

Decomment Reminders For Difficult Days

Text: Eph. 1: 15-23.

Matt. 4
Coloss. 1: 15-20

Important
to discuss the house

Intro:

Observe
Sabbath

Matt. 16: 3 → Know how to
discuss (script) Shy → red →
every → fear / fear → fear

1. Without a doubt one of the most impactful
epistles of the N.T. is the book of Ephesians

2. The reason this particular writing is so
significant is because it represents a
comprehensive view of the Christian life as lived
out in the world through the church.

1) As one writer states → The gospel lived out
in shoe leather → it works.

2) As another writer says → Ephesians is
the joyful book of the N.T.

3) Or in the words of L. Perren →
Ephesians is Paul's 3rd & 4th letter.
It is the apex of the N.T. It is the
most beautiful of all scriptures.

3. But of all we can say about Ephesians →
its contemporary relevance is in the fact
that it provides us with a direction for
deconstructing lives for difficult days.

4. If we are really honest → most of us
today find ourselves facing difficult days.

concern
scripture
(church)
sign
of
the
house

Matt.
12: 46

- (5)
- 1) Often refers to the rat race
 - (1) Living too fast
 - (2) " " " " hard
 - (3) stretched too thin
 - (4) One needs like burnout/breakdown/bushed.
 - (5) Sense of defeat among the spirit-felled -
 - ① Preoccupied with all our important.
 - ② Enormous " gradual setting ahead.
 - ③ Blinded to needs of others.
 - ④ Self indulgent regardless of the cost.
 - ⑤ Variations between the ideal/real →
- loss sight of the truth → John 8:32.

2) What is this thing called the rat race?

~~in what God has done in their lives.~~ Now I ask myself, what is it that
really means the rat race, what is the rat race. Have you ever thought
 about where that really came from. Well when you really analyze this
 idea of the rat race it came from experiments that were made with mice.
 Now isn't that brilliant. Isn't that wonderful that you've known that.
 The rat race. Well what really happened was this. What they did to
 make this experiment, they put mice in a cage and they put water for them
 to get but then they put several inches of sand and down in the sand they
 buried the food. And when the mice got in the cage and they would drink
 the water but then they would begin to smell the food and they begin to
 dig for the food. Just about the time they would get to the food, they
 would put it a little deeper. And they'd dig a little deeper. About the

time they got to where the food was they'd put it a little deeper, then they would dig a little deeper. And finally after about a week of that they changed the whole schedule. Then they put the food on top of the sand. The water and food were there but you know what the mice did. They not only ate the food and drank the water but they kept on digging holes. And they dug down in that sand until the day that they died. They got used to the secondary gain. There was no food down in the sand any more. So they had all the food they could eat, they had all the water they could drink but they got in a rat race. And the rat race was digging holes.

3) Now our problem today is that we live by secondary gains. We live by the secondary things of this life. The result of that is that we don't come to the praise of His glory. You know the secondary gain thing says that we should develop our own abilities. The secondary gain says that we ought to ^① determine our own destiny. The secondary gain says we ought to actualize our own potentialities, the secondary gain says we ought to ^② cultivate our own will to power, the secondary gain says that ^③ God is nothing more than an abstraction, the secondary gain says that ^④ the bible is nothing more than a myth, the secondary gain says ^⑤ worship is nothing more than a figment of the imagination.

The secondary gain says that this is the only life we are doing to live so we need to ^⑥ eat, drink, and be merry and make the most of it, the secondary gain says that's ^⑦ there's nothing to eternal significance, but when you come to the primary thrust ^⑧ and you begin to think about the praise of His glory then we start out with In the beginning God created

the heavens and the earth and then we say we are made in the image of God and then we say blessed are those who hear the word and do the word and then we say, though you not that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit and you're not your own, you're bought with a price, therefore

praise of God is the only thing that is truly yours
 1st Cor. 11:19-21 1st Cor. 12:1-2

Praying church is Jph: → 1:2 → Grace/peace →
given to us by God our Father / Lord Jesus
Christ.

