

I Met a Man

by Phil Beach Jr.

The sermon emphasizes the necessity of recognizing our sinfulness and the transformative grace of Jesus in our lives.

Duration: 46:48

Scripture: Luke 13:1, Philippians 3:17

Topics: "Christian Life", "Humility", "Grace and Repentance"

Description

Phil Beach Jr. emphasizes the necessity of recognizing ourselves as sinners in need of God's grace, drawing from the testimony of a man who walked with Jesus. He reflects on the humility required to approach God, highlighting that true brokenness involves acknowledging our own sins rather than comparing ourselves to others. The sermon calls for a revival of hearts, urging believers to come to Jesus with a sincere heart, recognizing that all are in need of His mercy. Beach Jr. reminds us that the path to healing and restoration begins with humility and repentance, as exemplified by the Samaritan woman who invited others to 'meet a man' who knows their sins yet loves them. Ultimately, he stresses that God's grace is available to those who humbly seek it, regardless of their past.

Transcript

Father, we thank you for the Lord Jesus. We thank you for his grace. We thank you that he's the savior of sinners.

Lord, thank you for the work that you're doing in our lives. We pray, Lord, that you'll continue this work. Reading the scripture that Mike read in Philippians chapter 3, Brethren, be followers together of me.

Paul said he was the chiefest of sinners. He said he was the least of the less of all saints. The least, less than the least of all saints.

Brothers, be together followers of me. He said he wasn't worthy to be called. Brothers, be followers of me and mark them which walk as we have.

I'm going to read a brief account of the testimony of a man who walked with Jesus and experienced what happens in the lives of people who are walking with Jesus in truth. This will very much hit very clearly what the Lord is saying to us. This was occurring in Africa many years ago.

It might be thought that this was merely African emotionalism and therefore superficial. The author is referring to the continuous praise choruses that kept breaking forth from meetings as believers gathered together. And the choruses were very simple.

They were praising Jesus, the Lamb of God for his blood, which cleanses sinners from sin. That's the chorus that kept breaking out. Praising Jesus, the Lamb of God, which cleanses sinners from sin.

And that's the context. It might be thought that this was merely African emotionalism and therefore superficial. Far from it.

I was to realize something of the spiritual depth of these men when on being introduced to me, one of them spoke English and said, Oh, you're and then he mentions the author's name. I am so glad to meet you. We have read your book, The Calvary Road, and we enjoyed it very much.

We always like to meet the author of a book which has helped us that we might be sure that he is truly broken. The author now continues by brokenness. I came to understand.

Listen carefully. By brokenness, I came to understand that they meant a man's continual willingness to take his place as a sinner on any matter that God showed him. Brokenness, brokenness.

Meant that we are to take the place as a sinner on any matter that God showed him. Then the author writes. Nothing superficial there.

Luke chapter 13, Luke chapter 13. Now, Lord, I'm going to read this word here and it's going to slay me. It's going to be a sword into my heart and I'm going to need your help because I stand guilty.

But I know that you are for guilty sinners who agree with what you have said and who come in brokenness, seeking repentance and cleansing by your precious blood. OK, you pray for me as I read this, because I have a hard time reading this. All right.

You pray for me as I read this. There are present as there is right now in our room, those that told Jesus of the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. And Jesus answering unto them said, do you suppose that these Galileans were sinners above all the Galileans because they suffered such things? We can't hear this, Lord, help us.

Help me, Lord, to hear this. Let's try that again. And there were present at that season some that told him, some that told him about someone else's sins.

If you told the Lord about someone else's sins recently, your son's, your daughter's sins, Lord's not hearing you. Doesn't hear me either. You know why? Because we suppose that theirs are worse than ours.

And Jesus answering said unto them, suppose ye my suppose ye that these Galileans were sinners above or another translation says, do you think that these folks were worse sinners than you? Verse number three, I tell you, no, but except ye repent, ye also likewise shall perish. Now let's go to verse four or those 18 or those 2,500 plus in the twin towers upon whom the tower in Siloam fell and slew them. Think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem? I tell you, no, no, but except ye repent, ye shall likewise perish.

John, it's remarkable that Mike mentioned this scripture that the Lord put on my heart to read this morning, haven't read it in two months. John chapter four, verse number 29. Now, dear ones, we simply cannot hear the scriptures that we just read in Luke until this happens.

We can't hear it. It actually will be offensive to us. And we're going to get stiff necked, very stiff necked, and we're going to grind down the back of our teeth and endure until we can get out from such an environment.

