

GOD'S TREATMENT AND THE BIBLE'S REMEDY FOR SIN

"This man receiveth sinners." (Luke 15:2)

The greatest fact of history is the positive, painful, powerful, presence of universal sin in this world. If you have been a listener to this broadcast for the past three months you have heard of the origin of sin, the character of sin, the fruits of sin, the finished product of sin. And now by the grace of God it is my purpose to tell you something of the unspeakable remedy that God has provided for sin. I need not dwell longer upon the havoc that sin has wrought in this world. I need not say more of the waste, want and woe that sin is causing today. For that is the most obvious thing on Gods earth. It is a stench in the nostrils of Almighty God and is an unmingled reproach to the man who died on Calvary. The base and unsanctified passions of ungodly men let loose on this world in a beastly orgy is causing alarm from one end of this land to the other.

The whole trend of prophetic utterances throughout the Bible warn us that as we near the end time that wicked men will wax worse and worse. Human life will be cheap, morals will be low, society will hang loosely together. Sin like the poisonous monsters from Pandoras box will sweep across this world spreading disease, plague fear and terror. Einstein startled the world last week with the statement that, this terrible Hydrogen bomb, that is the most recent discovery in scientific warfare, may well be the instrument that will annihilate the human race. Said he: "It could easily poison the atmosphere we breathe and cause whole nations to perish in a breath." I am not a pessimist when I say that we are standing on the brink of a towering, tottering, crumbling precipice. I am only being a realist when I say that we are a city perched on the crest of a smoldering volcano. In the words of the late Dr. Charles N. Sisson: "We are stranded on the cross roads at midnight, in Spenglerian gloom not knowing what road to take."

The subterranean rumble of the smoldering flames beneath the crust of a superficial society is nothing but the vanguard of the coming thunder-clap of doom. President Truman has called upon America to join together

an effort to curb the present crime wave. But I want to ask you how can America stop crime when the heart of the American people is black with the night of hell. I give you some of the remedies that men have used to cure crime and stop sin. They have tried chastisement, they have tried the scaffold, the gas chamber, the electric chair; but these have never reclaimed one single soul. They try more punishment, and the result is more crime. They have tried banishment, and exile but that never saved a soul. They have tried moral methods, forgiveness and rehabilitation, that too has failed. Alas, time has written failure across them all.

The most recent and extensive effort is to educate sin and crime out of men. "Knowledge is power," is an immortal saying, but unsanctified knowledge is power in the hands of the devil to blight more lives and wreck more souls. I want you to listen to this: I am going to make a startling statement. Sin has slain its thousands but religious reformation has slain its ten^{of} thousands. To reform a man outwardly without saving him inwardly is like locking serpents in a cage or chaining lions in a den.

The methods of men in dealing with sin are all juvenile, they begin with the effect. They begin outwardly and work inward. But Jesus Christ has the only known remedy for sin. For sin Jesus Christ offers only one thing---HOLINESS. There is a law of opposites in the Universe. Light and darkness, day and night, sweet and bitter, Sin and Holiness. Just as light and darkness cannot mix, just so sin and holiness cannot mix.

Since I have been preaching to you about your sins you have become upset. I have diagnosed your case and today I am prescribing the remedy and it is up to you to take the medicine. It is certainly a foolish man who when the doctor tells him that he has a disease that will kill him; but that there is a wonderful drug that will cure him if he will take it. When the doctor tells him this, he gets mad with him and refuses to take the medicine. Listen friend, I am not a doctor of medicine, but I'M telling you that you have a disease that will kill you, you have

disease that is more deadly than cancer, more deadly than heart trouble³,
more deadly than T.B., more deadly than leprosy. You have a disease
that will carry you to your grave, and not only will it carry you to your
grave it will carry you to hell. I know that is a dark picture if you
will believe it, also I can tell you that there is a wonderful remedy
for your disease, a remedy that has never failed. It is a true and
tried remedy. Many of the new drugs today are in the experimental stage,
but this remedy for your sin has been tried for two thousand years. No
case has ever been lost. It is still the wonder remedy for this old
world. I could call up multiplied thousands who have tried this remedy
for sin, and they would all testify, that it never fails.

Call up William Cowper, He says it saved me from a drunkards hell.
Call up John Newton, it saved me from a debackled slave. Call up John
Wesley, He says it saved me from the cold, formal organized religion.
Call up the uncounted witnesses at Gods right hand, hear them cry it
saved me, it saved me, it saved me. What about you out there have you
tried it. Or have you tried everything else. Are you a slave to sin,
Holiness is Gods remedy. Are you troubled with unwholesome desire?
Holiness is Gods remedy. When you would do good/^{is}evil present? Holiness
is Gods remedy. Has church membership failed to satisfy your longing
heart? Holiness is Gods remedy. Is your religion more of a burden to
you than a joy? Holiness is Gods remedy. Can you be good only on
Sunday? Holiness is Gods remedy. Do you have habits that you cannot
quit? Holiness is Gods remedy. Do you have temptations that you can-
not overcome? Holiness is Gods remedy. Do you want to live the
victorious life? Holiness is Gods remedy.

Praise God that is why we can sing with a joy that rings out with
unmuffled acclaim. "Holiness Forever More."