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PREPARATION TO MEET GOD

LUKE 16:19-31

I. INTRO:

A.) There is nothing worth doing well that is acceptable ~~to~~ God, without preparation.

B.) Preparation is necessary in all of life's efforts.

1.) Party's, games, etc.

C.) Preparation is also necessary to meet God.

1.) Jn 14:23 Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

apply for a job.

apply to

a) You want to look your best at all times, you ~~also~~ also should want to look your best for God.

apply to

enter Heaven

maze - only one way through it.

only way to heaven is through Christ.

b.) Our life is the time to prepare for God.

2.) Jn 14:1-6 pg 1140

a) Christ is preparing a place for us in heaven, and the only way to get ~~that~~ TO place is through Christ.

II. Why Prepare?

you prepare so you can answer the questions people will ask.

A.) I Pet 3:15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear.

1.) Paul felt that he was ready.

a.) II Tim 4:6-8 pg 1267

B.) Meeting God is inevitable.

1.) Rom 14:10-12 pg 1204

C.) Good deeds alone will not save us.

1.) Eph 2:8-9 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.

why prepare 2.

2.) Col 3:17 and whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

a.) Give God the credit that is do him, for without this gift of God we would have nothing.

D.) Man without this preparation is unprepared for this meeting with God.

1.) Matt 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

2.) Jn 3:5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

a.) Just as there are rules that we have to go by in any sporting event or agreements in business dealings - There are rules that we have to go by to enter heaven.

b.) Heaven is a prepared place for prepared people.

1.) Jn 14:4 And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.

E.) The tests for entering heaven are rigid and exacting.

1.) Matt 7:13-14 pg 1020

a.) Straight and narrow way.

2.) Eph 5:25-27 pg 1244

a.) By keeping ourselves without spot or blemish we are keeping the church clean.

3.) I Pet 4:18 And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?

4.) Rev 21:27 And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

water looks clear / Impurity in the heart.

Remember eyes are watching you.

PART TIME JOB

III. How do we prepare?

A.) II Tim 3:16-17 all scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

1.) II Pet 1:3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and Godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue.

B.) HEAR

1.) Acts 10:33 Immediately therefore I sent to thee; and thou hast well done that thou art come. Now therefore are we all here present before God, to hear all things that are commanded thee of God.

a.) Hear "all" things not just what some want.

C.) Believe

1.) Acts 16:31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

2.) Heb 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

D.) Repent

1.) Lk 13:3 I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

E.) Confess Christ

1.) Matt 10:32 Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father, which is in heaven.

a.) Confessing that Christ is the Son of God before men.

2.) Acts 8:37 And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

F.) Be Baptized

1.) Mk 16:15-16 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

2.) Acts 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

G.) Add the Christian Graces

1.) II Pet 1:5-11 pg 1293

H.) Be faithful till death

1.) Matt 10:22 And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.

REMEMBER LOT →

a.) Endureth to the end.

IV. When do we prepare for Christ?

A.) In this life.

1.) ~~Lk~~ 16:19-31 pg 1105

a.) Rich man and Lazarus.

B.) While we have the opportunity.

1.) Matt 25:1-13 pg 1044-45

a) Ten virgins.

C.) In your youth is the best time.

1.) Eccl 12:1 Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them.

a.) Pro 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

D.) But if your youth was neglected - then now is the time.

1.) II Cor 6:1-2 We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain. (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)

a.) Now is the time, don't put it off any longer.

2.) Today, if you will hear his voice.

a.) Heb 3:15 While it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, ~~harden~~ not your hearts, as in the provocation.

THERE MAY NOT BE A TOMORROW

E. Conclusion: The way we prepare here in the flesh will show up later after we die and are standing at the judgement.

A.) a.) The results are going to be eternal.

b.) The more care that we take in our preparation to meet God, the greater our chance of the rewards of heaven.

B.) What value do we place on our soul?

1.) Mt 16:24-27 pg 1033