

## Forgetting God

### Int.

1. Aim: To show how forgetting God is the cause of sin, and why men forget, and ways in which men forget God.
2. Deut. 8:11 "Beware that you do not forget the LORD your God by not keeping His commandments, His judgments, and His statutes which I command you today,"
  - a. This command is repeated 2 times
    - i. Deut. 4:9 "Only take heed to yourself, and diligently keep yourself, lest you forget the things your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. And teach them to your children and your grandchildren,"
    - ii. Deut. 6:12 "then beware, lest you forget the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage."
  - b. Moses was about to leave them and they were going to the promised land
  - c. He warns them not to forget God
  - d. Deut. 8:19 He tells what will happen if they do forget "you shall surely perish."
3. "Remember now thy creator in the days of thy youth." Eccl. 12:1
  - a. This is one of the basic commands for all people!
  - b. Yet so many live their life without remembering God, their creator
4. They forget God - Jude 5 "I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not."
5. 1 Tim. 4:6 "If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained."

**Discussion****I. MOST SINS ARE JUST DIFFERENT WAYS OF FORGETTING GOD**

## A. Selfishness is forgetting God in others

1. Think only of myself, my business, my needs, my desires, my satisfactions and intentions
2. Then I forget about other people
3. 1 Cor. 13:5 "seeketh not her own"
4. Phil. 2:3-4 "Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. 4 Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others."
5. Rom. 12:10 "Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another;"- preference - try to outdo one another in showing love, respect

## B. Pride is forgetting the presence of God

1. Just to remember the presence and power of God leads to humility
2. Pharisee and the Publican — Luke 18:9-14
  - a. The pharisee was full of pride because he forgot God - he trusted in himself  
V.9
  - b. The Publican knew he was a sinner because he remembered God

C. Worry is forgetting God's providence and blessings

1. When men forget that God has promised to provide then they worry
2. Mt. 6:25-34
3. Worry comes when men trust in their own devices and forget that God gives to us all
4. Worry is forgetting that God holds the future Phil. 4:6 "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;"

D. Envy is forgetting that God has blessed us

1. To be jealous of another's honour, success, or possessions is sinful
2. We must stop and count our blessings
3. Gal. 5:21
4. Do not forget God in what He has already given

## **II. WHY DO MEN FORGET GOD?**

A. The guilty do not like to think about God

1. When man does wrong, he likes to put God out of his mind
2. John 3:20 NKJV "For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed."
3. When Adam did wrong -- he tried to hide from God
4. Sinners today don't think about God - they try to Forget Him

## B. The world is opposed to God

1. It's hard for people to remember God when the world is putting on such a spectacle all around!
2. The desires of this world are all around us and are appealing
3. I John 2:15 If we love the world we do not love the Father "Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him."

## C. Prosperity Causes men to forget God

1. Deut. 8:11-14 "Beware that you do not forget the LORD your God by not keeping His commandments, His judgments, and His statutes which I command you today, 12 "lest-when you have eaten and are full, and have built beautiful houses and dwell in them; 13 "and when your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and your gold are multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied; 14 "when your heart is lifted up, and you forget the LORD your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage;"
2. How strange that when people prosper they forget God
3. Some who were faithful when they had a small income now have forgotten God since they have more money and possessions
4. I Tim. 6:6-10

### **III. WHY IS IT A SIN TO FORGET GOD?**

- A. Man was created for the glory of God
  1. Eccl. 12:13 "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man."
  2. When man forgets to honor God then the real meaning for his existence has perished
  3. It is sad to see people turn away from those who have helped them
  4. Ingratitude is one of the most sickening sins
  
- B. It will lead to eternal ruin!
  1. Men may forget other things and make up for the mistake
  2. But forgetting God is a mistake that cannot be repaired!
  3. God will remember wicked men and punish them whether they remember Him or not.
  4. Deut. 8:19 "You shall surely perish"

### **IV. WHAT ARE SOME WAYS IN WHICH MEN FORGET GOD?**

- A. When they are unthankful
  1. Rom. 1:21 "Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened."
  2. When men are unthankful they have forgotten God

3. Some forget God at the table
  - a. Some so-called Christian homes do not offer thanks at the table
  - b. Yet Jesus gave thanks before He ate
4. Some do not give of their abundance to further God's work. They forget that God said,
  - a. "Freely ye have received; freely give." Mt. 10:8b
  - b. "Give, and it will be given unto you good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again." Lk.6:38

B. Those who make plans without Him

1. Jas. 4:13-15 "Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit"; 14 whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away. 15 Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that."
2. Some plan their marriages without God
3. Some plan their careers without Him
4. Many plan their vacations and forget God
  - a. They know they will be out of town on the Lord's day
  - b. So they just skip worshipping God.
5. Beware lest thou forget the Lord thy God.

C. Men who forget to read the Bible are forgetting God

1. Men have time to read books, newspapers and magazines
2. They have time to attend ball games, races, and visit relatives but do not have time to remember God by reading His word
3. "Till I come give attendance to reading,..." I Tim.4:13

D. Men forget God when they forget his church

1. Many have obeyed the Gospel become members of the body of Christ but have neglected and forgotten the church
2. They never or seldom attend - they live like the people of the world
3. The church is the Bride of Christ, family of God, household of God, vineyard of the Lord and pillar and ground of the truth
4. In the church is where we have
  - a. The fellowship of the saints
  - b. The presence of God
5. The soul that forgets the church forgets God and soon drifts into all the sins of the world. 2 Pet. 2:20-22

E. When we forget to keep our promises to God

1. Think of all the promises men make to God.
  - a. We promised to live better lives
  - b. We promised to do more for Him

2. The commandment of baptism is a vow made in the name of God
  - a. It is not signed in ink but is signed with men's bodies or lives which they have promised as a "Living sacrifice unto God." Rom. 12:1
  - b. We didn't sign a promissory note, or a deed of trust, or a mortgage.
  - c. But we permitted our entire bodies to be buried in water in the name of the father and of the Son and of the H.S.
  - d. Thus we pledged we would "Rise to walk in Newness of life" Rom.6:4
  - e. Have we defaulted? Have we forgotten God.
3. In times of poverty, suffering, and sorrow men make promises to God.
  - a. If you'll let me prosper I'll give back to you
  - b. If you will spare my life or their life then I'll live better
4. Few keep their promises - they FORGET GOD.

## **CONCLUSION**

1. Ps. 103:2 "Bless the Lord, O my Soul, and forget not all his benefits."
2. Bad memory
  - a. Some people forget all the benefits from God
    - (1) Life
    - (2) Health
    - (3) Family
    - (4) Forgiveness
  - b. Remember the blessings from God
  - c. Then live in such a way to show this gratitude.
3. Remember now thy creator - Eccl. 12:1

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The Gospel in Gotham - B. Coffman P. 181

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Sermon by Arthur Pigman - Sunday Morning June 29, 2008

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