*Thursday, June 30, 2011*

**Rooting Out The Evil**

1 Timothy 6:9-11 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. (10) For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. (11) But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. (KJV)

The root cause of all evil that we see taking place all around us is a love for something other than God. Our God who cannot lie promised that He would supply all the need, all the time, for all His people. Simple enough, yet so hard when one steps out of the will of God and re-enters the realm of coveting; which as we see a lot of things taking place, none of which is good. Instead of fleeing the scene many are flocking to this doctrine thinking that something carnal could ever bring peace and satisfaction to an inward need.

John 10:5-8 And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers. (6) This parable spake Jesus unto them: but they understood not what things they were which he spake unto them. (7) Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep. (8) All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them. (KJV)

So why aren’t the sheep hearing from thieves and robbers? Well, because they are not following that path anymore, but rather fleeing or coming out from this old way of thinking so that they can walk in a newness of life. Anything that is put before the Lord on our priority list is robbery, because a life that we promised to our Lord is being stolen by a thief in sheep’s clothing.

John 10:11-13 I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. (12) But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep. (13) The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep. (KJV)

When the going got a bit tough, well, you see where the hireling got going to; yeah, he made a run for it. We have way too many hirelings who claim to be of God who judge success by the outward rather than looking inward. Oh and when the hireling went fleeing, guess what he was fleeing after? In many cases they end up going to the highest bidders.

Deuteronomy 16:18-19 Judges and officers shalt thou make thee in all thy gates, which the LORD thy God giveth thee, throughout thy tribes: and they shall judge the people with just judgment. (19) Thou shalt not wrest judgment; thou shalt not respect persons, neither take a gift: for a gift doth blind the eyes of the wise, and pervert the words of the righteous. (KJV)

When you see the word ‘gift’ used, it is actually referring to a bribe. How many doctrines get changed and tweaked a bit; how many sermons are based more on a love of money and not a love for our Lord? How about you personally, do you have a price where you will sell out, or are you all in, no matter what takes place in the outward realm?

Isaiah 33:15-17 He that walketh righteously, and speaketh uprightly; he that despiseth the gain of oppressions, that shaketh his hands from holding of bribes, that stoppeth his ears from hearing of blood, and shutteth his eyes from seeing evil; (16) He shall dwell on high: his place of defence shall be the munitions of rocks: bread shall be given him; his waters shall be sure. (17) Thine eyes shall see the king in his beauty: they shall behold the land that is very far off. (KJV)

Just like with politics today it’s hard to find an honest preacher who is not self serving or who delivers a message based solely on a love for the Lord. If your motives are not pure then you will not be able to see and understand what the Lord has for you today.