right unto man.

IV. They Become Dead In Their Sin. Vs. 39

A. The man that wandereth out of the way of understanding shall remain in the congregation of the dead. Proverbs 21:16
   B. Therefore, night shall be unto you, that ye shall not have a vision: and it shall be dark unto you, that ye shall not divide; and the sun shall go down over the prophets, and the day shall be dark over them. Micah 3:6
   C. The prodigal son was made alive again.
   D. The call to awake goes out to the lost.
   E. Let us cast off the works of darkness.

Conclusion:

A. Man is born alienated from God.
   B. Church membership does not save.
   C. Baptist does not save.
   D. Jesus reveals our condition.
   E. He waits for our decision.

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Walking the Path of Holiness
II Peter 3: 11-18 --- S.R. Romans 8:2

Introduction:

A. In the background of the Lord's return, Peter writes of the need to live a holy life.
   B. Holiness means to be separated from sin; consecrated to God.
   C. We should avoid teachers who deny the literal 2nd coming of Christ.
   D. We must be prepared for opposition.
   E. WE must protect our personal testimony.

I. Anticipate the Lord's Return. Vs. 12, 13

A. Look up for your redemption draws nigh.
   B. This bears the idea: to hasten.
   C. This is accomplished by working for Him every day. Jesus is delaying his return to give more people an opportunity to be saved.
   D. If we pray about the Lord's return will it then be hastened.

II. Answer God's Call. Vs. 14

A. We should humble ourselves before God. Better to be of a humble spirit with the lowly than to divide the spoil with the proud. Proverbs 16:19
   B. We should prepare ourselves to serve. Follow Jesus
   C. We should remove our excuses. Like Adam & Eve and Aaron with golden calf.
   D. We should seek to live peaceably with others.
E. We should live righteously walking in his footsteps.

III. Avoid Worldly Desires. Vs. 16, 17

A. Seek God's will analyzing your choices carefully.
B. False teachers have always been around.
II Peter 1:21-2:1
C. They mix with believers to destroy God's work. They appear harmless like sheep. Matthew 7:15
D. They encourage immorality. Paul said mark those who cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which he had learned. Romans 16:18
E. This kind of teaching leads to torment in outer darkness. Matthew 13:41-42

IV. Apply God's Truth. Vs. 14, 18

A. We are to grow in grace.
B. To grow means to become like Christ.
C. This is a continual process.
D. “And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ. That I might know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death, if by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.” Philippians 3:9-11
E. This principle gives us strength.

Conclusion:

A. What do you know about the 2nd coming of Jesus?
B. How does this affect your life?
V. Versions

A. Septuagint – O.T. – completed about 150 B.C
B. Vulgate, translation into Latin by Jerome, 383 A.D.
C. Wycliffe, 1380, into English
D. Tyndale, William
   1. New Testament, 1525. Occasioned severe persecution
   2. Pentateuch, 1530
   3. New Testament, 1534, revision of first
E. Coverdale, Miles, 1535, first version of the entire Bible in English. Publ. Zurich
F. Matthew’s Bible, 1535, Edited by John Rogers, authorized by Henry VIII
H. Bishop’s Bible, 1568. At suggestion of Archbishop Parker, 15 scholars (8 bishops). Elizabeth queen, dissatisfied with Geneva Bible.
I. Reims N.T. 1528
J. King James, Authorized Version, 1611, 40 bishops
K. Revised Version 1881-85
L. American Standard Version
M. Revised Standard Version, 1952

VI. The Eternity of God’s Word, text

A. Settled in Heaven, Psalm 119:89
B. Used in the judgment, Revelation 20:1,
e. The Parable of the Talents show the importance of setting and striving toward a goal, Mat. 25:14-30

d. Be challenging: we may never reach the goal we set – but we will not go beyond the goal we set.
e. Be believable: not beyond our reach or ability.

2. Goals

a. There are three kinds of goals...
   1. Immediate: “What is my goal for today?”
   2. Short-term: “What is my goal for the near future?”
   3. Long-term: “What is my ultimate goal?”
b. Unworthy goals ... a life lived strictly for self, Eccl. 1:12, 13. Temporary
c. Worthy goals...
   1. That which would honor God.
   2. That which would minister to man (salvation, service).
   3. That which enables us to conform to the image of Christ.

