

Sermon Notes Nov. 8 2020

If you are a Golfer and your Swing goes South, you get a Lesson.

- * If your Car doesn't run like it should, you go to a Mechanic.
- * If your Business isn't running well, you find a Consultant.

Most times you go Astray Little by Little so you Don't Notice it.

- * But it is never a Bad Idea to go back to the Basics and Start There.

So what is the Basics of Christianity.

Romans 10:9-10

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

For all have sinned and have fallen short of the glory of God

1. But what are you saved from? Spiritual Death and Separation from God
 2. How is it that you would have died? Your personal sin caused you to be separated from a holy God.
 3. What are you saved for? You are saved for God.
- * So you are saved from sin and saved for God.

Scripture says that We are now on a Journey that leads us to Heaven and the Kingdom of God

Matthew 7:13-15

13 "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. 14 But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

- * It is narrow for a reason.
- * It makes us unload all that hinders us and slows us down

But most People don't Understand what they have Signed Up for.

- * Mark 16:15; Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.
- * Matthew 5:10; Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- * 2 Corinthians 12:10; That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.
- * John 15:18; If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first.
- * Matthew 5:11; Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me.

So, how does God view His own Kingdom?

There is no such thing as a "Christian Musician"
There is no such thing as a "Christian Plumber"
Putting the word "Christian" as an adjective, in front of a noun, doesn't make the noun any more "Christian"
If it did then you can have a "Christian" Prostitute or a "Christian" Bank Robber
Therefore, we can't have a "Christian" nation.

What the forefathers preferred was that America would be led by Christians more than any other religion of philosophy.

It would be a free nation led primarily by Christians.

When there was an honest choice, more people would prefer to be governed by Christian principles than not.

So it is up to the Christian Community to know and to extend what the Kingdom of God is like.

The Greatest Commandment is to

- 1) Love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, soul, and strength
- 2) To love your neighbor as yourself.

Therefore, Love in the Kingdom of God makes it a “Sacrificial” Kingdom.

John 3:16 - [For God so loved the world that HE GAVE His only begotten Son that whosoever believes in Him will have eternal life.](#)

Listen to What Jesus said to Pilate His trial

[“My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place.”](#)

John 18:28-40

28 Then the Jewish leaders took Jesus from Caiaphas to the palace of the Roman governor. By now it was early morning, and to avoid ceremonial uncleanness they did not enter the palace, because they wanted to be able to eat the Passover. 29 So Pilate came out to them and asked, “What charges are you bringing against this man?”

30 “If he were not a criminal,” they replied, “we would not have handed him over to you.”

31 Pilate said, “Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law.”

“But we have no right to execute anyone,” they objected. 32 This took place to fulfill what Jesus had said about the kind of death he was going to die.

33 Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked him, “Are you the king of the Jews?”

34 “Is that your own idea,” Jesus asked, “or did others talk to you about me?”

35 “Am I a Jew?” Pilate replied. “Your own people and chief priests handed you over to me. What is it you have done?”

36 Jesus said, “My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place.”

37 “You are a king, then!” said Pilate.

Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.”

38 “What is truth?” retorted Pilate. With this he went out again to the Jews gathered there and said, “I find no basis for a charge against him. 39 But it is your custom for me to release to you one prisoner at the time of the Passover. Do you want me to release ‘the king of the Jews’?”

40 They shouted back, “No, not him! Give us Barabbas!” Now Barabbas had taken part in an uprising.

Listen to What Jesus also said to Satan during His temptation

Matthew 4:8-11

8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. 9 [“All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.”](#)

10 Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: [‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’](#)”

11 Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

Here are 2 Biblical Stories to Illustrate this Kingdom Principle

1. The Rich Young Ruler

Luke 18:22-30

22 When Jesus heard this, he said to him, “You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and **give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.**”

23 When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was very wealthy. 24 Jesus looked at him and said, “How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God! 25 Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.”

26 Those who heard this asked, “Who then can be saved?”

27 Jesus replied, “What is impossible with man is possible with God.”

28 Peter said to him, “We have left all we had to follow you!”

29 **“Truly I tell you,” Jesus said to them, “no one who has left home or wife or brothers or sisters or parents or children for the sake of the kingdom of God 30 will fail to receive many times as much in this age, and in the age to come eternal life.”**

2. And Zacchaeus

Luke 19:5-10

5 When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.” 6 So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

7 All the people saw this and began to mutter, “He has gone to be the guest of a sinner.”

8 But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, “Look, Lord! **Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.**”

9 Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. 10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

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