- 5) What that means is: (Chs 4-2):
- (1) blessed us; chosen us; predestinated us;
adopted us; accepted us;
 - (2) Redeemed us; forgave us; enlightened us;
immaculate us;
 - (3) Sealed us; guaranteed our inheritance;
 - (4) Holy Spirit of promise / makes us God's
possessions.

→ mess → mess: Man is messy of all things // but God is mess

5. Makes us think of Psalm 24 → (Of note)
- 1) Mess for this day.
 - 2) Place of power → even in difficult days.

6. What are the dimensions of divine living?

- 1) vs. 15 → reason / faith / love /
- 2) vs 16, 17 → I know him better → parent of
being → know him better:

7. Questions: How?

Context
Disciples

- 1) Waller → Ill. own name story.
- 2) Illegible → get advice → Ill. Paul / Mother of W...

8. Epiphany → 3 step process → undo / undo / undo
message.

I. Spirit of Wisdom

1. Vers 17 → word is 60 φτάς → understanding of eternal values; ~~but~~ recognition of the moral, philosophical and fundamental reasons for life.
2. Technically → insight / foresight / accuracy of perception / ability to behave appropriately in every situation.

3. Problem today: No sense of responsibility, accountability, immutability → consequences of behavior.

1) Ill → Yag non in Feno. → Real Fools.

2) Ill → Jeremiah → prophet → 685-616 B.C. →

previews the coming of Babylonian Captivity → Israel paid no attention → lacked wisdom → spirit of wisdom had withdrawn → western backsliding →

only one other book mentions → (Hosea) → ~~Jer. uses~~ 13 times → Babelids lost wisdom → gives a

clear warning (to us): ① Recognizing the consequences of sin & apostasy. ② Accept their future in the plan of God for Israel ③ Personally themselves duty is relatively to the general plan of God.

→ Read: Jer. 4: 1-4, 22-31.

→ Ill: → minutes in bar → Had it all + lost it.

4. Parameters to wisdom:

1) Wisdom demands the highest priority:

(1) Job. 28:16 → Wisdom cannot be bought with the gold of Ophir, with precious onyx or sapphires.

(2) Prov. 8:11 → For wisdom is more precious than rubies & nothing you desire can compare with her.

Mill - Tveem

1. Technical in supernatural force.

2. Manifestation of a transcendental personal God.

3. Sharpening of intellectual power, to see clearly, fully & efficiently.

4. Retained key God on grateful people →

Πνεύμα

(~~Ill~~ Insight into eternal values)

Spirit of

- (3) Problem → wisdom no longer taught →
- ① Int: SAT scores / fuller liberal education / socially / scientifically / morally / Int: Union women + TV.
 - ② Int: ~~Prohibition~~ / Blue Laws / Educational in public school / Int high school →
 - ③ Int: Families → What is top priority → TO → Money - Sports → Int: Play Amateurs

Spirit of

2) Wisdom is generated by spiritual development.
 (1) Ecc. 2:6 → TO the man who pleases him, God gives wisdom, knowledge + happiness, but to the sinner, he gives the task of gathering + storing up wealth to hand it over to the one who pleases God. This, too, is meaningless - a chasing after the wind.

Int: that's the point

Int is based on 24:5, 4

Int: Does any one need to have the Spirit of

(2) Prov 2:5 → He changes trials + seasons. He sets up traps + deceives them. He gives wisdom to the meek + knowledge to the hungry.

(3) Int: Overall Lesson → \$100 per annum / @ 10%

3) Wisdom insulate against secular pressure.
 (1) Luke 21:15 → For I will give you words + wisdom that none of your adversaries will be able to resist or contradict.

2:47

7:10 → Stylis
the joy in wisdom

(2) Whole theme of book of Acts

① 2: 42-43; 46, 47; 5:13; 18-21; 29-31; 5:42

② 5: 12-16; 42.

(3) Int: Wall St. Article

Spirit of

4) Wisdom operates as a result of prayer

(1) James 1: 5 → If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, & it will be given to him.

(2) Prayer of Solomon: I K. 3: 4-15.

