

NO ACCEPTABLE EXCUSES FOR SIN

Job 40:10-8

(Not entirely original with me)

Introduction: There are countless people who have been exposed to the Gospel but have rejected it, refused it, have delayed making a decision and sadly in their refusal to become a Christian, their actions and "reasons" for not becoming a Christian almost always point to God as being the reason for their not being saved. It seems to be a natural tendency in human nature to try to pass the blame on to something or someone else and so it is with the matter of being saved.

I. EVERY EXCUSE FOR SIN POINTS TO GOD BEING AT FAULT

1. "Nothing is really a sin if there is a logical, justifiable excuse" is the attitude of many.
2. "God is wrong if He condemns that for which there is a good excuse."
3. "If God condemns all sin and not allow any apology or excuse for it, then God is wrong."
4. In the minds of countless, every excuse for their sin blames God and anybody who tries to excuse his/her sin is charging God with all the blame.

II. EXCUSES FOR SIN THAT PEOPLE USE/MAKE

1. Unable to do what God requires.
 - Does God require natural impossibilities and then pronounce eternal death upon people for not doing what they are unable to do? NEVER
 - There are those who excuse their sinfulness declare that God's words are not true and that His commands are too grievous and impossible to keep.
 - Many say that "no man can obey the law of God."
 - No person can ease his/her own conscience and satisfy him/herself that he/she is unable to keep the law but actually is showing that he/she is the one lying, not God.
2. Don't have enough time.
 - IF God actually requires what one does not have time to do, then He is to blame for God knows how much time each person has.
 - How much time does it take for a person to do his/her first great duty which God requires: "Give Him your heart." How long will this take?
 - God only asks that each person use every moment for Him whether at work or rest and that one's time, talents and strength (which God has given) should do all one can do to serve Him.
 - One says "I am unable." Unable to do what? Do just what one can do and God never requires anything beyond this.
3. It's Adam's fault for his sinful nature has been passed on to everyone.
 - Everyone is born in sin and saturated with it so that it is only natural to sin.
 - People forget whose image they have been made in - not Adam's but God's and in declaring that it is a natural thing to sin, one is putting the blame upon God since God is the creator, not man.
4. Willing to be saved but there is a problem.
 - There is just "something" that won't let a person become a Christian.
 - God requires something that is just naturally impossible.
 - If one's will is right, then all can be right for the state of one's "will" reveals one's true person.

5. Waiting for God's right time.
 - "Ready, willing and waiting, but God is not yet ready for me to stop sinning..His hour has not yet come..."
 - "I am ready, but it's not His time yet..."
6. Peculiar circumstances become excuses.
 - God does not understand "my" circumstance - situation.-
 - There is no situation that God does not demand one to abandon that causes sin.
 - Either abandon the circumstances or lose one's soul.
 - To serve God, one should change the circumstances and certainly repent and serve God in them.
7. One's "make up" is different.
 - One is very nervous, another is sluggish, another is no sensibility, some get too excited, some don't get excited.
 - Afraid one's temperament will create an impossible situation to serve God.
8. Poor health.
 - Does God require one to go to every meeting whether in good health or not?
 - God requires one's HEART.
 - What can one find in all his/her dealings with God that is grievous?
9. Hard heart.
 - No power to want to do right?
 - No concern at all for the subject.
 - Or is it stubbornness of will, self-indulgence that one doesn't want to give up.
 - One's heart is fully set to sin.
10. Wicked heart.
 - So hardened in sin and so wicked that one just will not bow to God.
 - God is the one really responsible for creating that wicked heart.
 - No reason nor excuse other than it is God's fault since He created all things.
11. Deceitful heart.
 - "My heart is so deceitful, I just can't help cheating, etc..." and therefore it is God's fault since God created people in His own image.
12. Already tried to become a Christian.
 - Done all one could, tried often, earnestly and long to become a Christian but failed.
 - The heart is ready, the will is right and ready, have obeyed God a long time, and have tried sincerely to be like a Christian.
 - God says for a person to give Him one's heart but that person asked God to do it Himself and to get God to repent for that person, trying to get God to do everything instead of doing it him/herself.
 - One has to do some things him/herself.
13. It won't do any good to try.
 - God won't forgive if one does repent, may have sinned away one's day of grace.
 - If God is good, then He will forgive. If God is kind and compassionate, then He will love and welcome all who repent into His kingdom.
14. Tried, but Christ won't receive me.
 - No evidence that I have been received me or ever will.
 - ***"...Him that cometh to me, I will in no wise cast out..." "...Behold I stand at the door and knock; if ANY man hear my voice and open the door I will come in to Him..." "Him that cometh unto Me, I will in no wise cast out..." "...He that seeketh, findeth; to him that knocketh it shall be opened..."***
 - To say that one will not be received by Christ is to make Christ a liar.

