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Wednesday, June 16, 2010

Subject: As You Go

LESSON:

GOD doesn't want to give you what you want Him to do.

How could we be discouraged?

We are so blessed.

Glory to glory.

Collectively, the church is enjoying victory.

But individually... there may be some that are here that are discouraged.

What you want GOD to do...

What you think GOD should do....

Luke 17

11 And it came to pass, as he went to Jerusalem, that he passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee.

12 And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off:

13 And they lifted up [their] voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.

14 And when he saw [them], he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed.

15 And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God,

16 And fell down on [his] face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan.

17 And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where [are] the nine?

Notice: it happened as they went.

Note: the value is found in the profit of the process.

What they wanted was a healing.

What JESUS wanted was more than a healing....HE wanted a cleansing.

God wants to do more than you want done.

James 1

3 Knowing [this], that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

4 But let patience have [her] perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

Going to talk about the detestable word of this generation: patience
very little patience in this new millennium.

We want everything now.

Patience:

01 burger king

02 dominos

03 kfc

04 macdonalds

05 popeyes

06 sonic

07 steak and shake

08 subway

09 wendys

10 white castle

11 taco bell

We have

12 FAX machines to send documents

13 quick print shops to print those documents

14 faster and faster computers

15 express oil changes that promise to change our oil in 10 minutes

16 instant text messaging

17 we can get instant pictures insurance quotes over the internet

18 instant coffee

19 micro wave dinners

One Calvin & Hobbes comic strip pictured his father sitting at a computer saying, "It used to be that if a client wanted something done in a week it was considered a rush job, & he would be lucky to get it. Now, with modems, faxes, & car phones everybody wants everything instantly." About that time Calvin walks by holding a microwave dinner, reading the instructions. "It takes 6 minutes to microwave this," he says. Who's got that kind of time?"

20 overnight delivery
21 red traffic light

The annual cost of people running red lights in the United States is. . .
\$7 Billion
The average amount of time saved by running a red light is. . .
50 seconds.

STORY: patience

A recent survey revealed that we have become an impatient & oftentimes angry nation. You see it at work. You see it in school. You see it on the highways.

example: A man's car stalled in heavy traffic just as the light turned green. All his frantic efforts to get the car started failed, & a chorus of honking horns behind him made matters worse. He finally got out of his car & walked back to the first driver behind him & said, "I'm sorry, but I can't seem to get my car started. If you'll go up there & give it a try, I'll stay here & honk your horn for you."

ILLUSTRATION: There is even a church in Florida that advertises 22-minute services. Go there & they promise that in 22 minutes it will all be over, & you'll be out of there. The sermons are only 8 minutes long. Now don't get your hopes up. It's not going to happen here.

The Bible says.....

James 1
3 Knowing [this], that the trying of your faith worketh patience.
4 But let patience have [her] perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

God wants to do more in your life than you want HIM to do.
GOD wants to accomplish more than you even ask from Him.

The reason GOD wants to develop patience in your life is so you can be perfect....entire, wanting nothing.

Sometimes we just want some little something when GOD wants us to have so much more.

If you get what you want right now...

You are going to rob yourself what GOD wants for you that is far greater.

I want to profit from HIS process.
Patience keeps us in the process.

Hebrews 10

35 Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward.

36 For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

Talk to some that are in the process.

GOD wants to do more than....

for you....

with you....

as much as what HE wants to do to you..... what we become in route to where HE wants us to be.

example: Abraham.... what happened to him as he journeyed.

Question of lepers....

Why not do it instantly?

GOD surely does not need time to do a work in us.

The time element is not to give GOD time to work.... but rather for my benefit.... so I can allow GOD to complete HIS work in me.

Why doesn't GOD give us the miracle now?

HE could.

Just needs to say the word.

HE has all power.

HE is not limited.

But GOD knows there is profit in the process.

Why doesn't GOD give us the miracle now?

1. We are not ready.

2. We wouldn't give GOD adequate praise.

3. We wouldn't appreciate what HE has done.
unless there was a process in obtaining it.

Someone said: What we obtain too cheaply, we esteem too lightly.

GOD needs to be praised for HIS mercy, divine favor, greatness.

Deuteronomy 7

22 And the LORD thy God will put out those nations before thee by little and little: thou mayest not consume them at once, lest the beasts of the field increase upon thee.

23 But the LORD thy God shall deliver them unto thee, and shall destroy them with a mighty destruction, until they be destroyed.

GOD could have delivered them all at once... but they could not have contained the beasts.

GOD so the benefit or the profit in the process.

GOD said: it is not in your best interest to have it right now.

So it is today.... GOD knows that spirits can rise up within us.

