

Destroyed For Lack of Knowledge

Introduction

Hosea 4:6-7

1. Knowledge is everybody's ambition, or it should be. That is why we go to school, seminars, etc.
 - A. There are some things we don't want to know such as the neighbors business, bad news, or gossip.
 - B. But general knowledge is extremely important.
 - 1) It is important so that we can establish important relationships, in making major decisions, and most of all to live a faithful Christian life!

2. We cannot do without a "knowledge of God's Will!"

2 Peter 1:2-5

2 Peter 3:17 You therefore, beloved, since you know this beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked;

- A. We cannot be led away if we are doing God's Will

2 Peter 1:10 Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble;

Colossians 1:9-10 For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may have a walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;

3. Let's begin our study this morning by looking at some reasons why this sinful situation occurred:

Destroyed - For Lack of Knowledge *“Destroyed for lack of knowledge”*

1. God had taught Israel:
 - A. Patriarchal law - From Adam to Jacob
Genesis 18:17-19
 - B. Mosaical law - From Moses to Jesus

Galatians 3:23-24 But before faith came, we were kept under guard by the law, kept for the faith which would afterward be revealed. Therefore the law was **our tutor to bring us to Christ**, that we might be justified by faith.

2. Let's look at some of the reasons for Israel's lack of knowledge:
 - Let's see if this is not a problem today among God's children.
 - A. Parents did not train their children properly.

Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.

- B. They had idols in the home.

Judges 6:25 Now it came to pass the same night that the LORD said to him, "Take your father's young bull, the second bull of seven years old, and tear down the altar of Baal that your father has, and cut down the wooden image that is beside it;

- 1) Anything that takes us away from, rather than closer to God can be an idol. Things such as watching too much TV, spending too much time with recreation, hobbies, etc.

- C. The families were too involved in the affairs of life.
Hosea 4:1-3
 - 1) Does God's Word come BEFORE: Our job, school, social things, pleasure?

- D. They were "Bad Shepherds"
Ezekiel 34:1-10
 - 1) This happens from time to time in the local church today.

- E. They even "lost the book"
 - 1) The law of Moses was lost and found during king Josiah's reign.

Destroyed - For Rejecting Knowledge

"Because you have rejected knowledge"

- 1. Israel had the knowledge! They read it, studied it, memorized it.
 - A. But they still rejected it. When rubber met the road - something else was more important than obedience to the law.

- 2. They put the truth of God aside for something else.
 - A. They had a lack of faith or trust in God's way.
 - B. They got caught up in idolatry.
 - C. Their feelings or emotions took over.
 - D. They got an "I think so" philosophy
 - E. Men's doctrines, creeds, tradition.
 - F. More loyal to friends and family than to God.
 - G. Involved in worldliness.
 - 1) The authority of God meant nothing!

Destroyed - For Forgetting Knowledge *"Because you have forgotten the law of your God"*

1. Israel had the knowledge of God's Word!
 - A. But they had forgotten it.

Hosea 2:13 I will punish her for the days of the Baals to which she burned incense. She decked herself with her earrings and jewelry, and went after her lovers; **but Me she forgot,**" says the LORD.

Hosea 8:14 "For Israel has **forgotten his Maker,** and has built temples; Judah also has multiplied fortified cities; but I will send fire upon his cities, and it shall devour his palaces."

2. There are various ways in which we today can forget God's Word, His Way!
 - A. This happens when we cease to read it, study it, or meditate on it.

2 Timothy 2:15 **Be diligent** to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

- B. By not putting it into practical everyday use (**use it or lose it**)
Hebrews 5:12-14

- 1) Sadly, many, far too many are not progressing in their Christian walk. They have **"matured in their weaknesses."**

- C. Willingly and Wilfully putting it from our mind.

2 Peter 3:5 **For this they willfully forget.....**

Conclusion

1. God's people can be destroyed as individuals and as a people.
2. Once saved always saved is false doctrine.
 - A. It was never so in the Old Testament and it certainly is not so now.
3. Let us not ever be guilty of a "lack of knowledge" of "rejecting" or "forgetting" God's truths and ways.
4. Jesus invites you to come to Him this very hour.
 - A. Accept His truth and His way. Believe and be Baptized (Mark 16:16).

Invitation

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