3. How to Set Goals

a. In the First Person: I, We
b. Be Specific...
   1. As to Number;
   2. As to Time Frame.
c. Be flexible...
   1. A goal may be expanded, or shortened.
   2. Don’t be devastated if the goal is not reached.

4. Our Goals

a. Spiritual growth, to be like Christ, Rom. 8:29. First and foremost.
b. Financial growth...
   1. All operational bills paid.
   2. Mortgage paid off.
   3. Missionary giving increased.
c. Numerical growth
   1. Sunday School: average XX by the year’s end.
   2. Discovery: both levels, average XX by the year’s end.
   3. Children’s Chapel: XX by year’s end
   4. Ladies Fellowship: XX by year’s end
   5. Men’s Fellowship: XX by year end
   6. Choir: XX voices by year’s end.
   7. New Members: XX by year’s end.

5. How to Reach Our Goal

a. Personal: Each member involvement, by assuming personal responsibility for the objective of reaching the goal. Co-operating: one can cause defeat.
b. Persistence: work
1. Nothing worthwhile is ever accomplished by just wishing it to be so. “Wish in one hand and shell peas in the other, and see which fills up the quickest.”

2. The same way we reached other goals:
   Friends Day: date, XX in Sunday School, XX in the morning worship service.

3. When we set a goal for XX, work to make it happen.
   c. Prayer: “Pray as if it all depends on God: work as if it all depends on us.”
   d. Progression: We reach long-term goals by reaching short-term and immediate goals: one step at a time.
   e. Projection: Visualize the results...
      1. Some fail to reach the goal because of F.E.A.R. of failure...
         a. False
         b. Evidence
         c. Appearing
         d. Real
   f. Possibility: Realize that, “With God all things are possible.”

GOD WANTS TO BLESS THOSE WHO SET AND STRIVE TOWARD GOALS THAT HONOR HIM. Phil 4:13

G.F. Crumley
Home with the Lord

We Ought to Obey God
Acts 5:25-32

Introduction: The apostles were put in prison for preaching God’s Word. Peter stated that they were first obligated to obey God. We are taught in God’s Word to obey the laws of the land. When the law of the land violates God’s law, we are obligated to obey God first. As Christians, we are duty bound to obey our Saviour and Master. One day we will give an account unto the Lord for the life that we have lived.

I. Obey Him Freely.

A. Born again sons
   1. We are begotten again unto a lively hope. I Peter 1:3
   2. We also have an inheritance that is beyond description. I Peter 1:4
   3. We are heirs of God and joint heirs with Jesus Christ. Rom. 8:17 This should move us to obedience.

B. Blood of sacrifice
   1. Jesus is our example in everything, even in obedience.
   2. He was obedient even unto the death of the cross. Phil. 2:8
   3. We are bought with the precious blood of Jesus Christ. I Peter 1:18-19
   4. He gave His all for us. Can we give less to Him?
5. We should willingly and freely obey the Lord because of what He has done for us.

C. Blessings of the Saviour
1. The Lord told Abraham that He would bless him a great way. Gen. 12:1-3
2. You are blessed as Jesus saved your soul and all that is involved. Acts 4:12
3. You are blessed with Jesus sustaining your life each day. Psa. 3:5
4. You are blessed with Jesus as your Shepherd. Psa. 23:1
5. Jesus pours out His daily blessings on our lives. This ought to make us want to obey Him.

II. Obey Him Fearfully

A. The concern
1. The Jewish people were told if they obeyed the Lord, He would bless abundantly.
2. The Lord will chastise those who do not obey Him. Hebrews 12:6
3. The power of life and death is in the hands of the Lord Jesus.
4. Fear Him more than you did your father growing up. I believe we should also respect Him for who He is.

B. The commandments
1. Our church is to teach the Lord’s people to do or practice all of His commands.
2. He has the right to command us because of creation and salvation.
4. When the Lord commands you, you had better listen.
5. He commands us for our good, His good and the good of others.

