

THE INSANITY OF SIN

Text: Eccl. 9:3

INTRO: One thing all men have in common is sin. And one thing that all sin has in common is that it stems from wrong thinking -- thus the wise man says, we all have madness or insanity in our hearts. As Willie Nelson said, "I know I'm not normal -- Nobody is."

I. MOTHER EVE. READ GEN. 1:26-29; 2:8-17

- A. The temptation, Gen. 3:1-5.
- B. What she had to lose/gain: life, paradise home, every tree pleasant, every fruit good for food, dominion over all other creatures, opportunity to live forever...
- C. The odds--God made her, the world she lived in. He thoroughly understood it in every detail. He gave it to her & her husband to have dominion over.
- D. To choose as she chose was insane. Yet, which of us can be sure we would not have made the same choice?

II. THE REBELLIOUS, WASTEFUL SON.

Luke 15:11-19.

- A. Blessings of his father's house are summed up in vs 31.
- B. The insanity of his sin becomes evident when we see the description of his repentance.
 - 1. He came to himself.
 - 2. Only then did he return to his father.
 - 3. He acknowledged his sin--& recognized that he had sinned

against his father--& against
God.

III. THE DEMON-POSSESSED MAN OF MARK 5,
LUKE 8.

A. Note difference between demon
possession & our situation of coming
under Satan's power by choice.

James 4:7, Therefore submit to God.
Resist the devil & he will flee from
you.

1 Pet. 5:8-9

B. While under Satan's influence the man
was

1. wild, reckless, out of control, MK
5:1-4

2. He was self-destructive, vs. 5

3. He was naked, Luke 8:26-27

C. When Jesus freed him from Satan, vs
35, he was

1. sitting at Jesus' feet.

2. clothed

3. in his right mind

CONCLUSION: Sinner, if you haven't already
done so, you need to accept the freedom from
Satan that Jesus offers you. Like the prodi-
gal, you need to come to yourself. Come to
Jesus. "Whosoever shall call on the name..."
Learn, obey, live a meaningful life under the
guidance of Jesus.

Exton, PA, August 7, 1988

Shiloh, Mexia, TX, July 25, 1993

Susquehanna, Marietta, PA, September 10, 2000