

PEOPLE ARE HESITANT ABOUT THE THINGS OF GOD

Hosea 5:4

Introduction: Every pastor has encountered church members who, when asked to serve on a committee, or teach a class, or do something for the church family, tell him that they can't, don't know how, don't have the time, get somebody else, and if nobody else can be found, then just "maybe" he/she might try it for a while. There is a hesitancy to get involved with Godly matters/things, even among Church members although there would be no doubt that they couldn't do what was being asked. Why are people so hesitant about the things of God?

I. THE EXTENT OF PEOPLE'S HESITANCY ABOUT THE THINGS OF GOD

1. To not get involved in Godly things is to be inconsiderate.
 - People take care of family matters, business matters, and friendships with no problems at all.
 - There is just no acceptable excuse for neglecting the things of God, no matter who a person is.
 - People don't want to know that they are apart from God and they don't want to know where they "stand" before God.
 - People find it more comfortable and satisfying to rest in the assumption that "all is well" between them and God, so let "well enough" alone.
2. To get involved in things of God would mean stop doing some favorite things that are really sinful.
 - Everybody who gets involved in Godly matters has to give up some worldly ways and sometimes that is very difficult and actually beyond the ability of a person not saved.
 - It is true that many who are not Christians abstain from many sinful practices that others do but do not want to be "required" to do so by being involved in the things of God.
3. It is human nature to be sinful and it is not human nature to avoid sin, therefore to be involved in the things of God in a sense violates the Old Sinful, Human nature.
 - Some see the wisdom in avoiding temptation yet they see nothing wrong with avoiding being involved in the things of God.
4. People who are hesitant to become involved in the things of God do not see the eternal benefits.
 - They cannot know the helpfulness of prayer, communicating with God.
 - They cannot know how the Bible is the Book above all Books even though they may read all kinds of literature/books for any book is more satisfying than the Bible.
 - They will do anything, go to any means to seek worldly advancement, but the slightest effort to be exerted in the things of God is just too much and will be avoided.
5. People who are hesitant about the things of God not only do not think about becoming involved in the things of God, they just will not.
 - They are not interested in the promises of God or any threatening, or alarms.
 - They are deaf to the voice of their conscience and the pull of God's Holy Spirit.

- *"...As for the word that thou has spoken unto us in the name of the Lord, we will not harken unto thee. But we will do whatsoever thing goeth forth out of our own mouth, to burn incense unto the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto her, as we have done, we and our fathers, our kings, and our princes, in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem, for then had we plenty of victuals, and were well, and saw no evil..." (Jeremiah 44:17-18)*
- Many do all they can to be as far as possible from God.

II. MAIN CAUSES OF HESITANCY TO BE INVOLVED IN THE THINGS OF GOD

1. People love their sin more than any interest in the things of God.
 - "Whoredom" is a word the Bible uses for sin which takes one away from God.
 - A "spirit of whoredom" is an attachment to sin and a delight in it.
 - In renouncing the things of God, people feed their corrupt nature of sin.
2. People are ignorant of God.
 - Human nature is that which focuses on worldly matters and not upon Godly things.
 - It is normal for people to not know anything about God and any ideas they might have of God are far from true and full of errors and falseness.

CONCLUSION:

1. Those who perish at the last day will bring on their condemnation to their own souls.
 - Nobody is able to do for him/herself what is required but there are countless things that every person could do (involved in the things of God) which he/she neglects/refuses to do.
2. If a person would fully turn to God, then his/her heart must be renewed and his/her mind enlightened with the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - Instead of being saturated with the spirit of "whoredom," one would pray to be led by the Holy Spirit of God.
 - Instead of remaining in "darkness" one would seek to have the Lord Jesus revealed in him/her.
3. It is human nature to not want to be involved in Godly things. It is doubly sad that many Christians have that same attitude.