The Golden Excuse

Tony Mauck

INTRODUCTION

- It's what people say when they've messed up. Perhaps it is to deal with the sting of their own guilt. Or to silence their accusers.
- And what I speak of tonight is the golden excuse.

1 The Perfect Excuse: I'm Only Human

Matthew 5; Galatians 6:1

- And the reason why it's often deemed the perfect excuse is, as I said, it contains truth.
- And the reason why it's the golden excuse and the perfect excuse is because it admits guilt.
- Inherent within most excuses is an admission of guilt because if I wasn't guilty, I wouldn't need an excuse.
- And it is the great equalizer. When we mess up, we are equals to all.

2 It's Still a Lousy Excuse

Ecclesiastes 7:29; 1 John 3:4; Proverbs 10:23

- However great and however golden this excuse may be, it's still a lousy excuse.
- There is no excuse for sin.
- I'm only human is not God's reasoning. But it's one of the devil's patented deceits that he gets us to use to minimize our wrong behavior.
- Doing wickedness is like sport to a fool. And so is wisdom to a man of understanding.

3 What Being Human Really Means

Genesis 1; Psalm 8; 2 Corinthians 5:10

- What human really means, in contrast to the animals, is that I've been made in God's image.
- We have the capacity to learn. That means I have the ability to know better, as we say. And if I can know better, then I need to strive to do better.
- I am not an animal. I am made in the image of God. And neither should I act like an unreasoning animal.
- And the reason why we are not animals is that we're going to be held accountable while the dog is not.

4 God Made Us for More Than That

1 Thessalonians 5:8–9; Romans 12:2; John 1:12

- For God has not destined us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.
- Do not be conformed to this world. But be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

- But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God.
- We are his workmanship created in Christ Jesus for what? Good works.

5 This Is Gold Medal Living

1 Peter 1:25; Ecclesiastes 3

- This is gold medal living, folks. Choosing holiness. Resisting the adversary. Worshiping our Creator as we're doing today. And don't forget this. Displaying daily loyalty to God.
- Everything in this world that does not have other world implications is all stamped temporary.
- All flesh is as grass and the flower thereof. But the word of the Lord endures forever.
- Choose, because you're made in the image of God, choose to live for something more.

6 We Must Not Marginalize the Death of Our Lord

Hebrews 6:6

- One sin, just one. And most of us in this audience have committed at least one. Just one. Put Jesus on a cross.
- If we go on in sinfulness, we crucify afresh the Son of God.
- When we discount the significance of sin, we have cheapened the blood of Christ.
- When we err, it is simply because we chose to.

THE CHALLENGE

Have you chosen the high road of service to Jesus Christ? Have you been compelled by the fact that you realize that by your sin Jesus had to die so that you might live?

MY NOTES