De-Conversion (Psalm 16:11)

Tony Mauck · Psalm 16:11

INTRODUCTION

- You will make known to me the paths of life. In your presence is fullness of joy, and at your right hand are pleasures forever.
- Don't get discouraged. Don't ever let go of the path of life. The path that is life indeed.
- Whatever that thing is that allures you, that wants to take you from the path of life, it will not deliver what it promises.

1 Deconversion: It Is a Thing

- Everyone has their enlightenment story, and in this case, it is an enlightenment away from what they once believed.
- First, you recount the negatives of your fundamentalist past.
- You position yourself as the offended party who bravely fought against the establishment.
- You insist that your new theology is actually driven by the Bible.
- Deconversion attacks the character of the old group and of course uplifts the character of the new group, the enlightened ones.

2 Disenchantment With the Old Paths Is as Old as Man

- We must not wander away from the path of life.
- Disenchantment with the old paths is as old as man.
- It was Jeremiah's plea, stand in the way and see and ask for the ancient paths. Where is the good way and walk in it?

3 The Rigors of the Road

Hebrews 3:6–4:11; Matthew 10; Matthew 24:12–13

- Disenchantment and falling short of God's rest has been typical throughout the centuries. And I simply state the reason why is because of the rigors of the road.
- Going against the grain. Living differently than those around you, choosing differently. Having to exercise self-control.
- Do not depart from a living God with an evil heart of unbelief.
- Because lawlessness abounds, the love of many will grow cold.
- He who endures to the end shall be saved.
- Sometimes you have to take one step in front of the other in pain.

4 The Old Paths Don’t Have to Grow Stale

- What we do here does not have to grow stale.
- It is an unnecessary obstacle to love traditions to a fault.
- If it’s scriptural and right, it’s not liberal.
- We need to find a passion and zeal for what we do based on the fact that we serve a holy God.

5 Grace Has Never Been a Substitute for Holiness

Hebrews 12:14; Titus 2:11–12; 1 Thessalonians 4:3–8

- Grace has never been and will never be a substitute for holiness.
- The holiness without which no one will see the Lord.
- The grace of God instructs us, according to Titus chapter 2 and verse 11, to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly and righteously and godly in this present age.
- When you reject the path that has been outlined for you to live, you are rejecting God.
- Ours is a holy calling. God calls us to discipline.

THE CHALLENGE

Don’t give up on the Lord. Don’t give up on his people. And don’t give up in the pursuit of worship and goodness in your thinking and behavior.

MY NOTES