C. The chastisement
1. Paul said some of Corinth were sick, weak, and even dead because of disobedience. 1 Cor. 11:30, 31
2. Chastisement is primarily for correction. The Lord wants to correct our ways.
3. If we will not be corrected, then He will punish us to show us sin doesn’t pay.
4. We should obey the Lord fearfully because He can take our lives if He wants to. 1 John 5:16

III. Obey Him Fully

A. The servant
1. The Lord testified of Caleb that he followed Him fully. Num. 14:24
2. Caleb had another spirit. This spirit was a spirit of serving.
3. Caleb didn’t obey half-heartedly. He obeyed the Lord whole-heartedly or fully.

B. The surrender
1. The Lord said of David that he followed Him with all his heart. I Kings 14:8
2. David was set and determined to do what was right before God.
3. In order to do this, we must surrender our will and ways to the Lord.

C. The service
1. The Jews were to love and serve the Lord with all of their heart and soul. Deut. 11:13
2. “...or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.” I Cor. 10:31
3. “And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the LORD, and not unto men.” Col. 3:23; Eph. 6:6

IV. Obey Him Faithfully

A. The priority
1. We are to seek His kingdom and righteousness first. Matt. 6:33
2. We are stewards and must be faithful. I Cor. 4:2
3. We are to present our bodies a living sacrifice unto God. Rom. 12:1
4. The Lord must come first. This is how Jesus prayed in Luke 22:41

B. The persuasion
1. Joshua told the Jews they could serve whoever they wanted to.
2. He and his house would serve the Lord. Josh. 24:15.

C. The Presence
1. The Lord promised to be with His churches as they carried out His commands. Matt. 28:20

V. Obey Him Fervently

A. The admonition
1. We are to serve the Lord in obedience heartily. Col. 3:23
2. We are to do so with life and energy. We are to show some life.
3. A lack of heartiness dissatisfies God and us.

B. The affection
1. The only way we can be wholehearted is to love the Lord.
2. We are to set our affections on things above. Col 2:2
3. We are to adore, love, and care for Jesus. If we do, we will obey Him.

C. The abundance
1. When we obey Him fervently, He accepts our service.
2. When we obey Him fervently, we feel good and right.

Bro Charles Swilling

OBEY THE LAWS
Sowing Precious Seed
Psalm 126: 5, 6

Introduction: Our text verses teach us to sow in tears and we will reap in joy. This psalm deals with the Jewish people and their conduct and behavior before God. When the Jews were obedient to God He blessed them. Leviticus 26 tells all that God would do in every area of life for them. The principles of God’s people sowing the seed today is the same. If we expect to reap at all, we must sow the precious word of God in concern and love. Notice five things about the subject before us.

I. The Sower

A. The saved
1. The psalmist said, LET THE REDEEMED OF THE LORD SAY SO. Psalm 107:2
2. Jesus said His church made up of those redeemed was to be a worldwide witness of Him. Acts 1:8
3. The people who will sow the precious seed must be the saved. The saved are spiritual. The sower of the word will be spiritually minded.

B. The surrendered
1. The people who sow the word of God must be surrendered to sow.

2. We are to yield our members as instruments of righteousness. Rom. 6:13
3. Isaiah surrendered. He said, HERE AM I SEND ME. Isa. 6:8

C. The serving
1. The people who sow the seed are people who want to serve God and mankind.
2. Paul said to serve the Lord is what we are called to do. I Thess. 1:8, 9
3. The Lord saved men like Paul and called them to serve Him. Thank God for lives that have been changed and now serving the Lord.

D. The sacrificing
1. We are to be living sacrifices for the Lord. Rom 12:1
2. We are to empty out ourselves so the Spirit can fill us. Eph. 5:18
3. Jesus is our example of sowing the seed selflessly.

II. The Seed

A. God’s word is inspired.
1. Paul said it is given by inspiration. This means God breathed. II Tim. 3; 16, 17
2. Peter said God spoke thru men as they uttered God’s word. I Peter 1:20, 21
3. This Bible is a spiritual book.

B. God’s word is truth.
1. Jesus said God’s word was very truth. John 17:17
2. Truth and error or falsehood are realities. Right and wrong still exists.
3. Truth is that witch is fact. God said it and that is true.

