

The Challenge of Righteousness

Keith Dixon
June 2, 2024
Gray

Introduction

1. Titus 2:11-12
2. "Righteousness exalteth a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people." Proverbs 14:34
3. Righteous living is not without its challenge and price.
4. We need to consider the challenge so that we will pay the price.
 - a. Some are not willing to undergo the challenge
 - b. Some are not willing to pay the price
 - c. But the challenge and the price are but small when the reward is considered
5. Let us consider the challenge and the price

II Discussion

1. The Challenge of living a righteous life
 - a. A challenge requires courage
 1. Joshua was encourage to be courageous Joshua 1:6,7,9
 2. Joab encourages Abishai his brother to be of good courage 1 Chronicles 19:10-15
 3. Christians are encourage to be courageous 1 Corinthians 16:13; Ephesians 6:10; 2 Timothy 2:1; Philippians 1:27-28
 - b. A challenge requires goals
 1. Increased Bible knowledge 2 Timothy 2:15; Acts 17:11
 2. Increased strength to resist temptation James 1:12-15; Matthew 4:1-11; James 4:7-8
 3. Increase in giving of our means 2 Corinthians 8:1-5; 9:6-7
 4. Developing new talents Matthew 25:14-30; Romans 12:3-8
 5. Walking in the Light 1 John 1:7
 6. But we sin if we stagnate in Christian growth Hebrews 5:12-14
2. The Cost of living a righteous life
 - a. Christ has called us to live such a life 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1; Matthew 11:28-30; 23:1-12; 6:1-15
 - b. Are we willing to pay the price? Luke 14:25-33; 8:11-15
 - c. It is the price of self-sacrifice Philippians 3:8

III Conclusion

1. Living a righteous life may bring us into unpleasant circumstance Job 13:15
2. Yet the rewards at the end of life and in the next world will be worth all
3. Are you willing to accept the challenge?
4. Are you willing to pay the price?
5. If you are and want to get started then now is the time
6. If you have but have shirked on the cost then come back

- 1) Source: Denton Lecture 1992 Studies in Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther page300-301; Thompson chain reference Bible