

WHERE ART THOU?

Gen. 3:9

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INTRODUCTION

1. We will discuss the context of this question later.
2. One of man's greatest needs is to realize where he is.
3. One of the basic troubles in the world today is that man, generally speaking, does not know here he is or where he is headed.
 - (1) He could know -- 2 Tim. 3: 16 - 17
4. Self-improvement can only come where there is self-knowledge -- 2 Cor. 13:5.
 - (1) The prodigal son -- "*he came to himself*"...Luke 15:17.
 - (2) Many people today are in a dangerous state of unawareness.
5. In studying the state in which others have lived will help us find ourselves.

I. ADAM WAS IN HIDING

1. Adam, conscious of his guilt, attempted to hide -- Gen. 3:8.
 - (1) Man, since the days of Adam, has tried to hide his sins -- John 3: 18 - 20.
2. Adam's fundamental error was that he thought God was like man.
 - (1) He could hide from Eve and he thought he could hide from God.
 - (2) This has been the attitude of many -- Psa. 50:21.
3. It is impossible for man to hide from God -- Prov. 15:3; Heb. 4:13.
 - (1) Every effort to deceive God is nothing more than self-deception -- Gal. 6:7 - 8.

II. JONAH WAS TRYING TO FLEE FROM GOD

1. God commanded Jonah to go to Ninevah and cry against that wicked city -- Jonah 1:2.
 - (1) It did not please Jonah, so he rose up to flee from the presence of the Lord -- Jonah 1:3.
 - (2) At Joppa he boarded a ship to Tarshish.
 - (3) Evil always seeks to flee from the Lord's presence.
 - (4) That is why some people dislike going to the services of the church.
2. But, Jonah was soon to learn that God also goes to sea -- Jonah 1:4.
 - (1) A man can no more flee from God than he can flee from his shadow.
 - (2) Psa. 139: 7 - 12.
3. It took some hair-raising experiences for Jonah to learn that he could not run away from God and His orders -- Jonah 1: 15 - 17.
4. Jonah learned he could not flee from God.
5. We must learn this same lesson.

III. AARON WAS IN IDOLATRY -- Ex. 32: 1 - 6.

1. One of the Ten Commandments forbade man's having any other gods -- Ex. 20:3.
2. One may be guilty of idolatry today by image making.
 - (1) By making "self" god -- 2 Tim. 3:2; Phil. 3:19.
 - (2) By making "pleasure" god -- 2 Tim. 3:4.
 - (3) By making "material things" god -- Matt. 6:24.

3. John warns -- I John 5:21.

IV. THE RICH YOUNG RULER WAS IN DISOBEDIENCE AND SORROW -- Matt. 19: 16 - 22.

1. Not wanting to do what Jesus had commanded him, he went away sorrowful.
 - (1) Sin and sorrow go together.
2. If you are in disobedience you are in sin and sorrow.

V. THE LAODICEANS WERE IN LUKEWARMNESS -- Rev. 3: 15 - 16.

1. Little for the Lord and a little for the devil.

VI. SIMON WAS IN DELINQUENCY -- Acts 8: 13 - 24.

1. He fell into the bond of iniquity.
2. He was told to repent and pray that he might be forgiven.

VII. PAUL WAS IN THE ONE BODY (I Cor. 12:13) MAGNIFYING CHRIST -- Phil. 1:20

1. He had counted all things loss to gain Christ -- Phil. 3:7.

CONCLUSION

1. Where we are now will determine where we shall go later.
2. There are only four states in which persons in this life may live:
 - (1) Unaccountable state.
 - (2) Alien
 - (3) Faithful in Christ
 - (4) Backslidden state
3. "WHERE ART THOU???"