That's why we need to see Jesus this morning. We need to see Jesus this morning. Come, said the Samaritan woman, meet a man.

While in Scotland, Jesus told me, son, all revival is summed up in this one statement. Come, meet a man. Revival is one sinner going to another sinner and saying, come, meet a man.

Mike, come meet a man. You know what he did? He told me everything that you've ever done. No, he didn't do that at all.

Come meet a man who told me everything that I have ever done. Is not this the savior of the world? And he still loves me. Now, when we meet this man, something happens.

We can read Luke chapter 13 verses one through four with a broken heart. We realized that we were those who stood in the presence of Jesus and thought ourselves to be better than others, better than others, blind, self-righteous, stiff-necked, proud and deserving judgment. But he loves us.

Come meet a man that has told me everything that I've ever done. Now, you're not going to be convinced of this at first. You might even begin to resist the devil when the Holy Spirit begins to shine this light into your soul as I did.

Get behind me, devil. James, brother James, loved of the Lord, brother James, the groundwork is being laid for Jesus, as one brother once said, to come out of the shadows and to walk face to face in our lives and in our homes. The groundwork is being laid.

He's got to find sinners. He's got to find sinners. James chapter two, verse number 10, for whoever shall keep the whole law and yet offend in one point is guilty of what? Guilty of what? Breaking the whole law.

Come meet a man who told me everything I'd ever done. Come meet a man who told Phil that he's guilty of breaking every single commandment. Every one.

Oh, Lord, my heart is broken. How could I ever have thought that someone was worse off than I was? I'm the sinner that stands in need of you today. I'm the sinner that stands in need of you today.

What did the sinner say when he saw the house of God afar off? He stopped and he fell to his knees and he bowed his head and he said, Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner. Now, he left what? Justified. Righteous.

A sinner, but righteous. Justified, but a lawbreaker. Peace with God, but a heart that was ever in turmoil.

Peace, but turmoil. Knowing he was a sinner, a terrible rotten sinner. The worst of sinners.

Now, the Pharisee didn't stop. The Pharisee walked right in and he stood erect and the first thing that came out of his mouth was thankfulness. A thankfulness that was a stench and the nostrils of God.

A thankfulness that I've been guilty of. What did he say? I thank you, my God. Thankfulness.

You know, when Jesus sees thankfulness, he sees where it's coming from. I thank thee, my God. See, you can be a thankful person.

I thank you, my God, that I am not like fill in the blank this morning. Come on. Are you honest enough? Fill in the blank.

Come on. Think of that person that you think you're just a little bit better than. Come on.

A little bit more righteous. A little bit holier. A little bit better off.

I thank thee, my God, that I'm not like who? Go ahead and then let your mind be filled with all of your deeds that are in God's eyes like menstruous cloths, filthy rags. Look what I do. I pray.

I'm faithful. I read my Bible. I fast.

They don't. Truly, Jesus said when he left, he was in trouble with God. Come meet a man who showed me that I am a sinner.

Stiff-necked, proud, stubborn, the biggest Pharisee here, but he loves me and he's given me the grace to be sorry and to want to love his light and his truth and to be my atoning sacrifice and my forgiver. Is there hope? Is there hope, brothers and sisters? When we see the truth, there is no hope until we do see the truth. That's the truth.

There's no hope until we do, but then when we see the truth, is there hope? I hear the voice of one saying, behold, he ever liveth to make intercession. I hear the voice of another saying, there's room at the foot of the cross for sinners. Was there hope for that Pharisee? With God, all things are possible.

You know how you know there's hope for the Pharisee? When he leaves the temple and goes and kneels down next to the sinner and says, pray for me. Pray for me. I realize that you're a little better off than I am.

Would you pray for me? Revivals come when this happens, brothers and sisters. That's where we're heading. Oh, yes, that's where we're heading.

So, Hebrews chapter 10. Now, remember all God's words of hope are spoken to sinners. Sinners.

Now, listen, they're not spoken to sinners who know they're sinners, but also know that there's worse sinners than they. No. The wonderful words of Jesus are for sinners that know they're the worst.

Okay. Hebrews chapter 10, verse 12. But this man, Jesus, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins, oh my, we can't go any further.

We have to stop there. You know, the Bible says that Jesus was marred so deeply that one translation actually says that he didn't look human. Can you imagine that God, the Creator, was marred so deeply he didn't even look human? Why? Does anyone know why? Why? Why? No, mine.