C. God’s Word is Light
   1. The psalmist said God’s Word is a light and lamp. Psalm 119:105
   2. God’s word sheds light or understanding and perception.
   3. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom and understanding. Prov. 9:10

D. God’s Word is profitable.
   1. It is profitable for doctrine, correction, reproof, and instruction. II Tim. 3:16, 17
   2. It is a preventive of sin. Psalm 119:9-11
   3. It is the means whereby we grow as saved people. I Peter 2:1, 2

II. The Sowing

A. The preaching
   1. The men of God are instructed to preach the word of God. II Tim. 4:2
   2. Faith comes by hearing the word of God. Rom. 10:17
   3. The world accounts the preaching of the cross foolishness, but it is an instrument of God. I Cor. 1:23

B. The principle
   1. We are to share our faith with others. Each saved person is to share the word of God.

IV. The Sending

A. The Master
   1. The Lord Jesus was sent of God of the divine commission to live and die for man.
   2. He mentions the Father sending Him in John 17:18
   3. The Master asks us to do what He was willing to do.

B. The ministering
   1. Jesus sends us to share the word as the Father sent Him. John 17:18
   2. Our words can minister to those that we speak to. Eph. 4:29
3. We are to follow the Lord's example of seeking and ministering to people. Luke 19:10

C. The membership
1. The Lord calls men to preach His word.
2. The Lord tells His churches to go into all the world.
3. All members are to share the word of God.

V. The Satisfaction
A. People are convicted.
1. God’s people will be convicted of sharing their faith.
2. They will see a need and they will have conviction about doing it.
B. People are converted.
1. Preachers can give testimony of others helping them find the Lord.
2. Changed lives useful in service gives a lot of satisfaction
C. People are comforted.
1. God's word meets the needs of mankind.
2. Listen to I Thess. 4:18. We can be comforted at the grave site.
D. People are consecrated.
1. God will bless His word as it is presented. Isa. 55:11
2. His word strengthens us, settles us, and establishes us. I Peter 5:10

Justification, Righteousness Declared
Romans 3:21-31

Introduction: Having concluded that all men are sinners, Paul now explains how all men can be saved. The theological term for salvation is “justification” by faith. Justification is the act of God whereby He declares the believing sinner righteous in Christ (vs. 24-26) on the basis of the finished work on the cross.

A. Justification is an act, not a process.
1. There is no degree of justification
4. It is God who declares us righteous. Romans 4:3, 5
   a. God’s declaration will never be changed.

I. Paul explains justification. Romans 3:20-31

A. Justification is apart from the law, vs. 20-21
1. The law brought knowledge, conviction for sin.
2. The law said, “BEHAVE”
3. The gospel says, “BELIEVE” Romans 1:16
4. The law could not bring righteousness, Galatians 2:21

B. Justification is through faith in Christ. Vs. 22
1. Faith is only as good as its’ object.
2. The Christ of the Word is the object of the Christian’s faith. Acts 16:31

C. Justification is for all men.
1. “UNTO ALL AND UPON ALL THEM THAT BELIEVE.”
2. All men are sinners. Romans 3:23
3. He is God of both Jew and Gentile and will justify both by faith. Romans 3:29-30; 10:12, 13

D. Justification is by grace. Romans 3:24
1. God has two kinds of attributes.
   a. The absolute, what He is. “God is love.” I John 4:8
   b. The relative, how He relates to man and the world. John 3:16
2. God relates to you and me in love.
   a. He is full of grace and mercy. John 1:14, 17: James 2:13


1. God is consistent. He cannot break His law or violate His nature.
   a. God is love. I John 4:8
   b. God is light. I John 1:5
2. His love makes Him want to forgive sinners.
3. His holiness requires that He punish sin.
4. He became “Just and the justifier of him that believeth in Jesus.” Vs. 26
   a. He met the demand for punishment.
   b. He fully expressed the deep love of His heart.

F. Justification established the law. Romans 3:27-31
1. It is in harmony with the law. Leviticus 17:11; Hebrews 9:22
2. Animal sacrifices pictured the slain lamb. John 1:29, 36
3. Jew and Gentile were saved by faith. Romans 3:29-30
4. Faith establishes the law. Romans 3:31
   a. Confirms the true purpose of the law.

Bro Vernon Lierly  
Home with the Lord