

## **Don't Dare to Forget God**

### **Psalm 50:22-23**

22 "Now consider this, you who forget God, Lest I tear you in pieces, And there be none to deliver: 23 Whoever offers praise glorifies Me; And to him who orders his conduct aright I will show the salvation of God."

I woke up this morning in a warm bed in a warm house. Listened to my favorite radio program. Took a shower in clean water. Grabbed a cold drink from a refrigerator that afforded me many different things to eat. I put on my clean socks and a pair of shoes. I sat in my office chair and drank that cold drink while listening to the most beautiful music from my computer and watched a most excellent sunrise.

All of these simple things that we do every day without a thought and even get quite bored with it all. But the majority of the world will never experience these simple blessings that you and I so abundantly enjoy.

This week, the Lord willing, I will feast on roast turkey, oyster dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy and pumpkin pie. But so will millions of other Americans. And many will forget to thank God, they will forget God in all this abundance. It seems that is when it is easiest to forget Him.

How can a nation like America, with such a rich heritage in the Christian faith, forget God?

But there is nothing so revolting to the human conscience than someone who is not thankful. America has become a people who take what they receive as a right rather than a gift. How arrogant can we be?

God has been so good to us, to be born in the richest country in the world and have the greatest opportunities.

The Psalmist addresses the problem of an unthankful people in Psalm 50. The last two verses summarize the Psalm. Let us reflect on these words this morning and see if we cannot be a more grateful people.

- I. Now consider this
- II. You who forget God
  - A. Some intend to forget God.
  - B. Others just fill up their lives with so many other things.
- III. Lest I tear you in pieces
  - A. Does this seem a little severe?
    1. The idea is that of a lion tearing it's prey.
  - B. But all sin is in reality forgetting God, placing our desires above His.
  - C. It is really a matter of not giving God His rightful place.
- IV. And there be none to deliver

- A. The idea is that there is no escape.
  - B. So many will do the most sinful things if they think they can get away with it.
  - C. But God judges in justice and executes judgment with righteousness.
- V. Whoever offers praise
- A. The idea is of making an offering or giving thanks.
    - 1. This word is translated thanksgiving 18 times, thanks 6 times.
    - 2. One of the most flagrant sins of the children of Israel in the wilderness was that of thanklessness.
    - 3. By their incessant complaining they provoked God to punish them time and time again.
  - B. Giving praise is such an easy thing to do.
    - 1. To be grateful costs nothing but to give thanks.
    - 2. But you see it speaks of what is in the heart.
    - 3. That is what God is looking at.
    - 4. 1 Thess 5:16-18 16 Rejoice always,17 pray without ceasing,18 in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. NKJV
- VI. Glorifies Me
- A. We are so messed up in this nation that we honor and praise everyone but God.
  - B. It is not that some people are not praise worthy, but that God far exceeds them all.
- VII. And to him who orders his conduct aright
- A. The heart controls the actions, the conduct.
    - 1. Those who are mindful of God will conduct their lives rightly.
- VIII. I will show the salvation of God
- A. All that we have materially is nothing compared to the salvation that God offers us in Christ Jesus.
  - B. For although we may be thankful we are still sinful.
  - C. Sin is something that we cannot erase or simply wash away of our own doing.
  - D. We must come to Him, humbly, sincerely, in repentance and faith.

Have you done that yet in your life?

Have you given you life over to Him?