



DGM Message Summary: Beyond Forgiveness Pt. 1

Key Points:

- I Timothy 1:12
 - Paul was flooded with great memories of all the Lord had done (that he could not have done on his own) and he knew he owed it all to God
 - The truth we see here is God believed in us long before we believed in him
- Never let ambition place you in the ministry; confirm it's God first
- I Corinthians 13:11
 - "When I was a child...spoke, understood, thought as a child..."
 - When we know better, God expects us to do better
- I Timothy 1:13
 - Paul was arrogant (but very educated and moral) and he filled every room he entered, but he had a mean streak to him
- Acts 9:1
 - Saul (Hebrew name), Paul (Roman name)
 - Paul was the worst kind of religious fanatic; he was a killer!
- I Timothy 1:14
 - As bad as Paul's sins were, the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant and his sins were embarrassed in spite of God's grace; God gave him faith and love he didn't deserve
 - Paul admitted that he was the worst type of sinner
 - God took Paul's shattered background and flipped it for his glory!
 - *God can do the same for you if you turn it over to him*
- According to scripture, the worse sinner is the self-righteous religious person/zealot
 - Reasoning: they know better but still don't do right
- God has already washed and cleansed the worst of sinners; how about you?
- As bad as you think your sins are, compared to Paul, you haven't gotten started
- *We need to rethink this idea we have about forgiveness; series will cover what the New Testament says about mercy and God's grace*
- II Corinthians 5:17
 - God not only forgives us for sin, but he immediately makes us over
 - When you come to the altar, he changes you so you won't travel back down the same faulty path

- God goes into the deepest part of the dog (re: analogy), snatch it out, and place in it the heart of a lion
 - When the nature changes, there is a shift
- Salvation is more than we could ever imagine; it's God forgiving us and changing us deep down on the inside
 - If anyone is in Christ, he/she is a new creation! Old things have passed away and what used to be just isn't anymore. (you are something that never existed before and should no longer evaluate yourself by old standards)
- When you leave the altar, you will feel the same but you have to make the decision to believe what is or what God says!
 - Problem is we define ourselves using the wrong mirror
 - The word of God is our mirror, so if the word says it, we can do it!
- Will you believe what you think about yourself or what God says about you?
- We must stop focusing on who we used to be and on who God made us so we can walk in victory!
- Our redemption is in parts (spirit, mind, body)
 - When we go to Heaven, our spirit doesn't change
- The scripture is here to show us the inner workings of God and it's only by faith that we can step into the power
- Ephesians 4:22
 - The old self causes us to live corruptly through deceitful desires, but Christ in us is the hope of glory
 - We are deciding who we are based on the condition of our body and soul; God works on the spirit/he changes it when we are saved
- We must stop seeing ourselves as Black, White, Hispanic, Democrat, Republic, etc...we are all children of God created in his perfect image!
 - The limits we have on our life our self-imposed because of what we have in our minds
 - Forget what momma or daddy told you
- Ephesians 4:23
 - The only place your old self exists is in your memory and in your mind
 - The meaning of baptism: a funeral service (water is a symbol)
 - When you're baptized, you proclaim you're dead to who you used to be
- When the devil tries to bring up the past, remind yourself that the old you is dead
- Every sin in a believer's life is a lie
- **Change your thinking, change your life!**
- You start looking like what you're into to; your new self was created in the likeness of God