

# MAKE HASTE AND DELAY NOT TO KEEP GOD'S COMMANDMENTS

## Psa. 119: 59 - 60

Sermon by Donald Townsley

### INTRODUCTION

1. One of the beauties of God's Word is its ability to say so much in such a few words.
2. Man never masters the depth of God's Word.
3. Many sermons can be preached on a very brief passage of scripture.
4. Let us take a close look at our text and our lives will be enriched by its great truths.

### I. "I THOUGHT ON MY WAYS"

1. The Psalmist said, "*I thought*".
2. Too few people do their own thinking.
  - (1) We are told 80% never really think; 5% really do think; 10% think they think; and 5% had rather die than think.
3. Because of this, the "FEW" have always ruled the "MANY" because the "FEW" do the thinking.
4. We see this manifested in the church.
  - (1) We see the masses blindly following a few preachers.
  - (2) Many brethren never go to the Bible and study for themselves.
  - (3) They find it simpler to take what someone else says about it.
5. Spiritual nobility is predicated upon our studying and thinking for ourselves -- Acts 17:11
6. I attribute much of the current apostasy to a failure of brethren to do their own studying and thinking.
7. David said, "*I THOUGHT*", and we must think, but we must be sure that our thinking is in harmony with God's will.
  - (1) CAIN thought just anything would be alright in service to God -- he pitted his thoughts against God's thoughts-- Gen. 4: 3 - 5; Heb. 11:4
  - (2) NAAMAN is a good example of this -- 2 Kings 5: 10 - 11
  - (3) JONAH thought he could run away to hide from God -- Jonah 1
  - (4) PETER thought it would be fine to build three tabernacles -- Matt. 17:4
  - (5) PAUL said he "*thought*" -- Acts 26:9
  - (6) Jer. 10: 23; Prov. 16:25
8. Other passages that show our thinking must be controlled -- 2 Cor. 10:3 - 5; Phil. 4:8
9. We must exercise mental discipline.
  - (1) We must turn our thoughts away from the vulgar, vain, and evil things.
  - (2) It seems odd that the mind of man would feed on the rotten rather than the wholesome.
10. Members of the Lord's church many times fail to exercise mental discipline -- Matt. 5: 28 - 30
  - (1) We spend too much time on the sins of others.
  - (2) And, not enough time examining ourselves -- 2 Cor. 13:5; Matt. 7: 1 - 5

### II. "AND TURNED MY FEET UNTO THY TESTIMONIES"

1. David "*TURNED*".
2. Some are too stubborn to turn.
  - (1) Some refuse to be informed about the matter of salvation.
3. Many members of the church do not turn to the testimonies of God to be informed.

- (1) They let their emotions and ignorance lead them to complete apostasy.
4. If we will think on our ways, we will see wherein we fall short and realize the need of turning.
5. We cannot turn to the IDEAS, THEORIES, AND DOGMAS OF MEN.
  - (1) David said, "*And turned my feet unto thy testimonies*"
6. Where do we find the testimony of God?
  - (1) The Scriptures -- John 5:39; Rom. 16: 25 - 26
  - (2) To turn "*thy testimonies*" means that we must turn to the Scriptures.
  - (3) What the scriptures do for man -- Psa. 119:105; 119: 130; 2 Tim. 3: 16 - 17

### III. "*I MADE HASTE AND DELAYED NOT TO KEEP THY COMMANDMENTS*"

1. We all need to be impressed with the need to make "*haste*" and "*delay not*" to obey God.
2. We need to live everyday as though it were our last day on earth -- it might be!
3. Time waits for no one; we must redeem the time-- Eph. 5:16; Rom. 13: 11 - 14
4. It is foolish and dangerous to delay to obey God -- James 4: 13 - 14

### CONCLUSION

1. I beg of you, think on your ways, turn your feet unto the testimony of God.
2. Believe in Christ -- John 8:24
3. Repent of your sins -- Acts 17: 30
4. Confess Christ -- Acts 8: 37 - 38
5. Be Baptized into Christ -- Rom. 6: 3 - 4; Gal. 3:27; Acts 2:38