

1. Readings

- a) Lev. 4:1-13
- b) Num. 10:29

2. Introduction

- a) The word “Journey”, and associates is mentioned in over 90 verses, but they do not always refer to the same sort of journey:
 - i) Geographic journeys, Abraham (Gen. 12:1)
 - ii) Physical journeys (Ecc. 12:1-7)
 - iii) Spiritual journey (Lev. 4:1-13)
- b) Our subject that of a man getting right with God
- c) The O T picture of the man going to the temple to offer a sacrifice because he had sinned
 - i) The narrative of a man, lets call him priest Zecharias (Lev. 4)
 - ii) Why did God tell us about this man’s journey?
 - iii) Because it was a little living object lesson of a spiritual journey we need to make in life if we are ever going to be in fellowship with God

3) The Spiritual Counterpart and The Lessons

- a) A man who was a priest, thus a religious man, but he had sinned
 - i) **1st Observation - The man had sinned**
 - 1. What is sin?
 - (a) Sin is the transgression of the law, explain transgression, use an illustration, taking time to explain it.
 - (b) The impossibility of keeping the law, listen to its absolutes in (Ex. 20:1-17)
 - (i) Thou shalt not bear false witness, tell lies
 - (ii) Thou shalt not take the name of God in vain, blasphemy
 - (iii) Thou shalt not make an image representing God
 - (iv) Thou shalt not covet
 - (c) Only one man ever lived and never broke God’s law and that was the Lord
 - (i) Listen to His words
 - (1) “Which of you convinceth me of sin” (Jn. 8:46)
 - (2) “I do always those things which please the Father” (Jn. 8:29)
 - (ii) Listen to the words of God
 - (1) “My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased” (Matt. 3:17)
 - (2) “Behold my Servant . . . in whom my soul delighteth” (Isa. 42:1)
 - (d) But this ancient man, priest Zecharias, had sinned, broken God’s law
 - ii) **2nd Observation**
 - 1. There were other religious men who took a journey to get right with God
 - (a) The Pharisee, who never got right with God (Lk. 18:9-12)
 - (b) The Publican, he did get right with God (Lk. 18:13-14)
 - (c) Saul, a man on a geographical journey but did not know that on it he would get right with God (Acts 9:6)
 - (d) The Eunuch, had gone on a journey to get right with God but he sought a place and found it empty, but did find God by the reading of the scriptures and an evangelist (Acts 8:26-37)
 - (e) Cornelius, sought to get right with God by good works but they were insufficient (Acts 10:31, 34-44)
 - 2. This man knew that something was wrong, there was a distance between him and God
 - (a) Cp. Adam and Eve, and they tried to hide themselves, AFTER having tried to hide their nakedness (Gen. 3:7; 9)
 - (b) Why do people go to church, say prayers, etc? They are trying to make themselves right with God!
 - (c) What is God’s commentary on their sincere endeavors?

- (i) "There is none that doeth good, no, not one" (Psa. 14:1; Rom. 3:12)
- (ii) Illustration. I was working on my car, my hands all oily and greasy, filthy and I offered to fold the washing. My wife said No. But my intentions were good. No matter how good my intentions, it would not be allowed.
- (iii) So spiritually, my hands, etc., are dirty with sin and therefore could not do something pleasing to God.

- 3. This man was conscious of his personal sin.
 - (a) He had to face the same decisions as every one who begins the journey to God.
 - (i) I am condemned, the axe is already laid to the root of the tree (Matt. 3:10)
 - (ii) I am condemned already (Jn. 3:18)
 - (b) Whether he had sinned unwittingly or not was irreverent. Illustration. In the USA and Canada, at a stop light you stop and if the road is clear a turn can be made. I did the same in the UK and was pulled over by the police because the law does not allow that. Unwittingly I had broken the law. Was I still guilty?
 - (c) How much more serious when we sin in full consciousness.

iii) 3rd Observation was this man:

- 1. Could do nothing to be clean from his sin
- 2. The lad in Ex. 12:12 was under the sentence of death because of birth not because of his works, therefore no works could nullify what he was by birth.
- 3. He was incapable of doing anything.
- 4. What a lesson for an individual to realize.

iv) 4th Observation - Having made those decisions he now begins the journey

- 1. He takes an unblemished animal and sacrifices it
- 2. Touching the blood he feels the cost of sin
- 3. Standing at the brazen altar, which prefigures Calvary
- 4. I now stand at Calvary and see the spotless Son of God suffering for my sin
- 5. I begin to wonder: "He died for me"; "He swapped places for me"; "He took my Hell for me"

v) The Decision - Will I accept him as Saviour or not?

- 1. I can walk out forgiven, all my sins gone forever, or rejecting God's offer know that He may never call again.
- 2. What is your decision?

O come sinner come, O why do you delay?
The gracious invitation is that you should come today
Tomorrow has no promise that it can give to you
Tomorrow is eternity just hidden from your view.

Then come sinner come, salvation's free for all
It may be the last time you'll ever hear the call.

**May God grant us good understanding as He, by His Holy Spirit, deigns to guide us into all truth.
John 16:13**

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