

Introduction- **CHRISTIANITY IS THE ONLY ONE OF THE WORLD'S RELIGIONS THAT BALANCES FAITH AND WORKS**

1. Devotionalistic, starry eyed estheticism, and pious platitudes gives stomach ache-not love.
2. Slavery, bondage, human sacrifice, and etc. are works of religion, but not real service to God
3. Only Christ is faith and works properly wedded to give God the right balance of emotion and motion - and getting right with God always leads to action that is right!

I.- **THE HEARTS OF THE PEOPLE IN EPHESUS WERE STIRRED 10-17**

I preached on this 5/9/65 - 7 months ago, but this is a different sermon! - on heart attitudes

A. **PAUL'S SOJERN IN EPHESUS WAS IMPORTANT * IT LEFT MANY LASTING MARKS**

1. It was during verse 10 that he wrote I and II Corinthians to the church he had just left.
2. Later he wrote back to these the book of Eph., I & Tim II, five books in Bible to or from !
3. One of the Letters to the Churches in Revelations, John was commanded to write to Eph.

B. **GOD GAVE THEM A MIGHTY MOVING OF THE SPIRIT IN THIER HEARTS ***

1. Paul was used of God for many miracles, he stayed long enough to get well acquainted - 2 years
2. There was a clear cut conflict against evil - v. 11, 12 - and God was winning
3. Even the devil got into the act with an amusing incident- counterfeit apostles -v.13-16

C. **THE NAME OF THE LORD WAS MAGNIFIED AND EVERYONE IN TOWN CAME TO KNOW ABOUT IT V. 17**

1. Things were happening- and the word got around throughout the entire town- -good sized
2. People were forced to fear God v.17b - This great need today- respect for God and man!
3. When we leave out the fear of God, we also miss the glory for the Lord.

II.- **THE HANDS OF THE PEOPLE IN EPHESUS DID SOMETHING ABOUT THIER BLESSINGS * 18-20**

Hab 3:19 talks about our feet like Hinds feet- practice following faith- Southwick -3/56

A. **"MANY THAT BELIEVED CAME AND CONFESSED" 18 a Open honesty in confession of Christ-and sin**

1. They openly confessed Christ as saviour- not remaining secret disciples
2. They openly confessed thier sin - they were in a very sinful city - and they admitted acts.
3. Have we heard any confessions- Gossip, pride, jealousy, smoking, drinking, theft, Theater,

B. **"AND SHOWED THIER DEEDS " 18 b - bragging- no! worldly loves, anxiety, murmuring?**

1. I am tired of the defeatist attitude, jealousy, etc- that won't let people show thier deeds!
2. They confessed thier past failures, and stated present deeds- I wasn't witnessing-now-here is
3. I wasn't giving-her's \$\$, I've been jealous of - now ! /a soul!

B. **"BROUGHT THEIR BOOKS TOGETHER AND BURNED THEM * v.19**

1. This was real action- these books of black magic were expensive- this temptation eliminated.
2. Only modern equivalent- for a bootlegger to pour out a year's supply of booze-
3. In a small way- lay cigarets on altar!, An expensive tool of sin- destroyed (TV set?)

Anything that you put ahead of God- Boat, Camper, Car, TV, Stereo, Party Clothing,

III.- **GOD HAS BLESSED US TODAY * BUT WE HAVE RUN OUT OF WAYS TO SHOW IT IN ACTION!**

When God's people become accustomed to God's blessings Rom 1:21- becomes the curse

A. **WE NEED TO HAVE A GOOD CASE OF CONFESSION BLESSING TODAY**

1. Are we so good that we have no sins to confess? self satisfaction would be a good one.
2. Some of you need to confess Christ as saviour- to Join this church, to be baptized
3. If you run out of things to confess around here- go tell the world that you love Jesus!

B. **WE NEED TO HAVE THE FEVER OF SHOWING A FEW DEEDS * NOT BOASTING* BUT MAGNIFYING CHRIST!**

1. Our work days are a farce, visitation is almost nil, Sunday School dead, first works left.
2. Everyone wants everyone else to get the work done- when small teams can do the most!
3. What have you planned to build your S.S. Class, to improve the looks of Church, Ceiling,

C. **WE NEED A LITTLE BOOK BURNING TODAY TOO**

1. When we burn our bridges behind us, there is only one way to go- forward! lawn trim
2. We could certainly start with cigarettes and alcohol- Improper literature, ? ? painting
3. Maybe if we added the TV set we would have time to do the good works part of it.

But whatever it is- if your faith does not lead to action- it is dead - Jas. 2:18-

Perhaps a good start would be the resolve to add the Lord onto your Christmas list!

Concl.

REVIVAL THAT DOES NOT LEAD TO HEALTHY ACTION WILL AUTOMATICALLY LEAD TO SPOILAGE

1. the holy spirit alone can tell you what action you should take-
2. If you lack courage to do right- maybe the Lord can supply you with fear as a stimulus
3. What do you need to DO for your action to catch up with your faith?