

I. INTRODUCTION.

A. Scripture text: **Acts 24:22-27.**

But Felix, having a more exact knowledge about the Way, put them off, saying, "When Lysias the commander comes down, I will decide your case." [23] And he gave orders to the centurion for him to be kept in custody and yet have *some* freedom, and not to prevent any of his friends from ministering to him. [24] But some days later, Felix arrived with Drusilla, his wife who was a Jewess, and sent for Paul, and heard him *speak* about faith in Christ Jesus. [25] And as he was discussing righteousness, self-control and the judgment to come, Felix became frightened and said, "Go away for the present, and when I find time, I will summon you." [26] At the same time too, he was hoping that money would be given him by Paul; therefore he also used to send for him quite often and converse with him. [27] But after two years had passed, Felix was succeeded by Porcius Festus; and wishing to do the Jews a favor, Felix left Paul imprisoned.

- B. Have you ever been on a trip, consulted your road map, even to know approximately where you are ... BUT YOU'RE LOST! This is can really happen if you are using an old road map--things change!
- C. Tonight, several people in the NT that "knew the road" but were lost.

II. THE QUEEN'S TREASURER (Ac. 8:26-40).

A. This person knew the road of **DEVOTION**.

- B. No doubt this man was devoted. He had journeyed a great distance to be in Jerusalem from Ethiopia. There must have been a tremendous drive within him based on his faith to cover such a great distance to worship. He was even reading the OT to know the Scriptures. What devotion!
- C. But Philip needed to teach him about Jesus to be saved. He started with the very scripture the treasurer was reading and taught him Jesus.
- D. I'm sure you know many people who are devoted to their clubs, causes, political parties, and even their churches, but they are lost if they don't have X.
- E. It is possible to be on the road of devotion, and still be lost.

III. SAUL OF TARSUS (Ac. 9:1-20).

A. This person knew the road of **LAW**.

- B. Law is good up to a point. It helps us doing the things we should, and it keeps us from doing the things we should. We should not be totally against law.
- C. Saul knew the Law and was very zealous to keep it along with the traditions of the Jews (Gal. 1:14).
- D. But the Law, cannot save. The Law points to X, and only He can save. We cannot keep the commandments to be righteous, we need X to be righteous.
- E. I'm sure you know many people who are good, law abiding citizens. But they are lost if they do not have X.
- F. It is possible to be on the road of Law, and still be lost.

IV. CORNELIUS (Ac. 10: 1-4,17-48).

A. This person knew the road of **SINCERITY**.

- B. Cornelius was devout and sincere. He was a moral, benevolent, conscientious, family man. He was religious man of prayer. He was a great guy!!
- C. But Cornelius was lost without X. God heard his prayers and sent Peter to tell him and his household what they must do to be saved.
- D. I'm sure you know many people who are sincere, like that of Cornelius, but they are not saved, unless that have X.
- E. It is possible to be on the road of sincerity, and still be lost.

V. **APOLLOS OF ALEXANDRIA (Ac. 18:24-28).**

- A. This person knew the road of **EDUCATION**.
- B. Apollos came from the right town, had the right credentials, had great ability, and even a good knowledge of the OT. He was even up to date with the latest news about the baptism of John.
- C. But Apollos needed more. He needed to complete his education and knowledge of the Law for the glory of X.
- D. I'm sure you know many people who are educated and have within them a wealth of knowledge about many things, but they are lost without X.
- E. It is possible to be on the road of education, and still be lost.

VI. **FELIX (Ac. 24:22-27).**

- A. This person knew the road of **MONEY**.
- B. Felix was a person in power, but he loved money. All it would have taken for Felix to release Paul was a bribe. Felix was willing to compromise to get money.
- C. Money is a powerful item in our society. Paul warned that the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil things (1Tim. 6:10).
- D. Felix missed the message of the cross because he was more interested in money.
- E. I'm sure you know many people who are consumed by money; getting it, saving it, and spending it. But they are lost without X.
- F. It is possible to be on the road of money, and still be lost.

VII. **AGRIPPA (Ac. 26:1-32).**

- A. This person knew the road of **POWER**.
- B. Agrippa was used to telling others what to do. He was in power. Whatever he said was done. When Paul preached to him, it convicted him and Agrippa knew what he was supposed to do.
- C. "Power corrupts, and absolute power corrupts absolutely." Power may have kept Agrippa from becoming a Xian.
- D. I'm sure you know several people who have power in their jobs and families. But they are lost without X.
- E. It is possible to be on the road of power and still be lost.

VII. **CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.**

- A. They knew the road, but they were lost.
- B. Therefore:
  - 1. Devotion... is a good road, but not one that saves.
  - 2. Law... is a good road, but not one that saves.
  - 3. Sincerity... is a good road, but not one that saves.
  - 4. Education... is a good road, but not one that saves.
  - 5. Money... is a good road, but not one that saves.
  - 6. Power... is a good road, but not one that saves.
- C. It is possible to know the road you are travelling, and yet not be saved. Jesus is the way (the road).
- D. Plan of salvation for non-Xians, erring Xians.