

THE INSANITY OF SIN

Text: Eccl. 9:3

INTRO: One thing all men have in common is sin. And one thing that all sin has in common is that it stems from wrong thinking -- thus the wise man says, we all have madness or insanity in our hearts. As Willie Nelson said, "I know I'm not normal -- Nobody is."

I. MOTHER EVE. READ GEN. 1:26-29; 2:8-17

A. The temptation, Gen. 3:1-5.

B. What she had to lose/gain: life, paradise home, every tree pleasant, every fruit good for food, dominion over all other creatures, opportunity to live forever...

C. The odds--God made her, the world she lived in. He thoroughly understood it in every detail. He gave it to her & her husband to have dominion over.

D. To choose as she chose was insane. Yet, which of us can be sure we would not have made the same choice?

II. THE REBELLIOUS, WASTEFUL SON.

Luke 15:11-19.

A. Blessings of his father's house are summed up in vs 31.

B. The insanity of his sin becomes evident when we see the description of his repentance.

1. He came to himself.

2. Only then did he return to his father.

3. He acknowledged his sin--& recognized that he had sinned

against his father--& against
God.

III. THE DEMON-POSSESSED MAN OF MARK 5,
LUKE 8.

A. Note difference between demon
possession & our situation of coming
under Satan's power by choice.

James 4:7, Therefore submit to God.
Resist the devil & he will flee from
you.

1 Pet. 5:8-9

B. While under Satan's influence the man
was

1. wild, reckless, out of control, MK
5:1-4

2. He was self-destructive, vs. 5

3. He was naked, Luke 8:26-27

C. When Jesus freed him from Satan, vs
35, he was

1. sitting at Jesus' feet.

2. clothed

3. in his right mind

CONCLUSION: Sinner, if you haven't already
done so, you need to accept the freedom from
Satan that Jesus offers you. Like the prodi-
gal, you need to come to yourself. Come to
Jesus. "Whosoever shall call on the name..."
Learn, obey, live a meaningful life under the
guidance of Jesus.

Exton, PA, August 7, 1988

Shiloh, Mexia, TX, July 25, 1993

Susquehanna, Marietta, PA, September 10, 2000