

What am I Missing Here?

Steps to Recovering Your Joy

October 10, 2010

Calvary Baptist Church

Ephesians 5:14

SERMON 3 C: The Folly of Incomplete Obedience

What am I missing here? What is wrong with me? Why am I not finding joy in the Lord?

REVIEW

Dispositions differ. Emotions are not the test of our spiritual state.

1) FAILURE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN ONE'S STANDING (OR POSITION IN CHRIST) AND HIS CIRCUMSTANCES.

2) PERHAPS YOU LIVE TOO MUCH IN YOUR FEELINGS, TOO LITTLE IN YOUR WILL.

- We learned that if we do not control our feelings, they WILL control us.
- Today, we look at another possible reason for loss of joy and victory ...

3) PERHAPS YOU HAVE DISOBEYED SOME CLEAR COMMAND

I. Identifying the Sin of Omission (Ps. 36:1-4; Luke 16:10; John 14:15)

SIN (OMISSION) Neglecting to do what is required.

- Jesus taught the importance of faithfulness in the small things.

Is not this the cause of depression to thousands of Christian people? They are God's children, but they are disobedient children. The Bible rings with one long demand for obedience. The key-word of the Book of Deuteronomy is, **Observe and Do**. The burden of Christ's Farewell Discourse is, If ye love me, keep My commandments (John 14:15). We must not question or reply or excuse ourselves. We must not pick and choose our way. We must not take some commands and reject others. We must not think that obedience in other directions will compensate for disobedience in some one particular. God gives one command at a time, borne in upon us, not in one way only, but in many; by this He tests us. If we obey in this, He will flood our soul with blessing, and lead us forward into new paths and pastures. But if we refuse in this we shall remain stagnant and waterlogged, make no progress in Christian experience, and lack both power and joy. (*Frederick Brotherton Meyer*)

II. Illustrations of the Sin of Omission

A. Uzzah and the Ark (2 Sam. 6:1-11)

- Uzzah did everything right but one thing.
- That one thing cost him his life!

B. Saul and the bleating of the sheep. (1 Sam. 15)

C. The parable of the pounds. (Luke 19:11-27)

D. The fig tree. (Luke 13:6-9)

QUOTE: I do not know any subject that so much distresses me, humbles me and lays me in the dust, as the thought of my omissions. It is not what I have done about which I think so much as of what I have not done. *C. H. Spurgeon*

III. Instructions about the Sin of Omission

A. The Commands

1. We are to present ourselves as living sacrifices. (Rom. 12:1)
2. We are not to be slothful. (Rom. 12:11; Heb. 6:11-12)
3. We are to abound in the Lord's work. (1 Cor. 15:58)
4. We are to be subject to God. (Eph. 5:24; Heb. 12:9; James 4:7)

B. The Criterion

1. Of Discipleship (Luke 9:23)
2. Of Love (John 14:21; 1 Jn. 2:3; 5:3; 2 Jn. 1:6)
3. Of Sonship (Rom. 8:14)
4. Of Sheep (John 10:4, 27)

C. The Condemnation

1. Of letting the important things go undone (Mt. 23:23)
2. Of failing to obey clearly revealed truth (James 4:17)

D. The Cause (Luke 8:14)

E. The Consequences

1. Earthly (Mt. 7:26-27)
 2. Eternal (Rom. 14:12; 2 Cor. 5:10)
- We must give an account to God.**