Trembling Like Felix (Acts 24:25)

Tony Mauck · Acts 24:24–27

INTRODUCTION

- He was a Roman procurator or official whose reign and tenure in Judea lasted about seven years.
- Faith in Christ Jesus. The necessary response of everyone of accountable age in our audience today, our trust and confidence that Jesus was who and what he claimed that he was the Christ.
- As he was discussing righteousness, self control, and the judgment to come. Felix trembled. Felix became frightened and said, Go away for the present.

1 An Honest Evaluation of His Spiritual Condition

- First, there was an honest evaluation of his spiritual condition.
- If only we could get people to honestly evaluate where they are in relation to the things that relate to Christ.

2 He Silenced His Conscience

- Despite the obvious conviction that he had in regard to the message, he sent Paul away. He silenced his conscience that was telling him that action was necessary for the saving of his soul.
- So often people walk away from the moment of conviction and do nothing and silence how they felt in that moment.

3 He Failed to Weigh Immediate Against Ultimate Concerns

- So often it is the immediate concerns. What accepting this message means in my circumstances that is so often the huge hurdle and obstacle that keeps people from responding to their soul salvation?
- What does submitting to Jesus mean in your circumstances that might cause you to say, not right now.
- Was Felix one of those souls who had the momentous opportunity to hear the greatest message that's ever been told, the message of love from the great apostle Paul, and to send it away.

4 Tremble Over the Judgment to Come

2 Thessalonians 1:6–10

- Are we working out our salvation with fear and trembling? I just wish sometimes we would get more people to tremble at the story.
- Why tremble? Why be frightened unless you believe the prospect of being on the wrong side of the judgment of God.
- A day in which the angels will come in flaming fire, taking vengeance on those who do not know God and who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

- These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction. Away from the presence of the Lord.
- The judgment of God. Felix knew it. Do you? He was terrified. Are you?

5 Righteousness: There's a Standard

Ezekiel 33:17; Acts 17:30–31

- When Paul spoke to Felix about faith in Jesus Christ, he spoke to him about righteousness. That is, there's a standard.
- God always does right. All his ways are right, all his words are right.
- Commands all men everywhere to repent, and he has fixed a day in which he will judge the world. In righteousness.
- God expects a serious attempt in achieving his righteous standard.
- You're going to have to give it a stronger, more diligent attempt than they have, or you will not inherit.

6 Self-Control: The Nuts and Bolts of His Terror

- He spoke to Felix about self-control. Felix was frightened because he knew that he was not exercising the kind of control of self that involves repentance.
- Felix must have seen his behavior as not in conformity. But I'll tell you what Felix also saw. That is, he had a lot to lose.
- People reason from what they have to lose rather than what they have to gain.
- Whatever it is that you must lose in choosing the Lord will more than adequately be compensated.
- He who confesses me before men, him will I also confess before my Father who is in heaven.
- We had better be learning to exercise self-control.

THE CHALLENGE

It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God. Are you ready for the last great thing?

MY NOTES