

The Sin of Ignorance

Introduction

Scripture Reading: **Romans 1:18-32**

1. **Ignorance defined: “a lack of knowledge, education, or experience; caused by or showing lack of knowledge, education, etc.; uninformed or unaware.”**
2. **We are all ignorant, just on different subjects.**
 - A. **Most of the world’s population has no true knowledge of God.**
 - B. **Many have no true knowledge of the gospel.**
 - C. **Most all religious people are relatively ignorant of the perfect law of grace - faith.**

Hosea 4:6 My people are **destroyed for lack of knowledge**. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being priest for Me; because you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children.

1 Timothy 2:3-4 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and **to come to the knowledge of the truth**.

Ignorance of God

1. We must not be ignorant of God - we **MUST REPENT!**
Acts 17:23
Acts 17:30-31

2. We need to understand that there is **NO EXCUSE** to be ignorant of God and His law for man.
Romans 1:18-20

3. A failure to learn of God and to stay focused on God leads to general abandonment of morality.
Ephesians 4:17-19
 - A) It is no wonder that the morality of today is sinking to gutter level!
 - 1) Fornication/Teenage pregnancy
 - 2) Homosexuality
 - 3) Joining with “friends” that do the things of the world!

Ignorance of the Gospel

1. The result of being ignorant of the gospel --- makes us a sinner!
1 Timothy 1:12-15
 - A. Many today are sinning because they are ignorant of the gospel? But, there is still hope - learn of Jesus and **OBEY JESUS** or suffer the wages of sin --- eternal death!

2. Listen to the words of Paul to the Thessalonians:**2 Thessalonians 1:7-10**

A. As a result of true belief there is obedience!

B. Remember, we are lost due to sin, not because of a lack of salvation!

3. There are some who are wilfully ignorant.

A. Some seem to think that the Bible teaching of old and the promise to come does not really include them - or at least they don't act like it!

2 Peter 3:4-7

B. These people that act like they can do whatever they want, that all things are hidden from mighty Jehovah God seem to not want to retain God in their knowledge!

Romans 1:28-32

1) Many, many people today, to include our young, choose to be ignorant of God's dealing with man?

a. We cannot practice such things

b. Perhaps we know of others that do and act as if one may approve of those things since they neither say nor do anything about it.

4. Let us always remember:

Proverbs 1:7 The **fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge**, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Ignorance of Perfect Obedience

1. We are exhorted to grow in knowledge! Notice the words of Paul:

Philippians 1:9-10 And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more **in knowledge** and all discernment, that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere **and without offense** till the day of Christ,

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;

2. We have been warned that we must continue to grow in knowledge of God's Word - put it to proper use in our life.

Hebrews 5:12-14

A. Yet some always learn yet don't apply it!

2 Timothy 3:7 always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

Two Necessary Considerations

1. Seek and You Shall Find!!

Matthew 7:7-8

John 3:19-20 And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, **because their deeds were evil**. For everyone practicing evil hates the light and **does not come to the light**, lest his deeds should be exposed.

2. Understanding the difference in Absolute and Relative Commands.

A. Some may be careful on the absolutes, yet not so on the relative. However, those that don't truly care for God will willfully neglect the absolute:

- 1) Absolute: baptism, certain sins, Lord's Supper
- 2) Relative: Growing in "Christian virtues" (opportunities, circumstance, etc.)

Conclusion

1. The gospel was preached to all creation in the first century. No society, culture or race has any excuse before God.
 - A. All people are ignorant, only on different subjects.
2. The Christian should not be ignorant of God's teaching of what is required in their life.
3. What is your condition today? Could it be that you are ignorant or just ignoring the will of God? Repent or Perish (Luke 13:3)!

