

LOOKING UNTO JESUS - SERMON 3



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LOOK UNTO JESUS AND DON'T LOOK BACK

INTRODUCTION:

The Bible demands that we should not look back - **Lk.9: 62**. Why? Because...

- A. Looking back hinders forward progress.
- B. Looking back can lead to discouragement and/or even depression.
- C. Looking back can bring defeat.

I. DON'T LOOK BACK AT SINS THAT HAVE BEEN FORGIVEN - 1Jn.1: 7-9:

- A. God really forgives - **Ps.103: 1-14**.
- B. Sometimes we believe this for others, but not for ourselves.
- C. But God can and will forgive sins as He has promised.

II. DON'T LOOK BACK AT DEFEATS THAT GET YOU DOWN

- **Josh.7 & 8; Judg.20: 18-48:**

- A. We all have some past defeats.
- B. Only those who never attempt anything are free from defeat or failing
- **Ps.37:23-24**.
- C. Don't allow failing to make you feel you are a failure.

III. DON'T LOOK BACK AT THE PAST AND SEE IT BETTER THAN IT WAS

- **Eccles.7:10:**

- A. Israel looked back to Egypt - **Num.11: 18**.
- B. Nostalgia is never quite honest.
- C. Trust God for a better tomorrow. A great future beats a great past every time.

IV. DON'T LOOK BACK AT PAST BITTER EXPERIENCES e.g. Jonah:

- A. Rehearsing old conflicts opens old wounds and hurts.
- B. Forgiveness becomes difficult if you keep going over them.
- C. Forget the past and get on with profitable living - **1 Pet.2: 1-2.**

V. DON'T LOOK BACK AT OLD VICTORIES THAT MAY CAUSE YOU TO THINK YOU HAVE ARRIVED - Phil.3:12-14. Never say things like...

- A. I once served the Lord with all my heart...
- B. I once was sold out to Christ...
- C. I once was a soul winner...
- D. What about today?

CONCLUSION:

- A. Don't ever look back!
- B. Look up only to Jesus - **Heb.12: 1-2.**
- C. Look on the fields and in caring for others you will forget the past - **Jn.4: 35.**
- D. Always be hopeful. Look ahead! The best is yet to come.