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The Word Of Life

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THE WORD OF LIFE?

10:50

- I. OLD QUESTION RESURRECTED LATELY: "Are there degrees of reward in Heaven and punishment in Hell?" Based on * **Lk. 12:47-48.**

ANSWER: Agree with B. W. Johnson in N. T. Notes: "All will NOT be punished alike. Certainly degrees of punishment FOR degrees of guilt are taught!" P. 276.

II. BELIEVE DEGREES OF RESPONSIBILITY ARE TAUGHT.

- A. * **Matt. 11:20-24.** Christ warns the obstinate generation of HIS day! "more bearable!"
- B. * **Matt. 12:38-42.** **Nineveh** and the Queen of Sheba bore LESS responsibility than the Scribes and Pharisees of Jesus' day.
- C. QUESTION: What does all of this have to do with US????
- D. ANSWER: **WE** carry a greater responsibility load than...Chorazin, Bethsaida, Tyre, Sidon, Capernaum, Nineveh, the Queen of Sheba, OR the scribes & Pharisees of His day.

CONCLUSION: THIS generation has LESS excuse for UNBELIEF & DISOBEDIENCE to the Lord's will than ANY or ALL which have gone before it!!!

III. WHAT OUR RESPONSIBILITY IS AND WHY IT IS GREAT!

- A. Man's greatest responsibility today is to Love God and Obey the Gospel of Christ!!!!
Mk. 16:15-16. John 14:6. Acts 4:12.
John 20:30-31.
- B. We have MORE evidence, testimony & witnesses than any generation in the past!!!
1. Evidence of Prophecies fulfilled. Matt.
 2. Evidence of LAW fulfilled. 5:17.
 3. Evidence of HISTORY. Tested & proved.
 4. Evidence of PHILOSOPHY (wisdom). M.7:24-29
 5. Evidence of MORALITY. No better system!!!!
 6. Evidence of WITNESSES. Eye witness proof!

IV. JOHN'S EYEWITNESS TESTIMONY FOR OUR FAITH.

I John:A. Vs. 1. Four areas of EXPERIENCE!!!!

1. HEARD: Listened for 3½ yrs. Men of average intelligence. Able to discern good & evil

KNEW!!

2. SEEN: Eye witnesses. Greatest evidence there is. Proof: Presence of 2-3 witnesses Jesus had 12! plus thousands upon 1,000s.
3. LOOKED UPON: Barclay says "Gazed" or GR.: Watched, studied, analyzed, then grasped something of the MEANING & SIGNIFICANCE of what is seen! SON OF GOD!
4. HANDLED: Touched with our hands. Human! Flesh! Physical! *John 20:24-29, Flesh!!!

REASON FOR THIS PROOF: Gnostics in 90 AD.

Docetics: denied Christ's humanity. Sin was inherent in the flesh. So He not flesh. thus no Cross! Said the LORD was not Deity in flesh.

↓
 No
 incarnation,
 thus no Cross!
 no suffering.
 no death.
 no Sal.!

Cerinthians: denied the human Christ & taught CHRIST descended upon JESUS at His baptism & left him before the Cross. So, Jesus suffered, but Christ did not. Denies atonement!! Sinful.

B. Vs. 2-4: Jesus did come in the FLESH. Lived and died in the flesh! Apostles saw it all and DIED after much suffering in DEFENCE of their faith,

Apostles died full of Joy, Hope and anticipation of eternal life!

INV: THIS BOOK ATTEMPTS TO DO TWO THINGS FOR YOU:

1. Cement your Faith in Jesus. John 20:30-31.
2. Give your Life a fullness of Joy and happy anticipation: John 3:16. John 14:27. Peace.

ILL. COMMEND TO YOU: the wisdom of an old Comanche Indian chief spoken to a young Indian squaw! Reported by E. C. Deyo: At her baptism.

"You have made me very happy today in giving your heart to Jesus while you are in the SPRINGTIME of your life... before you have been tempted to do much that is wrong.

My child, stay close to Jesus, and your life will ALWAYS be a SPRINGTIME! - Joy!!

(Hallock, p. 217.)

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