

THE HALF HAS NEVER BEEN TOLD

Int.

1. Aim: To show the great things in the Bible.
2. Text 1 Kings 10:1-9
3. In I Kings 10 we read the account of the Queen of Sheba's visit to Solomon and the praise she gave him. Here is how the Bible describes her reaction to Solomon and all his glory.
 - a. "And when the queen of Sheba had seen all the wisdom of Solomon, the house that he had built, the food on his table, the seating of his servants, the service of his waiters and their apparel, his cupbearers, and his entryway by which he went up to the house of the Lord, there was no more spirit in her. Then she said to the king: It was a true report which I heard in my own land about your words and your wisdom. However I did not believe the words until I came and saw with my own eyes; and indeed **the half was not told me.** Your wisdom and prosperity exceed the fame of which I heard. Happy are your men and happy are these your servants, who stand continually before you and hear your wisdom! Blessed be the Lord your God, who delighted in you, setting you on the throne of Israel! Because the Lord has loved Israel forever, therefore He made you king, to do justice and righteousness."

I Kings 10:4-9 NKJV
 - b. Her reaction was "the half was not told me". You are even greater than I heard.
4. Matt. 12:42 "The queen of the South will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and indeed **a greater than Solomon is here.**"

5. A greater than Solomon - Jesus - He was greater in every way than Solomon.
 - a. If the half had never been told about Solomon then what about Jesus?
 - b. Let us observe some things of which "the half has never been told" about the one who is greater than Solomon.

Discussion

I. THE HALF HAS NEVER BEEN TOLD ABOUT CHRIST'S LOVE

- A. We have heard about the love of Christ.
 1. Gospel preachers have preached about the love of Christ and maybe we have even thought about the love of Christ.
 2. But, the half has never been told about Christ's love.
- B. "To know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God." (Ephesians 3:19.)
 1. Christ's love is a love which passes knowledge. = surpasses
 2. Christ's love to man induced him to give his life's blood for our salvation.
 3. The gift of Christ to man is the measure of God's love; the death of Christ for man is the measure of Christ's love.
 4. All we know is, that His love exceeds far our knowledge of it,
 5. It excels or goes beyond anything we can imagine.
- C. The half has never been told about the Love that Christ has for us.

D. The Bible says, "God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8 NKJV

1. Christ died for us when we were sinners, without God and without hope in the world.
2. What a great love! Finite man will never understand the infinite love of God.
3. We can know something of the love of Christ, but we can never fully comprehended the infinite.
4. The love of God is far too great for man to know it entirely; yet he can know of it and that it is as boundless as God is infinite.
5. Song - The Love of God # 133

E. Truly the half has never been told about the love of Christ.

II. THE HALF HAS NEVER BEEN TOLD ABOUT THE GREAT WORKS OF CHRIST

A. The Bible says, "And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the Books that would be written." (John 21:25.)

1. The miracles of Christ are so many, and so astonishing, that if the whole were to be detailed, the world would not receive the account with proper faith; but enough is recorded that men may believe that Jesus is the Son of God, and that in believing they may have life through his name:
2. It is added to show how little comparatively of the words and works of that wonderful life have been recorded.

3. We know that all Christ's sermons, or miracles, are not recorded in this book, or in any of the other Gospels.
 4. John was concluding the history of our Saviour's life and he affirms that there were many other miracles and special deeds done by Christ, both before and after his death, which he had not recorded or set down; because, should all that Christ did and said be committed to writing, it would even fill the world, the volumes would be so many.
- B. Peter gave this beautiful and powerful description of Jesus in Acts 10:38 "How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him."
1. His miracles were all to help people.
 2. Isa 35:5,6 "Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. 6 Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert"
 3. The main business of Jesus was to travel from place to place to do good.
 - a. He did not go for applause, or wealth, or comfort, or ease, but to spread happiness as far as possible.
 - b. This is the simple record of his life.
 - c. This, in few words, tells us all about the Saviour. It gives us a distinct portrait of his character, as he is distinguished from conquerors and kings, and false prophets, and the mass of men. "He went about doing Good".

- C. In all that Jesus did He did the will of the Father.
1. Doing the will of the Father was Jesus' purpose in coming to the earth. "For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me." (John 6:38.)
 2. May God help us to be as focused as Jesus on doing the will of God.
- D. The half has never been told about the great works of Christ.