15. There is no salvation for me.
 - The difficulty is not that there is no salvation provided or offered, but that one does not have the heart for it. *"...For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whomsoever believeth on Him shall have eternal life..."*
16. Cannot change one's own heart.
 - It is not "CANNOT" but will not.
 - One can indeed change his/her heart from being clean to being sinful and therefore one can indeed change his/her heart from being sinful to being clean and holy.
 - Changing one's heart is a voluntary thing and each person must and can do it or it is never done.
17. Need more conviction to change the heart.
 - Not enough knowledge of one's duty and his/her sin?
 - One can indeed do that which he/she knows he/she ought to do.
 - Need God to convict more to make it possible for one to repent.
 - It is God's responsibility to convict enough to make a person repent.
18. Need more of the Holy Spirit.
 - This is a person trying to make it appear that God does not do His part in helping one repent and that one can't repent without God's help, therefore if there's not enough of the Holy Spirit, then it is God's fault.
19. It is God who must change one's heart.
 - God cannot change a person's heart as each person is free to make his/her own decisions.
 - God can only try to persuade a person to change his/her heart.
 - "Wait for God, He will change one's heart in His own good time for you can't do it yourself, and all that one can do is to put him/herself in God's way for Him to change the heart and when the time is right, God will give one a new heart."
20. Unable to live the Christian life.
 - No use to repent and be a Christian because so many Christians fall and I can't do any better than they do.
 - Humble, have a low opinion of one's self, recognize God's honor but afraid that one might bring disgrace upon God's cause so it seems best not to think of becoming a Christian and bring dishonor upon them and God.
 - One fails to recognize that God's grace is enough to sustain every person living a Christian life.
 - God is not so weak that He can't take care of those who entrust themselves to Him.
21. Don't understand faith and regeneration stuff.
 - It is easy enough to understand that every person is a sinner and that Jesus Christ died for every sinner and that by believing on Him and repenting of one's sins, one becomes a Christian.
 - To use this as an excuse is to claim that it is God's fault because He has made things too hard.
22. Unable to believe.
 - It is saying that God asks one to believe things that are really incredible, things so foreign to reason that one cannot admit them on any testimony which even God Himself gives.
 - One knows that God's Word is the truth but just can't grasp that God does forgive, that salvation is within reach.
 - Maybe later but just cannot make up the mind right now, maybe I'll understand enough later to be able to believe.

III. ALL EXCUSES FOR SIN ONLY ADD INSULT TO GOD

1. Any excuse for wrong only adds insult to the damage already done and adds to the penalty of the wrong/sin committed.

2. Any person honestly, sincerely confessing his/her guilt/sins will receive leniency from God but any person who tries to excuse, dodge, lie, blame someone else for his/her sins will receive the strongest penalty.
3. Adam and Eve sinned and they hid themselves from God and when confronted with their sin, they made excuses - Adam blamed Eve, Eve blamed the serpent and so it has been like this from that day on. Everyone blames something or someone else for their wrongs/sins.
 - What patience God has.

CONCLUSION:

1. Every sinner always has some excuse by which he/she tries to justify him/herself.
 - Every wrong done by every person is either confessed or justified.
 - It is convenient to have a great variety of excuses for wrong doings.
 - The Church is to help point out the sinner's excuses and to help lay open the sinner's heart to the truth.
2. Excuses cause repentance to be impossible.
 - To try to justify sin is far away from repentance.
 - It is impossible for God to forgive the sinner when he/she tries to excuse his/her sins.
 - What would heaven, hell and the earth say if God were to forgive a sinner who tries to justify him/herself of sin by excuses?
3. All excuses for sin should be laid out before God.
 - How can a person hope to stand before God on judgment day with a list of excuses for his/her sins?
 - To never make an excuse to God for one's sins shows that one does not have any confidence in his/her excuses at all.
4. Sinners coming to God for forgiveness don't need excuses.
 - Salvation does not depend upon a person's own abilities and it certainly is not deserved.
 - Excuses for sin are but obstacles in the way of Christian living.
5. Christians ought to be ashamed of their excuses and repent of them.
 - Nothing can be more grievous in the sight of God than for one to make excuses that are empty and false.
6. Is there any good, acceptable excuse for not obeying God?
7. Christian, there is no need to make excuses for your sin. Non Christians, there are no acceptable excuses before God for you to not become a Christian.