

Is God Priority in Your Life?

INTRODUCTION.

- A. I would ask that each of you make a mental list of the four most important things in your life.
 - 1. With that list compiled, now take away the least important of the four things.
 - 2. With those three things left, now take away the least important of the three things.
 - 3. With those two things left, now take away the least important of the two things.
 - 4. Now, consider what is left. Whatever it is that you had left, that is the most important thing to you.
- B. As Christians, our lists should all have something in common. We should all have God at the top of our list of priorities.
- C. Now, if God was left as being most important in your life, then this lesson will encourage you to continue allowing God to be most important in your life.
- D. If, however, God was not most important, then, it is my hope and prayer that this lesson will show you from the Bible why God must be most important in your life and how you can make God most important in your life.

I. HOW DO YOU MAKE GOD PRIORITY IN YOUR LIFE?

- A. In order to answer this question, let us consider two main thoughts seen in Proverbs 4:20-27.
 - 1. In verses 20-23, the thought is we must plant the words we are to live by in our hearts.
 - 2. In verses 24-27, the thought is that if we put away all deceitfulness and perverseness, then our attention will be focused on following the path that we must follow. In order to follow the proper path, we must do the following:
 - a. Our eyes must look straight.
 - b. Our eyelids must look right before us.
 - c. We must ponder the path of our feet.
 - d. We must let all our ways be established.
 - e. We must not turn from the right or the left.

- f. We must remove our feet from evil.
- B. The person who follows the above principles taught in Proverbs 4:20-27 will be the individual whose life will be guided by God's will. {Consider Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Elijah, Daniel, Jonah, etc.}
 - 1. Every word YOU SAY will be within the guidelines laid forth in the scriptures.
 - 2. Everything YOU DO will be within the guidelines laid forth in the scriptures.
 - 3. In short, there will not be one area of your life that will not be kept within the limits of the scriptures. (Colossians 3:17)
- C. It can be said of the Christian who follows these principles that God takes priority in his life.

II. WHY MUST GOD TAKE PRIORITY IN YOUR LIFE?

- A. In general, every person has priorities in his or her life.
 - 1. To some people, their job takes priority and to others, their families take priority.
 - 2. Other priorities would be recreation, school, vacation, television, friends, etc.
- B. To better understand the concept of priority, consider the illustration of the wagon wheel. No matter what you have in the center, everything else will revolve around that which is in the center.
- C. Your list of priorities will reflect what is in your heart.
 - 1. Proverbs 4:23 - out of the heart flows the issues (outgoings) of our lives.
 - 2. Proverbs 23:7 - as a man thinks in his heart, so is he.
 - 3. Matthew 6:21 - where your treasure is, there your heart will be.
- D. How does a person establish his priorities?
 - 1. Many times a person's priorities will be determined by what he or she finds most important.
 - a. Family - kids, spouse, parents
 - b. Recreation - golf, fishing, football, etc.
 - c. Anything that a person lives for or strongly desires to do.
 - 2. Sometimes a person will establish his priorities based upon what will benefit him the most.

- a. Job - money, promotions, social status, lifestyle
 - b. Lifestyle - social status, certain friends or acquaintance
- E. If a Christian considers and remembers that God sent Jesus to die for him, then he will work to make God the main priority in his life.

III. HOW WILL GOD TAKING PRIORITY AFFECT YOUR LIFE?

- A. There are many areas of your life that will be affected by letting God take priority. Consider the following examples:
- 1. What you do on the first day of the week will be affected. You will set aside the time to assemble with the saints and to worship our heavenly Father. (Cf. Acts 20:7; Hebrews 10:24-25)
 - 2. No matter what else has to be done that day, a Christian should make certain that he assembles with the saints.
- B. Your speech or conversations will be affected. (Ephesians 4:29)
- C. The type of clothing you wear will be affected. (1 Timothy 2:9,10)
- D. The type of people you associate with may be changed. (1 Corinthians 15:33; 2 Corinthians 6:14-18)
- E. You will study the word of God. (Deuteronomy 6:1-10; 2 Timothy 2:15)
- F. In other words, every step you take, every word you say, every thing you do must be in the name of Christ or according to His authority. (Colossians 3:17)

CONCLUSION.

- A. Is God the main priority in your life? If not, then why not?
- 1. God made us His priority when He sent His son to die on the cross and when He gave us the gospel, the power of God unto Salvation. (Romans 1:16)
 - 2. If you are not a Christian, God has made it possible for you to have all of your sins forgiven and be reconciled to Him. Obey the gospel today and live a faithful life. By doing so, you will spend eternity in heaven with God.
- B. God made you His priority. Why not choose this day to let Him take priority your life?

Is God Priority in Your Life? -- March 27, 2005 -- File # 1335 - Priorities
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