Forgetting and Remembering

Tony Mauck · Proverbs 4:23

INTRODUCTION

- Christianity is a battle for the mind. The way we think. Our affections. Our perceptions, our values of things.
- From the idea of two opposed processes of thinking, and that is forgetting and remembering.
- So keep your heart with all diligence. The reason why we need to do that, the wise writer said, is for from it flows the springs of life.

1 Forgetting What Lies Behind

Philippians 3:13–14; 1 Timothy 1

- Forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.
- When Paul is saying forgetting those things that are past, he is saying that from the standpoint of one who has dealt with the errors of his past.
- If you are in Christ, if those things have been forgiven, we've got to leave them behind.
- Don't be crippled by it. Don't spend undue time on it. You need to pick up the pieces right now and move forward.

2 Kill the Flesh

Colossians 3; 2 Timothy 1:7

- When he talks about the influence of our flesh and the desires of the flesh, he said, You need to crucify it. You need to kill it. And by killing it, you're forgetting.
- If you just follow the impulses that you have, it's going to lead you down the path of the flesh. You've got to fight against that.
- And you must say, the flesh is back there. It's in the past. I'm done with that empty way of life.

3 Forget About the Slights

- You need to forget about the slights. Things that people have done to you in your past that injured you in some way.
- And while there's not a passage that says, you need to forget about the slights, there are a lot of passages about bitterness.
- Then you should either go to them and deal with that slight, whatever it is, or I'll just tell you've got to let it go.
- To forget is to let go, to let go is to move off.

4 The Lord Is Near

Philippians 4:5

- We need to retain in our thinking the presence of the Lord.
- But I think the key to all of that is actually in verse 5 with this little bitty four-word statement that says, the Lord is near.
- As we contemplate the Lord is near, we need to think about two things in particular: the crucifixion of Christ and the resurrection of Christ.
- If we're going to be victorious in this spiritual battle, we must not move far or long from these thoughts.

5 Don't Forget Your Former Sins

2 Peter 1:9

- If these qualities aren't yours, he said, you've forgotten something. The purification of your former sins.
- Put the past in the past, but don't forget your former sins.
- He wants us to move on from the transgressions of our past, but he says, don't ever forget where you came from.
- Remembering where we came from contributes, it keeps us motivated, grateful, sensing our indebtedness to God, and helps us to maintain a proper view of ourselves.

6 I Am More Than What I See

2 Corinthians 4; Hebrews 13; 1 Timothy 4:7–8

- That mind that we're talking about is interrelated with our spirits. And that's the most important part of you.
- If there's something our mind needs to be constantly doing, it is focusing on the unseen. Our spirits. Our preparedness for the last great day.
- Because we are focused on our spirits, we do not forget our mission as his people to do good and to share.
- Bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and the life that is to come.

THE CHALLENGE

The Lord is going to return. Are we going to be his prepared people?

MY NOTES