SIN
Sermon by Donald Townsley

INTRODUCTION
1. SIN by its very nature is repugnant and opposed to all that God is.
2. All of the wars, violence, hatred, and man's inhumanity to his fellowman is directly related to SIN.
3. SIN is man's worst enemy; it robs him of peace and happiness in this life, and takes away his hope for a better life beyond this one.
4. God was dealing with the problem of man's SIN when He sent His only begotten SON into the World -- I Tim. 1:15; Rom. 5:8; Luke 19:10; John 3:16; I Cor. 15:3.
5. In the minds of many people, SIN is not a major problem at all -- they discredit, minimize, and overlook the problem of SIN.
6. In the church, many fail to see the TERRIBLENESS OF SIN.
   (1) Members flirt with sin and try to see how far they can go without going too far.
   (2) Many warm at the devil's fire and run with the devil's children, and are surprised when they get burned -- I Cor. 15:33.
7. I want to emphasize that SIN is EVERYBODY'S PROBLEM!
   (1) All have sinned -- Rom. 3:9, 23
   (2) I John 1:8

I. WHY WE NEED TO PREACH AND TEACH ABOUT SIN
1. If we, the people of God, do not WARN THE WORLD of the dangers and pitfalls of SIN, who will?
   (1) The church is "the pillar and ground of the truth" -- I Tim. 3:15.
   (2) Preachers of the gospel are to reprove and rebuke SIN -- 2 Tim. 4:2; I Tim. 5:20.
   (3) We are to reprove the unfruitful works of darkness -- Eph. 5:11.
2. The word SIN is DISAPPEARING from the vocabulary of men and women today:
   (1) Pleasure-oriented men and women commonly accept what was considered extremely sinful three generations ago.
   (2) EXAMPLES:
      1. Nudity
      2. Pornography
      3. Homosexuality
      4. Pre-marital sex
      5. Divorce and remarriage for any cause.
      6. Masturbation
      7. Drinking and drugs
      8. Dancing
      9. Wife-swapping
3. We need to preach about SIN because it is so DECEPTIVE -- Heb. 3:13; Eph. 4:22; I Tim. 2:14
   (1) SIN wears the mask of a SERVANT
      1. Strong drink
      2. Drugs
   (2) SIN appears attractive
      1. Eve in the garden -- Gen. 3:6
      2. The nude woman -- II Sam. 11:2; Prov. 7:7-23
3. Strong drink -- Prov. 23: 31 - 32

(3) SIN "seems" right -- Prov. 16:25
   1. A man or woman feels like they are not being treated right at home, so it "seems" right to receive affection from another.

(4) SIN wants to leave the impression that you can taste its pleasure and not reap your sowing.
   1. Gal. 6: 7 - 8

(5) The devil deceives by teaching that "ALL SIN IS THE FAULT OF SOCIETY".
   1. "SOCIETY made me do it".
   2. So, the individual feels no guilt.
   3. Ezek. 18:20

(6) SIN deceives because it is called by other names:
   1. Malice and revenge -- "defending your honor"
   2. Slander and gossip -- "just being frank".
   3. Drunkeness -- "alcoholism"
   4. Dope and drug addiction -- "sickness"
   5. Fornication and Adultery -- "an affair".
   6. Homosexuality -- "different/alternate lifestyle"

4. We need to warn against SIN because it is a spiritual madness:
   (1) "Also the heart of the sons of men is full of evil, and madness is in their heart while they live" -- Eccl. 9:3.
   (2) Hosea 4:11 -- "Alcohol and prostitution have robbed my people of their brains" (NLT).

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