



God's Sovereignty and our responsibility in evangelism

Session subtitle



CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
EVANGELISM CONFERENCE

JANUARY 31 - FEBRUARY 1

What are our obstacles?

- Indifference- mine and theirs
- Won't know what to say
- I just don't want to- afraid of failure, not right words, lazy, questions
- Don't want to risk losing the relationships- lose the friendship wouldn't associate with me
- I not ready- they aren't ready to give up their sin
- My own inadequacy— not an expert- silence myself
- They will make assumptions of me- stereotype me.
- How many times do you ask them...when are you just a pest...
- Faith is my thing...and so its not thoughtful to their things
- They will assume Im self righteous/seperate

If God is Sovereign in salvation what really is my responsibility?

- Ephesians 1:11 - “He works all things after the counsel of his own will.”
- Packard- If we are a Christian, we believe in God’s sovereignty over salvation.
- “On our feet we may have arguments about it, but on our knees we are all agreed.”

So why do Christians disagree over God's sovereignty in salvation?

- We are chasing systematic certainty when the Scriptures reveal a divine mystery.
- This issue is an Antinomy-
 - two things/facts coexisting in seeming contradiction but somehow are harmonized beyond our understanding.

The Antinomy

- The fundamental antinomy is b/w the Scriptures teaching that God as Judge will hold men fundamentally responsible for their actions. And that he is completely Sovereign over man's salvation
- John 3:18- "Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God."
- Acts 13:48- "And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed."

Why does this truth matter?

- Why is it important in evangelism that people are responsible for their actions?
 - For the hearer?
 - For the proclaimer?
- Why is it important in evangelism that God is sovereign over salvation?
 - For the hearer?
 - For the proclaimer?

Why does this truth matter?

- What is the danger of losing God's sovereignty in salvation?
- What is the danger of losing people's responsibility regarding salvation?

Conclusions

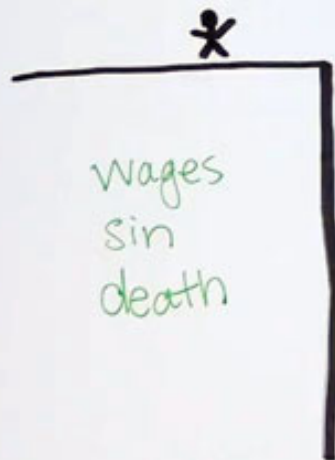
- “Our responsibility to proclaim salvation...is the instrument that He uses for this purpose but the power that saves is not in the instrument.”
- “God’s way of saving men is to send out His servants to tell them the gospel.”
- Matthew 28- Go make disciples!
- Romans 10- "all who call on the name of the Lord shall be saved... but how they know?"

Conclusions

- This is a communal responsibility but not just the pastors responsibility. “Christ’s command means that we ALL should be devoting ALL our resources of ingenuity and enterprise to the task of making the gospel known in every possible way to every possible person.”
- Spurgeon- can you reconcile these? “I wouldn’t try- I never reconcile friends!” These doctrines are friends and they empower us to action.
- This is no fail witnessing-
- You might hold God’s key to the heart of God’s child.

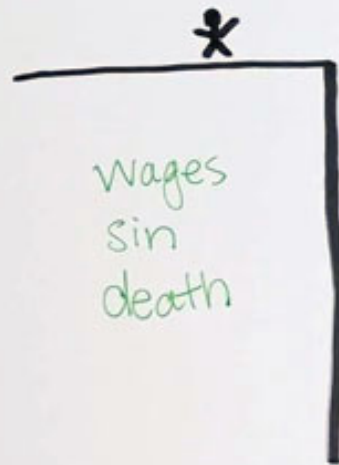
Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.



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