

The Road of Righteousness

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Introduction

1. 2 Peter 2:20-21
2. Our text says there is a way of righteousness, this is a course of life that is to be followed Matthew 7:13-14
3. Righteous can be used in one of two ways
 - a. Sometime refers to an act of God whereby He pardons, forgives and justifies people who obey the Gospel of Christ Romans 1:16-17
 - i. This Gospel reveals God's plan for making man righteous
 - ii. God makes men righteous by forgiving them
 - b. It is also used to designate a way of life, or right doing as declared by God
 - i. To be righteous means one obeys God's commands Psalm 119:172
 - ii. Righteousness must be worked Acts 10:34-35; 1 John 3:7
4. In 2 Peter the terms righteousness and its antitheses unrighteousness is used
 - a. Noah was a preacher of righteousness 2 Peter 2:5
 - b. Lot was a righteous man 2 Peter 2:8
 - c. Balaam loved the wages of unrighteousness 2 Peter 2:15
 - d. Some turned from the way of righteousness 2 Peter 2:21
 - e. Righteousness shall dwell in the new heaven and new earth 2 Peter 3:13
5. How can one know the way of righteousness in the midst of a world that is filled with error, lust, and deceit, or unrighteousness?
6. Let look at the signs on the road of righteousness

II Discussion

- 1) The sign of authority 2 Peter 2:21 holy commandment
 - a) Righteousness (right doing) is not determined by:
 - i) The situation not situation ethics either
 - ii) Feelings Proverbs 14:12
 - iii) The doctrines of men Matthew 15:8-9
 - b) Right and wrong is determined by God
 - c) Morality or ethics is based upon authority
 - i) Adultery is a work of the flesh, while there are those whose eyes are full of adultery 2Peter 2:14; Galatians 5:19-20
 - ii) Murder, drunkenness are declared by God to be sinful practices 1 Corinthians 6:9-11
 - d) Authority belongs to Christ Matthew 28:18
 - i) His Word declares that a things is sin
 - ii) The life of a Christians is directed by Christ Colossians 3:17
- 2) The sign of knowledge 2 Peter 2:20-21
 - a) Some do not know the way of God but think they do Romans 10:1-3
 - i) These folks are religious and zealous for their own religion
 - ii) Paul emphasis the religion and zeal are not substitutes for knowing God's truth

- b) To live righteously one must follow God's truth not:
 - i) Subjective thinking
 - ii) Emotionalism
 - iii) Human testimony or opinion
- c) The Scriptures furnish use to every good work 2 Timothy 3:16-17. Therefore:
 - i) Personal study is necessary Psalm 119:105
 - ii) Bible classes are important Hebrews 5:12-16
 - iii) Sound preaching is essential 2 Timothy 4:1-4
- 3) The Sign of Conversion 2 Peter 2:20-21 escaped
 - a) Conversion means a turning from one things to something else
 - i) Paul turning the Gentiles from darkness to light Acts 26:18
 - ii) Luke calls this the conversion of the Gentiles Acts 15:3
 - iii) The Thessalonians turned from idols to the living God 1 Thessalonians 1:9-10
 - b) Conversion is necessary to be saved Matthew 18:3; Acts 3:19
 - c) Christ died that we might be delivered from this present evil world Galatians 1:4
 - i) The corruption of this world 2 Peter 1:4; 2:20
- 4) The Sign of consecration 2 Peter 2:20
 - a) Some had become entangled and overcome
 - b) God's people are admonished to keep themselves unspotted from the world James 1:27
 - c) Saints are warned of the danger of becoming friends of the world James 4:4
 - d) We are cautioned to not conform to the world but transformed Romans 12:1-2
 - e) Righteous people do not practice unrighteousness 1 Corinthians 6:9-11
- 5) The Sign of diligence 2 Peter 1:5, 10
 - a) Diligence means to be eager to do your best
 - b) The road of righteousness demands a determined effort
 - c) God's people are to be diligent to add the Christians graces 2 Peter 1:5-7
 - d) God's people are to be diligent in making their calling and election sure 2 Peter 1:10
- 6) The Sign of Steadfastness 2 Peter 3:17
 - a) The danger of falling or failing is real 1 Corinthians 10:12
 - b) The need for steadfastness is real because:
 - i) Evil men will teach lustful living 2 Peter 2:18
 - ii) The servants of Satan will present subtle arguments 2 Peter 2:19
 - iii) Sensual men can creep in among the saints 2 Peter 2:13
 - c) Paul urged God people to be steadfast in the work and word of the Lord 1 Corinthians 15:58

III Conclusion

- 1) One can be righteous in an unrighteous world
 - a) Noah, Lot
- 2) Some try to give excuses as to why they can't become a Christian
 - a) Home is too wicked
 - b) Work is wicked
- 3) Righteousness shall dwell in the new heaven and new earth 2 Peter 3:10-13

- 4) If one expects to dwell in the new heaven and earth he must travel the road that leads to the way of righteousness

Source: MSOP 2024 lecture, Wikipedia, The Key of Knowledge sermon outlines from 2 Peter by Tom Holland