

SAD WORDS FROM JESUS

John 5:40

(Not entirely original with me)

Introduction: Jesus came from heaven to earth to bring life to people and He went up and down preaching and teaching that everlasting life could be had by simply coming to Him, but people just would not come. With an aching heart and disappointment, Jesus said to those around Him, "...*Ye will not come to Me, that ye might have life...*" Sadly, it is still the same today. People just will not come to Jesus.

I. WHY ARE PEOPLE "LOST?"

1. No person is lost because he/she needs to be.
 - God has provided and offers salvation to every person through His Son, Jesus Christ.
 - No person is lost because of any decree of God.
 - It is the expressed will of God that all people should be saved and He doesn't want any person to perish.
2. No person is lost because he/she has gotten so deep in sin that he/she deserves to be lost.
 - Jesus came into the world to save sinners, even the worst of sinners and He can do it.
 - No person is lost because they are too deep in sin for Jesus to save him/her.
 - People are lost because they will not come to the only one who has the power to save them from their sins and that is the Lord Jesus Christ.
3. No person is lost because he/she is just too weak to live the Christian life.
 - Everybody is too weak to lead a true, genuine Christian life by their own strength.
 - Jesus enables those who believe in Him to live that Christian life by HIS strength.
 - People are lost because they just will not come to Jesus.

II. WHY DON'T PEOPLE COME TO THE LORD JESUS?

1. People don't come to Jesus for salvation because of sin.
 - Many know they need Jesus, want to have Jesus in their life but know that they would have to give up some of their favorite sins.
 - A person has to choose between Jesus and his/her sins.
 - Countless know how to be saved and have thought about it, but just don't want to give up their sins.
2. The love of money keeps many from coming to the Lord Jesus.
 - There was a young man who came to Jesus and asked what he must do to be saved and when Jesus told him to go sell what he had and give it away, the young man sadly went away.
 - Those who refuse to come to Jesus because of money are choosing eternal death over Jesus.
 - How sad it is for people to deliberately choose money, position, salary in the place of Jesus Christ and eternal life.
3. The love of things of pleasure keeps many from coming to the Lord Jesus.
 - Knowing that one must give up certain enjoyable pleasures of his/her life causes some to refuse to come to the Lord for they love that "questionable" pleasure too much.
 - "If I must choose between Jesus and I will keepand let Jesus go."
 - One rejects Jesus rather than give up that worldly pleasure.
4. The fear of losing "friends" keeps some from coming to Jesus.
 - The thought of having to back away from some "friends" and their sinful ways if one comes to Jesus causes many to reject Jesus.
 - "...*The fear of man bringeth a snare...*"
 - Showing people the Christian life with Jesus and it will get their attention.

5. Some people have an unforgiving spirit and that keeps them from coming to Jesus.
 - People choose bitterness, hatred and even death instead of Jesus and eternal life.
 - Having to forgive others is something some people just don't want to do.
 - People just don't realize that even though they may have been wronged by others, nobody has been wronged as much as Jesus and by those very ones who refuse to come to Him.
6. The self-will/ego of many keeps them from coming to Jesus and receiving eternal life.
 - So many are determined to have their own way and refuse to yield to anybody, not even God.
 - It is so foolish for people to not surrender their wills to God and His great love.
 - They need to consider just WHO God is that they are being asked to surrender to.
7. One of the greatest things that keep people from coming to the Lord is their pride.
 - Many have led moral and respectable lives but are unwilling to admit that they are lost sinners and need to come to Jesus.
 - There were two men praying in the temple one day, a Pharisee (moral, upright, prominent citizen) and a Publican (outcast, despised) and the Pharisee prayed, bragging on his merits and such and the Publican simply cried out to God to be merciful to him, not even lifting his eyes upward. It was the Publican that got God's attention.
 - Some people are just not willing to throw aside their pride and admit they need the Lord.
 - Pride also keeps some people from doing some things they are asked to do, having the attitude that they don't have to do/be as others in Godly matters.

CONCLUSION:

1. There is only ONE way to be at peace with God and it is GOD'S WAY!
2. God's way to being at peace with Him is through His Son, Jesus Christ.
3. Jesus is the "way, the truth, and NOBODY comes to the Father except through Him.
4. There is no human merit that will enable a person to be accepted by God.
5. To become a Christian requires some changes in one's life-style.
6. Are YOU a Christian? If NOT, then WHY not? There is absolutely NO acceptable reason with God as to any person NOT coming to Jesus for salvation and eternal life.