

REPAIRING BROKEN ALTARS

1 KINGS 18

Text:

Introduction:

The trouble was not as said in 18:17 "Art thou he that troubleth Israel?" The trouble was a broken altar (Vs 30).

The trouble in many churches is not the Pastor or the program. The trouble is "Broken Altars" in the lives of God's people. The purpose of an altar is: Worship; Sacrifice; Bring Offerings; God's people gather together; Meet God

In 1 Kings 18:30 the broken down altar was repaired by the man of God, even though it had been in that condition for many years.

Many Christians today need to repair some altars.

1. SOME NEED TO REPAIR THE ALTAR OF PREACHING

(The Preacher is a better Preacher with a church full of faithful people)

A. Repair this altar by attendance (Heb 10:25)

(Heb 10:25 KJV) "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."

1. Attend all the services
2. Bring the family

B. Repair this altar by paying attention (Pro 4:20-23)

(Prov 4:20-23 KJV) "My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. {21} Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. {22} For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh. {23} Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life."

C. Repair this altar by attitude (Eph 4:30-32)

(Eph 4:30-32 KJV) "And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. {31} Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: {32} And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

1. Get right with God

2. Stay right with God

2. SOME NEED TO REPAIR THE ALTAR OF PRAYER

(The Preacher is a better Preacher with praying people)

A. Repair this altar with fervency (Jas 5:16)

(James 5:16 KJV) "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

1. White hot prayer

2. Heat of passion

B. Repair this altar frequently (1 Thes 5:17)

(1 Th 5:17 KJV) "Pray without ceasing."

C. Repair this altar by faith Mt 21:21

(Mat 21:21 KJV) "Jesus answered and said unto them, Verily I say unto you, If ye have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this which is done to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou

removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done."

Faith is "having confidence that He who has promised is able to perform that which He has promised"

3. SOME NEED TO REPAIR THE ALTAR OF PURPOSE

(The Preacher is a better Preacher with a working, serving people)

A. Repair this altar by serving the Lord (Ac 1:8)

(Acts 1:8 KJV) "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

B. Repair this altar by soul winning (Mt 28:18-20)

(Mat 28:18-20 KJV) "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. {19} Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: {20} Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

C. Repair this altar by our sacrifice 2 Sam 24:24

(2 Sam 24:24) "And the king said unto Araunah,(ar-av-naw') Nay; but I will surely buy it of thee at a price: neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the LORD my God of that which doth cost me nothing. So David bought the threshingfloor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver."

4. SOME NEED TO REPAIR THE ALTAR OF POWER WITH GOD.

(The Preacher is a better Preacher with a Spiritual and Empowered people)

A. Repair this altar by having a right spirit
(Psa 51:10)

(Psa 51:10 KJV) "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me."

B. Repair this altar by having right speech
(2 Thes 3:11; Ps 141:3; 106:33)

(2 Th 3:11 KJV) "For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies."

(Psa 141:3 KJV) "Set a watch, O LORD, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips."

(Psa 106:33 KJV) "Because they provoked his spirit, so that he spake unadvisedly with his lips."

C. Repair this altar by having a right surrender.

Can you truly sing the words to the song from your heart:

"All to Jesus I surrender, all to Him I freely give; I will ever love and trust Him in His presence daily live.

All to Jesus I surrender Humbly at His feet I bow;
Worldly pleasures all forsaken, take me Jesus take me now.

All to Jesus I surrender Make me Saviour wholly Thine;
Let me feel the Holy Spirit Truly know that thou art mine.

All to Jesus I surrender Lord I give myself to Thee; Fill me with Thy love and power, Let Thy blessing fall on me."

I surrender all; I surrender all; all to Thee my blessed Saviour, I surrender all.

Conclusion:

"HARD CORE COMMITMENT"

It was taken from a note found on the desk of an African Martyr.

"I'm part of the fellowship of the unashamed. I have the Holy Spirit power. The die has been cast. I have stepped over the line. The decision has been made - I'm a disciple of His. I won't look back, let up, slow down, back away, or be still. My past is redeemed, my present makes sense, my future is secure. I'm finished and done with low living, sight walking, smooth knees, colorless dreams, tamed visions, worldly talking, cheap giving and dwarfed goals.

I no longer need preeminence, prosperity, position, promotions, plaudits or popularity. I don't have to be right, first, tops, recognized, praised, regarded, or rewarded. I now live by faith, lean on His presence, walk by patience, am uplifted by prayer and I labor with power.

My face is set, my gait is fast, my goal is heaven, my road is narrow, my way is rough, my companions are few, my Guide is reliable, my mission is clear. I cannot be bought, compromised, detoured, lured away, turned back, deluded, or delayed. I will not flinch in the face of sacrifice, hesitate in the presence of the enemy,

pander at the pool of popularity, or meander in the maze of mediocrity.

I won't give up, shut up, let up, until I have stayed up, stored up, prayed up, paid up, and preached up for the cause of Christ. I am a disciple of Jesus.

I must go till He comes, give till I drop, preach till all know, and work until He stops me. And, when He comes for His own, He will have no problem recognizing me...my banner will be clear.