Spirits like.....

unthankfulness

ungratefulness

pride

egotism

self-sufficiency

There is a blessing just bring in the process.

JESUS told them....

14 And when he saw [them], he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed.

Prior to this they were doomed to die.

When HE said that.... they started walking in a miracle.

May not see it ... but youre walking

may not have it but you are walking

you may not be able to touch it.... but you are in the process.

This church.... is in the process.
Individuals are in the process.

Too many walk in the church and they want a miracle in a minute.
Took them 10 years 20 years... 30 years.... to get in this mess.....
wrong decisions... many mistakes.... bad choices...

Want it corrected in a 30 second prayer.
GOD wants you to live for HIM the rest of your life.

GOD wants you to realize you are in HIS process.

NOTE:

Salvation is a miracle of a moment, but the making of a saint is a lifetime occupation.

GOD doesn't want you to be a one-hit-wonder.
examples:

As they went

14 And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed.

Satan talks to us.....

GOD could have
about praying
trusting
doing right

too many throw in the towel.....
devil wants us to think....

We need to show GOD....
We know that we are in the process....
And there is a profit in the process.

What is the profit?

Patience.

Perfect.

Maturity in GOD.

I don't want to be a spiritual weakling.

When JESUS said ... go show yourself to the priest.....

HE wanted them to see there was a process.

Our fleshly desires.

But one day.... we will be cleansed.

Used to want a cigarette.... desire vices.... hate my neighbor.....

But I am cleansed.

It happened in the process.

They wanted a healing.

JESUS wanted them to have a cleansing.

Healing has to do with the flesh.

A cleansing has to do with the spirit.

We too often ask for the healing.... we need a cleansing.

More than miracles..... want to be saved, grow in GOD.

JESUS wanted to do something that was deeper than the skin.

HE was testing them.

Preacher should be your friend.

Last one to see the leper before he was put into a leper community was the priest.

If a miracle happened....

But only a few times.

Lepersy is a death notice.

Type of sin.

Only way is miracle from GOD.

Last to see them off when they were ex-communicated....

Couldn't be in community; see family; work; put away; banished.

Preacher last to see them. Can you imagine how they felt toward that priest? They probably did everything they could to hide the smallest spot of leprosy.... argued with him.

But if somehow...a miracle.... first one to see them was the priest.
Last and first to bring them back..... preacher is on your side.

Jesus wanted them to go to the priest because HE knew that the priest was the one that told them they couldn't come back....
Couldn't stay with your family.....
Couldn't come back.

Now if you want to be healed....you're going to have to go back and show yourself to him.

JESUS: I WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT YOU'RE NOT MAD AT HIM.

because if you're going to get a miracle from GOD....I'm sending you right back to the preacher.
and HE just wanted to know ... their relationship was right.

Application

There are a lot of people who think.... that they can side-step the ministry.
They have a feeling they can get around the preacher and get to JESUS.

Herod killed John the Baptist.

He wanted to see a miracle.... so he went to JESUS, but JESUS would not even talk to him.

HE told Herod that HE didn't have time for someone that killed the preacher in his life.

If you're going to be right with GOD.... you are going to have to have a right relationship with the ministry.

Changing a church is not going to solve your problem.

MUST: get your spirit right.

JESUS just wanted to know ... they weren't mad at the priest.

HE wanted more than they did..... wanted them cleansed.

HE put them in the process.

They were disappointed.

Process: your flesh may not like it.

HE could have.
But there is a profit in the process.

May not have what I want.... but it is better than where I was.

STORY: pray for patience

The story is told of a young Christian who went to an older Christian for help. "Will you please pray for me that I may be more patient?" he asked. So they knelt together & the old man began to pray. "Lord, send this young man tribulation in the morning; send this young man tribulation in the afternoon; send this young man..."

At that point the young Christian blurted out, "No, no, I didn't ask you to pray for tribulation. I wanted you to pray for patience." "Ah," responded the wise old Christian, "it's through tribulation that we learn patience."

STORY: ink spot

The story is told of an artist who went to visit an old friend. When he arrived, she was weeping. He asked why. She showed him a beautiful handkerchief that had great sentimental value, but which had been ruined by a spot of indelible ink.

The artist asked her to let him have the handkerchief, which he returned to her by mail a few days later. When she opened the package she could hardly believe her eyes. The artist, using the inkblot as a base, had drawn on the handkerchief a design of great beauty. Now it was more beautiful & more valuable than ever.

Application: Sometimes the tragedies that break our hearts can become the basis for a more beautiful design in our lives. Be patient with the hurts over which you have no control. In God's hands they may even become a source of healing, help, & beauty.

Galatians 6

9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.