

WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES CHRISTIANITY MAKE?

Part 4 (Another Chance)

THINGS THAT WEAR US DOWN

- Three barriers to enjoying life
 1. Fears
 2. Resentment
 3. Guilt / Regrets
- But there is help with God
 1. Fear does not have to dominate
 2. Resentment can be eliminated
 3. There is forgiveness for our sins and mistakes (*Psalm 130:3-4 NKJV*)

A TALE OF TWO MEN

- Judas (*Matthew 27:3-5 NKJV*)
 1. He never thought things would get this bad
 2. He felt bad about what he had done
 3. He tried to make things right - but with the wrong people
 4. He came to the wrong conclusion
- Peter (*Matthew 26:69-75 NKJV*)
 1. Peter abandoned Jesus at a very vulnerable time
 2. He knew he had done wrong
- Two men who did wrong, but one gave himself a chance at forgiveness (*Mark 16:6-7 NKJV*)
 1. Peter most likely disqualified himself from being a disciple
 2. But God gave him another chance - tell the disciples and Peter

THE DIFFERENCE; WE ARE FORGIVEN, PEOPLE WITH ANOTHER CHANCE

- Don't Overestimate Your Errors and Underestimate God's Mercy (*Lamentations 3:21-23 NKJV*)
 1. Swap the perspective
 2. Recall to mind His mercy and compassion
- Receive God's forgiveness (*1 John 1:9 NKJV*)
 1. When we acknowledge/confess before Him is when we are forgiven
 2. Accept God's forgiveness by faith; don't wait for a feeling
 3. Forgive yourself - we don't pay for our sins with God Jesus already did that
- Extend forgiveness to others (*Ephesians 4:32 NKJV*)
 1. We are forgiven people, so we pass it on
 2. If they ask for forgiveness and if they don't ask for forgiveness
 3. There is a difference between giving forgiveness and earning trust