

# "God's Way Versus Man's Way"

"There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." Prov. 14:12.

"All the ways of a man are right in his own eyes, but the Lord pondereth the heart."

Again, "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon."

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are my ways your ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts." Isaiah 55:7-9.

Again, "And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called the way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those, the wayfaring men, though fools shall not err therein." Isaiah 35:8.

This a picture of two ways set forth in God's Word, each bearing a marked difference. These two ways are separate and distinct. Jesus pictures them as the broad way and the narrow way. "Enter ye in at the straight gate, for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat. Because straight is the gate and narrow is the way which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." Matt. 7:13-14. Here Jesus urges that we enter in upon His way. We are to turn neither to the right nor to the left.

Solomon urges, too: "In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He will direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes, for Jehovah and depart from evil. It will be health to thy navel and marrow to thy bones." Prov. 3:6-8.

Take heed to your ways and thoughts. "I said I will take heed to my ways that I sin not with my tongue; I will keep my mouth with a bridle while the wicked is before me." Ps. 39:1. Not only are we to take heed, but we are to guide our most inner actions. "Hear thou, my son, and guide thy heart in the way." 23:19.

Our thoughts make action, our thoughts make character, our thoughts make deeds, and our thoughts make our destiny. "As a man thinketh in himself so is he." We are ever to let the thoughts of God (the higher thoughts) and the ways of God (the higher ways) reign in our minds and dominate our minds, our thoughts, our actions and mould our character and destiny.

## THE TWO WALKS. Psalm 1

David pictures the two walks of life in the first Psalm, the blessed man, verses 1-3, and describes him (1) as not walking in the company and counsel of the ungodly, (2) as not standing in the way of sinners. His life is not so lived as to keep someone else from becoming a Christian.

but rather helps others, by his own way of living for Christ, to know Christ. (3) Again, he does not sit in the seat of the scornful (See Galatians 5:19-21, also Revelation 21:8). The Psalmist pictures him delighting in God's thought and meditating about his way. He likewise describes this man as a fruit-bearing Christian.

## THE UNGODLY MAN. Verses 4-6

He is like the chaff which the wind bloweth away. His walk will not stand the test of judgment. He will be separated from the righteous. "For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous, but the way of the ungodly shall perish (v. 6)."

God sets before us two ways—the way of life and the way of death. "And unto this people thou shalt say, thus saith the Lord, Behold, I set before you the way of life and the way of death." Jeremiah 21:8. We are to choose which master we will serve. "Ye cannot serve two masters, God and Mammon," said Jesus. The devil offers death, "The wages of sin is death." Jesus offers eternal life, "But the gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus." Rom. 6:23.

## THE PREACHER IS CHARGED TO WARN THE WICKED

"Watchman, cry aloud, spare not."

"Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel, therefore hear the word at my mouth and give them warning for me." Ezek. 3:17. Note here the preacher is God's mouthpiece. It is his enjoined duty to warn people to flee from evil and repent.

"When I say unto the wicked, thou shalt surely die, and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way to save his life, the same wicked man shall die in his sins, but his blood will I require at thine hand. Yet if thou warn the wicked and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity, but thou hast delivered thy soul." Ezek. 3:18-19.

Just as the children of Israel went about trying to establish their own way in their day, just so many so-called Christians of our own day are daring to do.

## PAUL'S ZEAL FOR ISRAEL

Romans 10:1-3: "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they might be saved, for I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted unto the righteousness of God." Romans 10:1-3.

It is not what I think or some other minister of the gospel thinks or some other person may believe, but what does God say about it?

## AS TO DRINKING

Many in this day and time believe that it is all right to take a dram and go on about their