

# HIS PRAYER SHALL BE AN ABOMINATION PROVERBS 28:9; JONAH

Text: Proverbs 28:9

## **Proverbs 28:9**

<sup>9</sup>He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer *shall be* abomination.

Introduction:

The Bible is a book that shows some submitting to God while others are seen as rebelling against God. The word “rebel” has the idea of “resisting or raising up against authority.”

Notice with me three things that we see in our text.

## **1. REBELLION**

### **Proverbs 28:9**

<sup>9</sup>He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer *shall be* abomination.

Notice this individual is not identified. This person is identified as he.

All of us have the ability to rebel.

## **1 Samuel 15:23**

<sup>23</sup> For rebellion *is as* the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness *is as* iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from *being* king.

## **2. REASON**

Why do people become rebellious?

There are several reasons why – notice:

### **A. Lack of Faith**

Illustration: Abraham

Initially he believed the Lord according to Genesis 15:4-6:

### **Genesis 15:4-6**

<sup>4</sup> And, behold, the word of the LORD *came* unto him, saying, This shall not be thine heir; but he that shall come forth out of thine own bowels shall be thine heir. <sup>5</sup> And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be. <sup>6</sup> And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness.

But because of impatience – Abraham took matter into his own hands and his disobedience led to disaster.

## Illustration: Jonah

Faith leaves everything in the hands of God when we understand or do not understand. The Assyrians (represented by the Ninevites), had been so cruel to Israel. They were one of Israel's most bitter enemies. Jonah did not think they deserved the opportunity to repent of their cruelties and atrocities.

Jonah tried to rationalize and reason out everything instead of trusting God to do what was right. Faith says, "God will do what is right, whether I understand it or not."

### B. Lack of Fear

## Illustration: Jonah

Jonah did not fear God as he should have. If he had, then he would not have run from his responsibility to do God's will; that being, to preach to the Ninevites. He would have immediately done what the Lord had told him to do. He would not have caught a ship going in another direction if he had the fear of God dominating his life.

### C. Lack of Forgiveness

Jonah was not willing to forgive the Ninevites for the terrible things they had done in regard to the nation of

Israel. The Assyrians made Nineveh their capitol for several centuries. They had the reputation of being a cruel and barbaric people. The seed of Abraham was sorely mistreated by the Assyrian people.

The reason some folks cannot get anywhere with God is that they have an unforgiving spirit. A lack of forgiveness led to Jonah's rebellion.

#### D. Lack of Faithfulness

Jonah should have been faithful to God in spite of how he felt personally. It is not what we think that matters the most anyhow, but the will of God that matters. God help us to be faithful to Him.

#### E. Lack of Fulfillment (Greed)

Illustration:

#### **Joshua 6:17-19**

<sup>17</sup> And the city shall be accursed, *even* it, and all that *are* therein, to the LORD: only Rahab the harlot shall live, she and all that *are* with her in the house, because she hid the messengers that we sent. <sup>18</sup> And ye, in any wise keep *yourselves* from the accursed thing, lest ye make *yourselves* accursed, when ye take of the accursed thing, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it. <sup>19</sup> But all the silver, and gold, and vessels of brass and iron, *are* consecrated unto the LORD: they shall come into the treasury of the LORD.

What did God reveal was the reason in Joshua 7:11-12

## **Joshua 7:11-12**

<sup>11</sup> Israel hath sinned, and they have also transgressed my covenant which I commanded them: for they have even taken of the accursed thing, and have also stolen, and dissembled also, and they have put *it* even among their own stuff. <sup>12</sup> Therefore the children of Israel could not stand before their enemies, *but* turned *their* backs before their enemies, because they were accursed: neither will I be with you any more, except ye destroy the accursed from among you.

## **3. RESULTS**

Notice these two results of rebellion:

### **A. Rejection**

Because of the rebellion of Saul God rejected him as king.

There are many today struggling because of rebellion.

This rejection is bad but the second result is even worse.

### **B. Refusal**

It is by the word and prayer that our communion with God is kept up. God speaks to us by his law, and expects we should hear him and heed him; *we* speak to him by prayer, to which we wait for an answer.

If God's word be not regarded by us, our prayers shall not only not be accepted of God, but they shall be an abomination to him.

The sinner whose prayers God is thus angry at is one who willfully and obstinately refuses to obey God's commandments, who will not so much as give them the hearing.

Another reason their prayer will not be heard is that it's not prayed in faith.

You may be thinking why is it that it's not prayed by faith.

Notice:

**Romans 10:17**

<sup>17</sup> So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Faith cometh by hearing the word of God which has been tured away from.

This is a dangerous circle to get encircled in.

Close:

May we have ears that hear, and hearts that are obedient to God's Word – the Truth.