

## MAN'S SEARCH

### Matthew 6:27-33

**Introduction:** In the life of every person burns a deep thirst for God. When God made man, He instilled several natural instincts and searching for God was one of them. The search started when you were born, although you were not aware of it for several years. Later you found that there was something missing, an empty place and this was the place for God.

As you looked about you wondered if anyone else was seeking for this "something" too. You see some who have happy marriages, some better off financially than you, some have fame, and surely you say, that they are not searching for they have filled every need. But NO, they are searching too. Everyone is searching and this makes us an anxious people. Searching but we don't know what for.

Each generation has thought that they have found the solution, each has said, "this is the path to follow." For generations we have been running around in circles, up one blind alley and down another, always returning empty handed.

### I. MAN HAS GONE DOWN THE PATH OF POLITICAL FREEDOM

1. Man has said, "give us political freedom and the world will be a happier place." Well, our country has political freedom, but still not happiness.
2. Just notice the news. It is filled with corruption in our political offices, favoritism, hypocrisy equal to that of the Old Testament kings the Bible speaks of.
3. Political freedom is precious, but it cannot fill that void in our lives.

### II. MAN HAS GONE DOWN THE PATH OF EDUCATION

1. Surely education and political freedom will be what we need. So we have rushed headlong down this path. All kinds of education institutions and educational programs are around.
2. Hundreds of millions of dollars are spent each year to provide education for our people
3. Our country is one of the most informed people in history.
4. Our heads are crammed with knowledge but still our hearts have that empty place.

### III. MAN HAS GONE DOWN THE PATH OF HIGHER STANDARDS OF LIVING

1. Surely our age of automation will fill that emptiness in our lives.
2. This path leads past colorful advertisements, past rows and rows of shining new cars, past rows of modern appliances, automatic this and that, instant this and that, yes, this has to be it. Even our pre-school children have cell phones. This has to fill that emptiness.

3. Look around at our country. America is the greatest country in the world, political freedom, greatest education system, highest living standards in the world. Every one in the world wants to come to America and experience it's greatness. Yet, there is still an emptiness in the lives of the American people.
4. We feel proud of our country's accomplishments as we can cross the oceans in just a few hours instead of months as in times past. We can put men on the moon, orbit in space a crew of several for months on end. We have made miracle drugs which have erased hundreds of dread diseases, erected buildings which would make the Old Testament Tower of Babel look like an anthill. Has all this fill that empty place in the hearts of the American people?  
NO!

#### **IV. MAN HAS GONE DOWN MANY OTHER PATHS**

1. Man has sought fame and fortune.
2. Man has sought power and pleasure.
3. Each path has led man only downward and the sand in man's hourglass is quickly running out.
4. Look at the increased suicides, especially among the youth of our country.
5. Just where is our nation? We are a nation of empty people. Heads are crammed full of knowledge, but deep within our hearts there is a spiritual vacuum, an emptiness.

#### **V. MAN HAS GONE ABOUT AS FAR AS POSSIBLE ON HIS/HER OWN**

1. What is wrong with our youth?
2. The American youth are empty on the inside. Educated, yes, but they don't know where they came from, why they're here, or where they are going. They have no dreams or goals.
3. Our country has the highest rate of boredom of any nation on earth.
  - We have artificial amusements.
  - We cannot entertain ourselves, we have to have t.v. and electronic games.
  - We hire someone to make us laugh and cover up that lonely feeling inside.
4. Where there is boredom, there is a vacuum.
  - Sin cannot find a place in the heart of a person where the Holy Spirit of God has filled it.
5. Boredom causes increased crime, causes youth to do drugs, do sex, steal, even kill.
  - We are a nation of bored people.
6. With all the progress our nation has made, the problem is still there. High buildings, super fast airplanes, bridges miles long, but still we cannot live with each other.

7. We have beautiful schools of art and music, discover new and better medicines, yet the same troubles are still there.

## **VI. THE SIN PROBLEM HAS REMAINED UNCHANGED**

1. We try to dress sin up, even call it by other names, put new labels on it, try to paint the old barn to make it look better. Sin is now "errors" or "mistakes" or just "expressions" of pent up feelings. Still we are sinners and the result of sin is still disease, disappointments, disillusionment, despair and eventually death and Hell.

## **VII. SORROW REMAINS UNCHANGED**

1. When Adam and Eve looked down at the broken and bleeding body of their son, Abel, they knew sorrow. Nothing has changed today. Who has not experienced sorrow as he/she looked at the body of a friend or loved one? Sorrow can be said to be the universal language of all humanity.

## **VIII. DEATH IS STILL THE SAME**

1. We have tried everything to even change death.
2. Death is now "sleeping."
3. We don't have "undertakers" anymore, but we have "morticians."
4. Instead of coffins, we say "caskets."
5. We don't have "funeral parlors" anymore, we have funeral "chapels."
6. Instead of "cemeteries" we now have "memorial parks."
7. Regardless of what we call it today, no matter how we dress it up, it is still hard, cold, cruel, real DEATH.

## **CONCLUSION:**

1. From the very beginning every generation has tried to fill the place in their hearts that belonged to God with their own inventions, but always failed.
2. No matter what we change the name to, it is still sin and death.
3. There is peace, relief, hope, and a bright, sure future for all who will listen to God instead of other people and put their entire existence into the hands of God through believing in God's Son, Jesus Christ. America, God can give us all we have been searching for.