

Exceeding Sinful

Wednesday, April 24, 2024

Mike Miller

Straight Paths Bible Church

Romans 6:19 I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.

2 Timothy 2:16 But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness.

2 Timothy 3:13 But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

1 Timothy 4:1-2 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;

Romans 7:13 Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good; that sin by the commandment might become exceeding sinful.

- I. I never envisioned a world like this, and I do not know anyone who did.
 - A. We knew that “evil men and seducers would wax worse and worse” but we never imagined that it would be like this.
 - B. We expected more of the same kind of sin we were seeing 40 years ago, and the kind of sin that has always been present in every generation.
 - C. But we did not expect what it sin has morphed into in this generation.
 - D. We should have expected it, though.
 - 1. If we had studied history under the lens of morality and took notice of where the road to degeneracy has always led, we would have been expecting this.
 - 2. But we have always had this notion that people were different in previous generations, and much more ignorant and less informed than we are.
 - 3. We have always assumed that human nature somehow worked differently in previous times.
 - 4. We just did not look closely enough; if we had we could have seen the same things in the ancient ruins of wicked civilizations that we see now in ours.
 - E. We have not been spiritually minded enough to realize what kind of monstrosity sin really is.
 - 1. We have been focused on the most common vices, addictions, and indulgences and considered sin no more than those things.
 - 2. We have focused on the ripples and disturbances on top of the water without considering their cause, which was hidden from our sight.
 - 3. We have been far too shallow in our estimation of sin and its consequences, but even more in our understanding about where sin leads, and what comes next.
- II. Sin morphs and mutates as it progresses.
 - A. We expect the same sins to simply become more common and widespread, and for more people to become involved in those sins.
 - B. That IS what happens FIRST, but there is more that happens as the cup gets full.

- C. As the sins of fornication, adultery, and drunkenness get more widespread and common they lose their novelty and excitement.
- D. The lust of the flesh and the lust of the eye can never be satisfied, so the mind and the eyes turn elsewhere.
- E. Sin is insanity and never is a matter of reason.
- F. Sin is always a transgression against truth, or a misappropriation and misapplication of truth.
- G. So sin never makes sense; it is always a willful step into the darkness, casting aside all concerns and warnings, and trampling the conscience.
- H. Once this is done the first time, there is a corridor opened in the soul that leads to the depths of depravity and degeneracy and to hell itself.
- I. The old saying we have all heard so much about how that “sin will take you farther than you intended to go, keep you longer than you intended to stay, and cost you more than you wanted to pay, it absolutely true.
- J. Every slobbering drunk that has lost everything in his life started with one “innocent” drink.
- K. Every person who has died of a drug overdose started with just a curious desire to “see what it was like” with no intention of diving to the bottom.
- L. Every sexual pervert started by having his mind polluted by looking at pornography or by being talked to about it by someone else.
- M. Not only these flagship sins, but the more common sins of hatefulness, envy, talebearing, pride, and lying all happen the same way and progress into bitterness and murder.
- N. Sin just never stays the same; and it never stays on the same level.

2 Timothy 3:13 But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

- III. Sin starts as insanity and becomes utter madness, and then brings forth death.
 - A. The first step into sin is always to step away from truth.
 - B. Every sin begins with a lie.
 - C. From that point the lie becomes the basis for discerning truth.
 - 1. Your moral compass has been corrupted and now shows good as evil and evil as good.
 - D. Following this course leads rapidly down the road of degeneracy to depravity of the mind, the heart, and the will.
 - E. It is a short trip to a state of madness:
- MAD'NESS, n. *from mad*. Distraction; a state of disordered reason or intellect, in which the patient raves or is furious.
- 1. Extreme folly; headstrong passion and rashness that act in opposition to reason; as the madness of a mob.
 - F. In this state the mind and heart can see no evil in anything except those who would call anything evil and wicked, or make a difference between the two.
 - G. This is what we are seeing now in all this thing they call the “Cancel Culture.”
 - H. This is what we are seeing in all this gender nonsense.
 - I. This is what we are seeing in all the anti-Semitism and hatred in the world right now.
 - J. Where do we go from here?
 - K. A look at human history will tell us that the madness is followed closely by the end of that people or civilization.
 - L. We are close to the end of the line, no matter how you want to look at things, or what your doctrine is concerning the coming of the Lord or the end of the world.