

THINGS WE NEVER GET OVER

Text: Hebrews 12:17

INTRO: Esau made a mistake fairly early in his life that he was never able to completely recuperate from. Now, don't get me wrong. He could regret it--& he did. He could be forgiven for it--perhaps he was. He could go on living & be productive in many ways. But he could never turn back the pages of time, he could never undo his error & restore the blessing that could have been his. His error was something he could never really get over.

I. THE FOLLY OF A MIS-SPENT YOUTH.

READ 2 CHRON. 33:1-7, 10-17

[God said:] I will hand [the nation of Judah] over to trouble, to all kingdoms of the earth, because of Manasseh the son of Hezekiah, king of Judah, for what he did in Jerusalem. (Jer 15:4, written about 40 years after Manasseh's death).

II. PARENTAL NEGLECT. Successful king, unsuccessful father.

[David] was deeply moved, & went up to the chamber over the gate & wept. And as he went, he said thus: "O my son Absalom--my son, my son Absalom--if only I had died in your place! O Absalom, my son, my son." (2 Sam. 18:33).

III. UNKINDNESS DONE TO THE DEPARTED.

[Paul prayed] And when the blood of Your martyr Stephen was shed, I also was standing by consenting to his death & guarding the clothes of those who were killing him. (Acts 22:20).
[23 years]

I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. (1 Cor 15:9)

I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, & an insolent man; but I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in unbelief. (1 Tim. 1:13). After more than 30 years.

IV. THE LOST OPPORTUNITY. LUKE 16:25-31.

- A. The friend you didn't tell about Jesus.
- B. The letter of encouragement you didn't write.

C. The word of commendation, or thanks.

V. THE SIN YOU DIDN'T BRING TO JESUS FOR CLEANSING.

John 8:21. The ultimate mistake you can never get over!

Shiloh, Mexia, TX, February 18, 1996

La Porte, TX, March 30, 1997 (meeting)

Susquehanna, Marietta, PA, November 8, 1998

Fairfield, PA, November 29, 1998