



246



Lesson on— Self Examination

I. The “God-Shaped Hole”

- A. We are all created with a desire to know and worship a god
 - look at tribes who’ve never heard God’s Word, but worship gods (**Romans 1:20**)
- B. Question: What are things that we try to fill that hole with?
 - People, relationships, money, false religions, etc.

II. How Do I Fill the “God-Shaped Hole”

- A. The Eunuch who thought he was **SAVED (Acts 8:26-28)**
 - a Eunuch was a high-ranked servant for royal families
 - 1. He knew the **WALK** (made pilgrimage to the holy city of Jerusalem)
 - like a faithful church attender
 - 2. He talked the **TALK** (was reading the Bible out loud)
 - he knew the Bible
 - 3. Everyone around him thought he was **SAVED** (he came to Jerusalem to “worship”)

*But **Acts 29-35** shows us that he was just doing it all out of **ROUTINE**

- B. The Eunuch eventually experienced **TRUE** salvation (**Acts 8:27-39**)
 - 1. He **HEARD** the truth (from reading God’s Word)
 - 2. He **BELIEVED** in the truth (Philip had explained to him the gospel in **vs. 35**)
 - 3. He put his **FAITH** in what Christ did on the cross (**vs. 37**)
 - a. no longer did he put his faith in what he had done
 - b. his faith was now in what Christ had done

*There are many who believe they are saved, just like the Eunuch. Read **Luke 13:22-28**.

*Like the Eunuch, they trusted in them doing “spiritual things” for salvation (**vs. 26**)

*Just being “religious” or “spiritual” leads to **DEATH (vs. 27-28)**

*You must come to a point in your life when you:

- 1. realize you are a sinner in need of a God to forgive you
- 2. decide that you will put your full faith in Christ
 - not being “spiritual” because parents, popularity, or doing the right thing
- 4. He proved his faith in Christ through **BAPTISM (vs. 38)**

*after accepting Christ, he made it clear that his new life would be imitating Christ



246



Lesson 01 - Self Examination

IV. What Takes Place When God Fills My "God-Shaped Hole"

*The Eunuch was changed after receiving Christ...he went away "rejoicing" (vs. 39)

II Corinthians 5:17 ~ "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation; old things have passed away, and look, new things have come."

A. Personal relationship with Christ

1. Someone to intercede for your PRAYERS (a high priest)
2. Becoming more like CHRIST

B. The HOLY SPIRIT gives me the POWER to be more like CHRIST

1. The conviction of sins and the conscience to avoid sin
2. The ability to overcome sin and to ability to get rid of guilt
3. The desire to read God's Word and the understanding to apply it
4. The power to pray, speak God's truth, and live a holy life

Small groups

Check any of the items below that will save someone (by itself):

- Faithfully attending church or youth groups
- Believing that Jesus is real
- Reading your Bible
- Being a good person
- Standing up or coming to the altar in an invitation
- Praying a prayer
- Getting baptized
- Placing your faith in Jesus Christ

Question: What was different from before and after the Eunuch met Philip?
-he went from believing in something to believing ON something

Ask Yourself: Look at the "My Personal Spiritual Walk". Being honest with yourself, where would God place you on this list?

Verses to Take Home

Romans 10:9, 13; Matthew 7:13-14, 21-23; Matthew 15:8; James 2:19