GREAT BLUNDERS MEN MAKE

INTRODUCTION:

1. BLUNDER: "To make a serious error, or commit fault through ignorance, stupidity, overconfidence, or confusion.

2. Human beings make many BLUNDERS.

3. Let us study some of our GREAT BLUNDERS.

I. ONE GREAT BLUNDER OF MAN IS TO PLACE MATERIAL PROSPERITY ABOVE SPIRITUAL PROSPERITY.

   1. III John 1 - 2

   2. Too many put more emphasis upon the material than they do upon the spiritual.

   3. Jesus teaches us to seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness -- Matt. 6:33

   4. How many of us put the kingdom first:
      
      (1) In our THINKING
          
          A. Paul -- Col. 3: 1 - 2
      
      (2) In our PLANNING
      
      (3) In our WORK

   5. Too many times we think too much of

      (1) Our jobs
      
      (2) Our Business
      
      (3) Our Social Standing -- John 12: 42 - 43

      (4) And other things of this life

   6. Too often we fail to put the spiritual first in our families

      (1) Lot made this blunder; he was thinking of pasture land, not environment -- Gen. 13: 8 - 13

      (2) Many today are not careful in the choice of companions

   7. While we are striving after the things of this world, we may so neglect our salvation that we shall be damned -- Heb. 2: 1 - 2; I Tim. 6: 6 - 8

II. A GREAT BLUNDER IS THE SIN OF PRESUMPTION

   1. Nadab and Abihu offered strange fire before the Lord -- Lev. 10: 1 - 2

   2. David said, "Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sin" -- Psa. 19:13
3. Folks of our day will make "strange" offerings before the Lord.

4. The Lord said that we are to be buried by baptism -- Rom. 6: 3 - 4; Col. 2:12; Heb. 10:22
   (1) Men will say that sprinkling and pouring will do.
   (2) This is presumption.

5. God says the proper subject for baptism is a penitent believer -- Acts 2:38
   (1) Men will "baptize" (sprinkle) babies.
   (2) This is nothing but presumption.

6. God says the music of the church is to be vocal -- Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16
   (1) Men presume that some instrumental music with the vocal is alright.
   (2) This blunder will send many to a devil's hell.

7. Men presume about the work of the church today.
   (1) Some presume that it is alright for the church to furnish recreation for the young people.
   (2) Some presume that it can support human institutions.

III. OTHERS MAKE THE BLUNDER OF PARTIAL OBEDIENCE
   1. They are like King Saul -- I Sam. 15: 3, 9
   2. God said he did not obey His voice -- I Sam. 15: 23
   3. Jesus rebuked the Jews for partial obedience -- Matt. 23:23
   4. Many today make this same blunder -- James 2:10
      (1) A member of the church does everything but give.
      (2) Members who won't attend all the services.

IV. ANOTHER BLUNDER TOO MANY CHURCH MEMBERS ARE MAKING IS TO LOOK BACK AT THE THINGS OF THE WORLD.
   1. Jesus said, "No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God"...Lk. 9:62
   2. Christians are in the world, but not of the world -- John 15: 18 - 19; 17:16
   3. The church and the world have nothing in common -- II Cor. 6:17; James 4:4; II John 2: 15 - 17

V. MANY HEAR THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST AND BLUNDER LIKE FELIX--Acts 24: 24 - 25
   1. Many postpone their obedience and die before they get around to it -- John 8:21
   2. Felix was wicked and Paul knew this; he preached to him the very thing he needed to hear -- Acts 24:25
3. Felix waited for a convenient season -- it never came -- what a BLUNDER.

VI. MANY MAKE THE BLUNDER OF REJECTING CHRIST AS THE JEWS DID -- John 1:11

1. No greater blunder could be made.
2. Christ came to save man -- Matt. 1:21; Lk. 19:10
3. Only in the name of Christ is Salvation -- Acts 4:12

CONCLUSION

~Donald Townsley