

Churches Grow When Members Work

LESSON ONE - THE FOUR LEPERS

TEXT: 2 Kings 7:3-9

INTRODUCTION:

- A. BACKGROUND, THE SYRIAN SIEGE OF SAMARIA.
- B. LEPER'S SITUATION: JOY OVER THEIR DISCOVERY AND CONCERN FOR SUFFERING BRETHREN.
- C. ARE WE GOING TO HORDE OR SHARE THE TREASURES OF THE GOSPEL.

I. SIMILAR CONCERN EXEMPLIFIED.

- A. THE DISCIPLES(**John 1:40-42, 44-45; ACTS 5:42; 8:1-4**).
- B. THE APOSTLE PAUL(**Acts 20:20, 24, 26-27, 31**).
 - 1. He was a debtor(**Rom. 1:14; 2 Cor. 5:14-15**).
 - 2. He was "in love"(**Rom. 9:1-3; 10:1-3**).
- C. ISAIAH'S EAGERNESS(**Isa. 6:8**).
- D. JEREMIAH'S ZEAL(**Jer. 20:7-9**).
- E. JESUS HIMSELF:
 - 1. Compassion(**Mat. 9:36-38**).
 - 2. Busy at his Father's work(**John 5:17**).
 - 3. Purposeful and urgent(**John 9:4**).
 - 4. He saw it through(**John 17:4**).

II. THE NECESSITY OF THIS WORK.

- A. GOD'S PLAN IS FULFILLED IN **GOSPEL TEACHING**(**1 COR. 1:21**).
- B. BILLIONS ARE DEPENDING ON US(**Rom. 10:13-17**).
- C. EACH PERSON IS IMPORTANT(**Luke 15:7, 10**).
- D. THE EFFECT OF THIS WORK(**James 5:19-20**).
- E. NECESSARY FOR THE CHRISTIAN
 - 1. "Must I go and empty handed..." "**CAN I go...**?"
 - 2. Belshazzar's failure to glorify God(**Dan. 5:23**).
 - 3. Moses(**Num. 20:12**).
 - 4. Herod(**Acts 12:23**).
 - 5. How is God glorified?(**John 15:8, 2**).

III. CAN WE DO IT?

- A. A FOOLPROOF PLAN TO EVANGELIZE THE WORLD:
 - 1. Each one convert one.
 - 2. The whole world converted in just **35 years**.
- B. GOD IS ON OUR SIDE(**PHIL. 2:13-16**).
 - 1. **God + me=SUCCESS**(**Phil. 4:13**).
 - 2. We can turn the world upside down(**Acts 17:6; Col. 1:6, 23**).
- C. BUT WE MUST **WORK!!**
 - 1. What would happen if an insurance company sought customers the same way we seek souls?
 - 2. What if we sought souls the same way that an insurance company seeks customers?
- D. PROSPECTS ARE NEEDED! FIND ONE AND WORK ON HIM.
 - 1. Offer a home Bible Study - I will teach it if you can't.
 - 2. Offer a correspondence course.
 - 3. Invite to services - **MAKE DEFINITE PLANS** - offer a ride on a specific day.
 - 4. Be ready always to discuss the Bible(**1 Pet. 3:15; 2 Tim 2:15**).
 - 5. **Pray** for success, Reflect God's goodness and Joy. **BE HAPPY!**

CONCLUSION!

- A. DO YOU WANT THE CHURCH TO GROW?
- B. DO YOU WANT OTHERS TO GO TO HEAVEN?
- C. DO YOU WANT TO GO THERE YOURSELF?