

PERSONAL EVANGELISM #8 - DEALING WITH DIFFICULTIES

2 PETER 3:1-13

Some will accept their NEED for Salvation on an intellectual level but simultaneously reject their OPPORTUNITY for Salvation.

I. "I AM TOO GREAT A SINNER"

- A. Who else can be saved but sinners? LUKE 5:31
 - 1. Jesus would not go to the ritzy neighborhoods
 - 2. He came to seek and to save that which was lost
 - 3. Nothing "cannot" be found by an all-seeing God
- B. His strength in Salvation is greater than your sin
 - 1. He completely overcame sin HEB. 4:15
 - 2. Your sin cannot stop His power to save ROM. 8:3
- C. Paul was the chief of sinners but Saved 1 TIM. 1:15

II. "MY HEART IS TOO HARD"

- A. Not a problem! God will make a new heart EZE. 36:26-17
 - 1. What kind of heart to do you want?
 - 2. Heart: deceitful above all! (Don't trust it!)
- B. Not just a new heart, but a new creature 2 COR. 5:17

III. "GOD WILL NOT RECEIVE ME"

- A. That is Satan's lie to fool you JOHN 6:37
 - 1. Of course, he lies about "acceptability"
 - 2. "He is a liar, and the father of it" (JOHN 8:44)
- B. He will also lie about what God accepts GEN. 3:1-5
- C. People ask, like the rich young ruler, what must I DO?
 - 1. Not what YOU must DO but what HE has DONE

IV. "IT IS TOO LATE"

- A. I have committed the unpardonable sin MATT. 12:31-32
 - 1. First: Do you believe the rest of that verse?
 - 2. To reject Salvation - witness of the Holy Ghost
- B. Let's assume you haven't reached that point GEN. 6:3

V. "I MUST BECOME A BETTER PERSON FIRST"

- A. It isn't about "our" strength but His ROM. 5:6-8
- B. The prodigal son got WORSE not BETTER LUKE 15:18-24

CONCLUSION: God is not willing that any should perish but warns everyone of death and judgment to come. No one has any excuse.