

A TYPE OF CHRISTIAN LIFE

TEXT: 1 Cor. 10

THESIS: The life of a Christian seems long.

INTRODUCTION:

1. The road of a Christian seems long and dreary.
2. It is filled with hatred, resentment, and anything else that Satan can throw down our paths.
3. Although the road is not broad, but narrow for Christians (Matt 7:13,14), we need to keep our paths clear of obstacles.
4. Let us look at a very brief description of what lies ahead of a Christian.
 - a. The difficulties of Egypt.
 - b. Guidance that is necessary.
 - c. The reward that is waiting

DISCUSSION:

I. THE DIFFICULTIES OF EGYPT

- A. In the midst of slavery and bondage, there arose a deliverer (Moses) who would lead the children of Israel out of their hated, tormented lives that was brought upon by Pharaoh and Egypt.
 1. He was told to take them out of that point in time and to bring them up into a beautiful land flowing with milk and honey that they could call their own.
 2. Unto a place for a second start in life: the land of Canaan.
- B. Sinners today face these same choices.
 1. They have heard of the deliverer Christ and that He will set them free out of this world of sin unto a new place: Heaven, if they obey His commands.
 2. Heaven is a spiritual place flowing with joy and happiness, no sorrow or unhappy thoughts; only pure rejoicing.
- C. We must rid our sinful life by abandoning it and leaving it in a world that cares only about itself (1 Cor 6:18a).
 1. Christ came to die on the cross for us so that we would have the opportunity to be buried in Him to put on a new life (Rom 6:4).
 2. The children of Israel also went through a type of burial at the Red Sea (Exo 14:21) and there was reborn on the other side away from the thunder and might of the chariots of Pharaoh.

II. GUIDANCE THAT IS NECESSARY

- A. Whether we are a new born Christian or one that has been a member for a while, we all need guidance.

1. Guidance is an act of guiding by another which allows us to hold our paths true to help us finish to the end.
 2. It is important that we use the Bible, prayer, and other people to help guide us along to finish to the end as victorious.
 3. Christ is still present to His followers and they should not be afraid of the man that tries to tempt them (Heb 13:5,6).
- B. The children of Israel also had guidance of the pillar of cloud by day and pillar of fire by night which showed them the lighted way (Exo 14:19,20).
1. It was however, God working through Moses which walked them through the light into righteousness.
 2. Without salvation, we cannot enter into the promised destination that God has prepared for us.
- C. We must be careful not to fall into the sensual desires of our old lives by backsliding through our transgressions and sinning (1 Cor 10:6-12).
1. God is on our side and if He is for us, who can be against us (Rom 8:31).
 2. Christians can only fight the good fight if they are devoted to Him and allow Him to guide us through the words in which He had spoken.

III. THE REWARD THAT IS WAITING

- A. Through this struggle with sin and salvation there is one thing that keeps us on the mark and that is the eternal resting place.
1. Where will we rest on the day of judgement when our Lord comes back again?
 2. Will our good triumph over evil so that we can enter into the grandest place of all (Heaven)?
- B. Satan is out there lurking around the corner and is murmuring in the wind to disobey God.
1. Those that murmured in the wilderness with Moses was destroyed (1 Cor 10:10).
 2. We cannot murmur against Christ and still enter into Heaven.
- C. We must say to ourselves: We will not be disobedient and unbelieving
1. The children of Israel did not enter in their land because of unbelief (Heb 3:19)
 2. This is a warning to us to not make the same mistakes as they did.
 3. The hardness and unbelief of the heart will fall and God warns us of the evil heart which will depart from God (Heb 3:8).
- D. The final resting place for the second generation was Canaan, but the first perished in the wilderness
1. When we as Christians fight in the wilderness, will we loose our promise land as those did in the day of Moses, or will we be more like the second generation who reached their final destination
 2. The second generation fo the children of Israel was great because they were loyal and fought for the Lord.

CONCLUSION:

1. The road of a Christian's life is a difficult one.
 - a. We must continue to put Christ first in all things and remember that we can do all things through faith in him.
 - b. The Lord knows that we will be tempted, but he has given us ways to improve and strengthen our Christianity through the Word and prayer
2. We must remember to look to Him for guidance.
 - a. He is our rock and salvation.
 - b. In the wilderness when Moses struck the rock twice for water instead of speaking to it is a reminder that he forgot his guidance (Exo 17:6).
 - c. Christ is our living water and such as the body cannot go without water, neither can the soul survive salvation without Christ (1 Cor 10:4).
3. The reward that is awaiting us is Heaven.
 - a. When the first generation had seen the land from afar off they cried when they could not enter in because they were so close and yet so far away.
 - b. Will we follow in their mistakes to be at the day of judgement and to see Heaven within our reach, but get turned away because of the desires we pursued in the world.
 - c. We have to be true Christians today and now to be Christians in the beautiful place called Heaven.
4. This world has nothing for you. Look in the cemetery and tell me what you see? Where do you think they went?
 - a. Look at Eccl 12:7
 - b. Now look at Matt 10:28