
Words of Truth

The Three Blind Wolves

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After Jesus came into this world and opened the door of salvation to the Gentiles, the Jews struggled to understand and accept that. It was foretold that all nations of the earth would be blessed by the seed of Abraham (Genesis 22:18). It was foretold that the Gentiles would have the opportunity to be saved in Christ (Isaiah 11:1-16, Isaiah 42:1-9, and Isaiah 60:1-12). It was preached from the beginning of the New Covenant (Acts 2:35-39; cf. Ephesians 2:11-17). However, even the Apostles whom were told to preach the Gospel to the whole world, to every creature (Matthew 28:17-20, Mark 16:15-20, and Luke 24:47); didn't understand it until God miraculously proved it to them (Acts 10:1-11:18).

In regard to this, the following was written to the saints in Rome: *“For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins. As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are beloved for the fathers' sakes. For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance. For as ye in times past have not believed God, yet have now obtained mercy through their unbelief: Even so have these also now not believed, that through your mercy they also may obtain mercy. For God hath concluded them all in unbelief, that he might have mercy upon all”* (Romans 11:25-32).

Israel had a blindness regarding what had been declared and taught. They struggled even after being taught. Congregations, such as those in Antioch, Rome, and those in the area of Galatia had divisions between Jewish and Gentile saints. Their blindness which was once due to the Gospel being a mystery, then revealed (Ephesians 3:1-11), was then an erring choice they were making (II Corinthians 3:1-18).

As a result of blindness to the truth and unrighteous zeal (Romans 10:1-3), wolves existed among the saints (Galatians 2:1-5). By wolves, I am meaning such in the sense of predators among the sheep of God (Ezekiel 22:26-27, Matthew 7:15-20, and Acts 20:26-31). They were blind due to willful ignorance. They were predators because of misplaced zeal as a result of that ignorance. Wolves are often driven by a certain hunger. They are predators for a certain gain. With that, I want to turn to a lesson about the hunger of carnal desires.

Carnal Desires Turned Them Into Wolves Among The Sheep

The first of our three blind wolves was a man named Scott. He was a man who chose to take upon himself the work of a teacher of the Gospel, though he did not fully grasp what he taught (I Timothy 1:3-7). His blindness came because he was never really fully converted from the world to Christ. He still loved the world and the things of the world (I John 2:15-17). When money came into his life, it was too much for him. His hunger grew. He could not be content with such things he had (I Timothy 6:6-19). His teaching grew more and more carnal. As a result, he destroyed an entire congregation.

The second of our three blind wolves was a man named Evan. Evan was fully converted from the world to Christ. At the first, he had no carnal desires. He put his hand to the plow properly (Luke 9:57-62). Yet, some time after his conversion, he went to visit his family. During his time there, the relationships of the world and the comfort of familiar surroundings had him turn back to the world (II Peter 2:20-22). The progress of it was quick. He became a conformer (Romans 12:1-2). He started to need the praise of men. Like the Jews, his need for the praise of men became more important than the praise of God (John 12:36-43). He became a wolf as he sat among the saints and attempted to justify his carnal decision making process. There was a young man I had studied with, that attended with Evan, he was persuaded to choose the now sinful path Evan had taken. They both fell. The battle between the flesh and the spirit (Galatians 5:17) was lost. Evan was blinded by worldly lusts.

The third of our three blind wolves was a man named Mike. Mike came from a congregation of only three members. Mike was accustomed to being the one in the room with the most knowledge, the most success, etc. When he moved here to El Paso he was clearly the weakest in the room in most areas. I do not say that to diminish him, for the truth is most of us considered his Scriptural importance among us as a weak member (I Corinthians 12:14-27). He struggled with that. He needed to feel important (Romans 12:3). In that state, he increasingly began to tear down others to exalt himself (Luke 18:9-14). He got so bad that he publicly attacked the congregation's importance to his salvation. He felt like he could do it all on his own and better at that. He tried to excel financially and pull up in his new cars and speak about his much spending, but all that did was reveal his true carnal struggles (Proverbs 13:7 and Luke 16:15). His blindness was due to a carnal pride that his self-justifying ignorance fueled (Revelation 3:14-19). His nature as a wolf came about as he ignorantly took his family towards destruction with him as well as two other families (Luke 6:39).

Conclusion

We all need to keep growing so that none of us are blind (II Peter 1:1-11). Spiritual blindness is destructive (Ephesians 4:17-19)! It will turn us from being the Lord's sheep into being wolves that lead others astray (Matthew 15:1-14).