Conclusion: Dream → ① Preaching to lay ② Wisdom

③ Pictures: Business men / Parents / Young couple / Teenagers / Children / opportunities. //

It kind of reminds me of the old farmer who always wanted to ride in a plane. He knew the county fair was coming and they always had plane rides, these old bi-planes with these two open cockpits. So he saved up his money and he and his wife went to the fair. He went to bargain for he and his wife to ride in the plane. The man said, "It's twenty dollars. Ten dollars apiece." He said, "I can't pay that. That's too much money." He said, "You have to pay that if you are going to ride with me." He kept coming back to the man and badgering him and badgering and finally he said, "Look I'll make a deal with you. I'll take you up in this plane and if you promise not to say one word, not to scream, not to holler, not to say one single, solitary word and you don't say a word on the whole trip I'll let you ride free. If you holler once, if you say one thing one time then it's going to cost you forty dollars, double." Double or nothing he decided to take it.

Got in the plane. The man took them up. Did everything he could think about. Loop the loops, stalls, dives, everything, not a word. Landed the plane, parked it, looked at the man and said, "That was fantastic. I did things up there I had never done before. I even scared myself and you never said a word. How did you do it?" The man said, "Well, it was really hard, particularly when my wife fell out on that last loop the loop."

I couldn't help but think of a true story, supposedly, that a man told me, a minister told me about a minister friend of his. This minister friend of his had never been endowed with very good looks. He was quite ugly, to be frank. I had known this man and I could corroborate in that. He himself once said, "The day they passed out the looks I thought they said, 'hooks', and I said I didn't want any," that is what he said about himself. But had the most beautiful little girl that you could ever lay your eyes on. He tells that on one Saturday she was dressed all up to go to a birthday party, to one of the neighbors and she had a little time before she had to leave and it was Saturday morning and he didn't have much hair and what he had needed washing and it was sticking out all over. He had on an old sloppy shirt and he hadn't shaved and there was a growth of beard on his face and he was still a little sleepy. So he had his little girl in his lap and he was reading to her some Bible stories about man being created in the image of God. Where she was sitting she could look in the mirror and saw his image and saw her image. There came a break in the reading she said, "Daddy, where you created in the image of God?" He said, "Yes, darling, I was." She thought for a minute and said, "Daddy was I created in the image of God?" He said, "Yes you were." There was a silence and she said, "I have just been thinking. He's certainly doing a lot better work lately than he used to do."

It's really stupid--for want of a better word! But the world is saying, we need the answer. And God is saying, I have got the answer, and you are too dumb to use it. The President says, I think that we are on the brink of Armageddon. And the same book that talks about Armageddon talks about the way that we can stall Armageddon. I have the profound feeling that if this world turned around and accepted Jesus Christ as Lord, you wouldn't even have to have a rapture. You wouldn't have to have a tribulation. God would say, I'll change the whole plan. I'll just come down and live with you myself, because peace rules and reigns. Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Well, praise the Lord in this place.

But you know, we kind of remind me of the battleship that was out in the ocean. And they were headed right for these lights that were down the way. And so this very arrogant, sophisticated captain got on his radio and radioed what he thought were those lights and said, please turn 10° to the north. The radio came back and said, we can't, you turn 10° to the south. Well that irritated the captain, and he radioed back, This is a captain, and I am saying to you, please turn 10° to the north. The radio came back, this is a first-class seaman, we cannot, please turn 10° to the south. It really irritated the captain and he radioed back and said, this is a battleship, please turn 10° to the north. And the answer came back, this is a lighthouse, please turn 10° to the south. That's kind of the way that we operate, because you see, in each one of us, there is a little robot that has been so conditioned and so pre-conceived and so trained, that we buy what the world gives us. Dennis Waitley (?) wrote a little poem and said, My Robot or My Self-Image, Who I Am. He said,

I have a little robot that comes around with me.

I tell him what I am thinking, I tell him what I see.

I tell my little robot all my hopes and fears.

He listens and remembers all my joys and tears.

At first my little robot followed my command.

But after years of training he's gotten out of hand.

He doesn't care what's right or wrong, or what is false or true.