PEOPLE DO EVIL BECAUSE THEY DO NOT PREPARE THEIR HEART
TO SEEK THE LORD
II Chron. 12:14

INTRODUCTION:

1. This text refers to the king Rehoboam.
2. When he first became king he did right – II Chron. 11: 16 – 17
3. After this, he FORSOOK the Law of the Lord – II Chron. 12:1
4. Our text ACCOUNTS FOR HIS WICKEDNESS by stating the MAIN
INGREDIENT OF HIS DEPARTURE from God – “He did evil because he
prepared not his heart”…

I. WHAT PREPARATION OF HEART IS NECESSARY TO SEEK THE
LORD?

1. Our heart must be HUMBLE
   (1) Matt. 5:3; Matt. 18: 3- 4; James 4:6
   (2) A proud and lifted-up heart will not seek the Lord – Prov. 2:7

2. Our heart must TRUST in the Lord – Prov. 2:5
   (1) Jer. 10:23
   (2) Heb. 11:6

3. There must be a FIRM AND DECIDED RESOLUTION TO SEEK
HIM.
   (1) The Prodigal son – Lk. 15: 18 – 20
   (2) John 7: 17

4. Our heart must SEEK HIM IN THE RIGHT PLACE
   (1) He is found through His WORD – Ps. 119: 2 – 3
(2) Rehoboam “Forsook the law of the Lord”...II Chron. 12:1

(3) Ezra – Ezra 7:10

5. We must engage in SELF-EXAMINATION – II Cor. 13:5

II. WHAT IS IT TO SEEK THE LORD?

1. It is to seek to be RECONCILED TO HIM.

(1) A man’s sins separate him from God – Isa. 59: 1 – 2

(2) Man can now be reconciled to God in the body of Christ, the church – Eph. 2:16

(3) The gospel is the word of reconciliation – II Cor. 5: 19- 20; Rom. 1:16

2. To live in the HABIT OF EARNEST PRAYER

(1) I Thess. 5:17

(2) James 5:16

(3) I John 1: 8- 9

(4) Matt. 6: 9 – 12

3. To seek to PLEASE AND GLORIFY GOD IN ALL THINGS

(1) “Do all to the glory of God”...I Cor. 10:31

(2) We glorify God in the church – Eph. 3:21

(3) We glorify Him in our body and spirit – I Cor. 6:20

(4) We glorify Him in the name “CHRISTIAN” – I Pet. 4:16

III. THE EVIL OF NEGLECTING TO PREPARE OUR HEARTS TO SEEK THE LORD

1. Without this preparation WE SHALL NOT FIND GOD.
(2) Acts 17:27

2. Not finding God will be attended with the MOST SERIOUS RESULTS.

   (1) We shall wander farther from God – Rom. 1: 21 – 28

   (2) Our moral condition will wax worse and worse – II Tim. 3:13

   (3) Our ruin will be inevitable – II Thess. 1: 8 – 9

CONCLUSION:

1. Those who have sought and found the Lord:

   (1) Have “The peace of God which passeth all understanding”…Phil. 4:7

   (2) They have the hope of eternal life – I John 2: 25

2. To those whose hearts are not prepared:

   (1) Won’t you prepare and seek the Lord now?