

BA81014

ARE THE LOST REALLY LOST?

Sometimes I wonder if we as members of the Lord's church understand the seriousness and gravity of sin. This feeling is brought out by a lack of interest in evangelism and visitation. When one sees the lackadaisical attitude some of us have in seeking and saving the lost we may need to ask ourselves; are the lost really lost?

The answer to that question is YES. The Bible is clear when it talks about the horribleness and separating power that sin has. Sin means "to miss the mark." Many people feel like they have a saving relationship with Jesus Christ, but have missed the mark according to the scriptures. We compound this problem by looking at an individual's morality and then substituting that for spirituality.

Isaiah stated that sin separates us from God (Isa. 59:1,2). Which tells us the tragic end sin can have when left untreated. When we are separated from God we cannot have the spiritual blessings of eternal life. Conversely true is the realization that if we have been cleansed from sin, we have a relationship with God, and can inherit the blessings of eternal life. When we come to "grips" with the fact that we were once lost in sin, and now because of the blood of Jesus have had our sins forgiven, we can better understand the certain doom of those outside of Christ. This should cause us to preach the gospel because we realize that unless the world obeys the Good News, the end result is spiritual death.

Visitation programs designed for evangelism and encouragement should be well supported. Good attendance shows our concern in seeking and saving the lost. Bad attendance shows a mood of indifference and apathy. The only method of saving the world from sin is to preach the gospel (Mk. 16:15); Jesus has devised no other plan. Therefore, if we do not preach it, it won't be preached. The lost are really lost, so what should our attitude be? Let that attitude be known next Tuesday night and on our monthly Outreach Sunday.

--Greg