III. THE HALF HAS NEVER BEEN TOLD ABOUT CHRIST'S CHURCH

- A. When the subject of the church is approached from the Bible it is very simple.
1. There is no excuse for confusion about the church.
 2. Many think the church is something they can join, or they reason that each should have the "church of his choice."
 3. God gave the church to man just as He wanted it
 4. Why can't man accept His choice?
- B. The church began on the day of Pentecost following Christ's resurrection.
1. As soon as those people were baptized the Lord added them to His church.
Acts 2:36-47 "And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved."
 2. The LORD added all the saved to His one church.
 3. Not a saved man or woman could be found out of the church of Christ.
 4. The church is not a denomination or a physical building it is saved people.
 5. Only the saved and all the saved are added to the church.

6. If a person is not in Christ's church, he is not saved; for all the saved are added to the church.
- C. The church is the blood bought body of Christ - Acts 20:28
- D. The half has never been told about this church.

IV. THE HALF HAS NEVER BEEN TOLD ABOUT THE PEACE OF GOD

- A. In Philipians 4:6-7 we read, "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."
 1. Peace is that inward tranquility and comfort of mind, which will arise from living according to the rules here given, and from a sense of God's favor thereupon. Dr. Wells.
 2. The Apostle promises, not deliverance from calamities, but inward peace and tranquility of mind under them; and that as the effect of constant prayer, and a sense of the Divine favor. Dr. Whitby.
 3. This peace passeth all understanding; it is of a very different nature from all that can arise from human occurrences; it is a peace which Christ has purchased, and which God dispenses.
 4. The peace which God gives. The peace here particularly referred to is that which is felt when we have no anxious care about the supply of our wants, and when we go confidently and commit everything into the hands of God.
 5. "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee," Isa 26:3.

6. "Peace" here means that calm, undisturbed state of mind resulting from the assurance of safety. It can exist in the severest persecution, -- even unto death.

B. Jesus also spoke of peace in John 14:27. He said, "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

C. Real peace comes through Jesus.

1. The world does not give this peace and the world cannot take it from us.
2. Some try to find peace in alcohol or other drugs, material things, immorality or various pleasures of this world.
3. But, peace is not there.
4. True peace comes only when we allow the peace of God to rule our hearts. "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful." (Colossians 3:15.)

D. The peace of God should be the overruling matter in our hearts.

E. The half has never been told about the peace of God.

V. THE HALF HAS NEVER BEEN TOLD ABOUT OUR ETERNAL HOME

A. How beautiful heaven must be."

1. Peter described it in these words, "to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you." (I Peter 1:4.)
2. John's description of Heaven brings hope to the hopeless. He said, "God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." (Revelation 21:4.)
3. The half has never been told about our eternal home. "Do you want to go to that land?"

B. To go to heaven you must be a faithful member of the church.

1. To be saved you must hear the gospel (Romans 10:17),
2. Believe in Jesus (John 8:24),
3. Repent of sins (Acts 17:30-31),
4. Confess Christ as Lord (Romans 10:9-10)
5. And be baptized into Christ (Galatians 3:26-27).
6. After baptism God requires a steadfast life. I Corinthians 15:58 NKJV
 "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

C. The Half has never been told about our eternal home.

CONCLUSION

1. The Queen of Sheba saw the riches and grandeur of Solomon and she was amazed.
 - a. She saw His possessions - the beautiful temple, the house where he lived
 - b. She saw his provisions - the food and all the people who worked for him
 - c. She saw him worship God in the beautiful temple. She saw him make his sacrifices to His God and she was very impressed.
 - d. She had heard about his greatness but could not really understand it until she saw it with her own eyes. When she did see it she could only say, "The half was not told me".
2. A greater than Solomon is here - Jesus - The Half has never been told about:
 - a. His love
 - b. His Great Works
 - c. His Church
 - d. His Peace
 - e. His Home that He has prepared for us.
3. What makes Jesus so great is that He offered Himself as a sacrifice to God for all of us. He gave His life on the cross to redeem all those who will obey Him.
4. If you will obey Him and serve Him you will have a home with Him in heaven.
5. The half has never been told about the joy of serving God.
6. 1 John 4:19 "We love Him because He first loved us."

Sources consulted

Bulletin Article by Charles Box

Commentaries on Verses

Sermon by Arthur Pigman - Sunday Morning Sept. 27, 2009

Evans Church of Christ

515 Gibbs Road

Evans, Ga. 30809

706-855-1249

evanscoc@bellsouth.net

www.evansgachurchofchrist.org