

June 27, 2010
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Monday

Heb. 9:27 And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment.

Sometimes fear is a good thing. The fear of falling keeps you from venturing too close to the edge of a cliff. The fear of germs causes you to wash your hands. The fear of cavities is a strong motivation for brushing your teeth. So God put fear within our heart for a positive purpose and the fear of death is not different. Everyone will die and everyone will face the judgment of God. Without Jesus we have no hope. Heaven is forbidden to us. Hell is assured for us. Yet with Jesus, the fear of death is transformed. Trusting in His sacrifice destroys the need to fear death.

Tuesday

Rom. 14:7 For not one of us lives for himself, and not one dies for himself...

The unbeliever sometimes thinks too much of sin and decides that God cannot save because of the enormous weight of his failures. The Christian often thinks too little of his sins and convinces himself that they do not matter, since Jesus has already paid the price. But sin in a believer's life is still judged -- not with hell but with consequences. Open rebellion against the Lord is not simply winked at by God. Sin hurts the sinner, the church, and the mission of the kingdom. Repentance must be your answer to God's grace.

Wednesday

Eph. 5:3-4 But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints; and there must be no filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.

The church and the Christian are making little impact upon their world because they live too much by the world's standards. It is not that you dress out of fashion or shun technological advances, but you are to shun sin in your life. Sexuality must be under the lordship of Jesus. The gaining and use of money must be under the Lordship of Jesus. Conversation must be under the Lordship of Jesus. Let personal revival begin today in you. Examine your walk. Is it different than that of the world?

Thursday

Rom. 8:1-2 Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.

God's grand promise of "no condemnation" is not mere judicial pardon but spiritual power. He does not mean to simply pronounce you un-condemned but to make you un-condemnable. He seeks to grow you in Christ's likeness. He grants you the growing ability to move from sin to sanctification. "No condemnation" pronounces forgiveness for sins past and promise for fruitful life in the future. Don't settle for living a defeated sin saturated life. Give yourself fully to the Lord and find the freedom to walk in righteousness and the freedom to become righteous in Christ.

Friday

John 3:18 "He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God."

Oh, the wonder and grace of God. "He who believes in Him is not judged!" When you take Jesus and make Him your Lord, when you take your life and give it to Jesus, you pass from condemnation to complete forgiveness. Jesus paid it all! The hymnist Spafford wrote of it, "My sin, oh the bliss of this glorious thought, my sin not in part, but the whole is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more, Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord, O my soul!"