

The Conditions of a Concern

Text: Acts 24:16

Intro

1. As hard as it is to realize it → the year 2,000 will be a special celebration for Christians → be the 2,000th anniversary of the Christian religion.
2. Problem: Will there be anything to celebrate?
 - 1) Have we succumbed to the ~~to~~ secular gods of materialism, hedonism, narcissism, elitism + new agers?
 - 2) Are we being drawn ~~unwillingly~~ daily more + more into groups + ideologies that glorify the self rather than God?
 - 3) Is our goal in life merely to have personal success and enjoy good feelings?
 - 4) Have we become an addicted society? →
 - (1) Chemicals?
 - (2) pornography?
 - (3) Success?
 - (4) Wealth?
 - (5) Self-indulgent life style?
 - 5) How are we going to solve our problems?
 - (1) Crisis + lawlessness?
 - (2) Aids + drug abuse

(3) Lack of ethics + morality?

(4) Political apathy + religious hypocrisy?

3. Look at our world → God have read the newspaper lately → know about our world?

1) Like whole world mentally ill → (stats).

2) Jeh: ~~Assault~~ Pruple $2+2=5$ / muote → knows $2+2=4$ → angry about it → (Air Cails story).

4. Then the Bible break they → letter ways to live →

1) Mat. 18:50

2) Rom. 8:14-17

3) Eph. 2:19-21

4) Eph. 3:14-19(?)

5) Gal. 6:2 →

6) Rom. 15:1 →

7) Rom. 12:4-21

5. Is a place in Christ → get rid of Eph. 4:31 → live by Col. 3:8, 9, 10 ff. (paraphrase)

6. What does this mean? (See sermon)

7. Means John 15:5

8. How?

- 1) Lead it up to fact → can I do something about it? → Good story.
- 2) Living too fast? hynes to say.

9. Bible says → only way survive → conditioned conscience →

- 1) Live in day of social policy (explain).
- 2) Bible talks about a conscience.
 - (1) Background of Acts 24 → Paul's Trial
 - (2) Response of Paul → verse 16 (elaborate)

10. What is a conscience?

- 1) Internal regulator of right + wrong.
- 2) Spiritual radar → warns us of sin inwardly.
- 3) Sense of ~~the~~ divine presence → God speaks to us.
- 4) Sense of personal guilt → evolution selves.

11. Word tells us → conscience has to be conditioned.

- 1) ^{Proposed} Conditioned by the Word → I Tim. 1:5 →

The goal of this command (not to teach false doctrine) is love which comes from a pure heart + a good conscience + a sincere faith. (Mind is like computer → filters in the Word)

- 2) Washed by the ~~power~~ ^{power} of Christ → Heb. 9:14 →
- How much more then → with the blood of Christ → who though the eternal spirit offered himself unblemished to God → cleans our conscience from acts that led to death → so that we may serve the living God.

Activated

3) ~~Act~~ by the power of the Holy Spirit →

- (1) Rom. 7/8 → contrast. 11 Law of Control/Repression
- (2) Rips us into the spiritual adult.
- (3) Example in Joseph. Gen. 39: (see sermon)
 - ① This goes well.
 - ② Adjustment procedure.

1. Selectivity (vs. 6b-9)
2. Comuteney (vs. 10)
3. Pleuntney (vs. 11-20)
4. Expectancy (21-23)
5. Heitry (45: 8-11)

See: Halley → always do best?