No, mine, Norman. Mine was marred because I'm an adulterer. I am Lorenzo, Phil.

I'm a liar. I crucified him. My sins.

I look at my children and I love them because I have a father's heart. And I see their sins and I say, they're my sins. They've learned them from me.

I see their attitude. And I say, God, I've seen that attitude before. Where did I see it? And God says, in yourself.

My sins. Come, meet a man who won't talk to you in generalities anymore, who won't talk to you about the sins of the world anymore, who won't point out to you the sins of your children anymore. Come, meet a man who will tell you, you, you everything that you've ever done.

You. And then we hear Jesus say, repent. Come to me, all ye sinners.

That's what Calvary's all about. But this man, after he had offered a sacrifice himself, he died. God turned his face on who? At Calvary.

What did Jesus cry out? My God, my God, what? He didn't forsake the Son of God as the Son of God. He forsook the Son of God as representing me. Me.

That's God's view of me. I'm going to forsake you, you enemy of the cross. Come, meet a man.

Oh, but this is the message for the sinner, Phil. I know, that's why I'm preaching it to myself. It's a message to the sinner.

Do you see? You will, you will. And when you do, remember me and pray for me when you see. But most likely what you'll do is you'll say, no, Phil, I can't pray for you because my sins are worse than yours.

Worse than yours, Phil. Worse than yours. Verse 14, for by one offering he has perfected forever them that are sanctified, wherefore the Holy Spirit is a witness to us.

For after that he has said, this is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord. I will put my laws into their hearts and in their minds will I write them and their sins, Mike, and their sins and iniquities will I remember no more. Verse 19, having therefore, brethren, boldness.

Now, is this the boldness of the Pharisee? I thank thee, my God, that I'm not like others. That's not the boldness that the scripture is talking about. The boldness.

Having therefore boldness, or another is confidence. Having confidence, therefore, brethren, how can I have confidence? I am the worst sinner alive. How can I have confidence, Brian? How can I have confidence? I'm guilty of the whole law.

How can I have confidence? I'm a proud, stiff-necked man. How can I have confidence? Because Jesus died for sinners just like me. Having therefore confidence to enter into the holiest.

What's the holiest represent? The very presence of Jesus Christ. Oh, but my sins are many. Yes, but I have confidence because of the blood of Jesus Christ that was shed for righteous people.

No, for sinners that was shed for Pharisees. No, for sinners that was shed for Christians who think they're better than other Christians. No, for sinners such as I, any other position that we take will lead us into trouble other than the position of a sinner in need of God's grace.

Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way. Verse 22, let us draw near with a true heart, a heart of truth, that is a heart, listen, a heart that agrees with truth, a heart that agrees with truth. The truth is I am a sinner who is trusting in the righteousness of another, in the merits of another, in the life of another, having full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering. For he is faithful that promised. So here we are, brothers and sisters, Mike said, he said, you know, it's a hard thing to come to grips with the truth.

Why is it hard? What was he talking about? It's a hard thing to come to grips with the truth, the truth that we are sinners, enemies of the cross, self-righteous, proud, self-satisfied, full of self, and are in desperate need to take that place as sinners, because it's to those that Christ ministers the Holy Spirit, the power, the life of another, even his son. When Peter saw the Lord, he said, depart from me, for I am a sinful man. Then he stood by a fire, warming his hands, and denied his Lord three times.

And then, even after he had the baptism of the Holy Spirit and had been a leader in the church, Paul came into his life and rebuked him for being a hypocrite. Galatians, he had slipped. What happened? He forgot, didn't he? He forgot that Peter, at his best, curses God and denies him.

He was guilty of hypocrisy, and Paul rebuked him. Let's bow our hearts together for a moment. Father, thank you for your grace.

Thank you for the freedom to be sinners. God, I'm asking you to help us taste the freedom to stop hiding like Adam did. Adam, where are you? Oh, I've hid myself, Lord.

I didn't like what I saw. I didn't like to be a fallen sinner in need of help. Lord, take every fig leaf that we have wrapped around our lives that's deceiving our own hearts and the hearts of others and making us and them believe that we are something other than the worst of sinners.

Lord, take those leaves out of our lives. Go into our homes and rip them out in your love. Help us to stop hiding behind our Christianity and our religion.

Help us to come naked spiritually before you, trembling at the foot of your cross. No hope but Christ. No covering but his righteousness.

No religion but relationship by faith in the Son of God. God, I pray that you will heal broken relationships that pride has caused. I pray, God, that you will restore brotherly love where it has fallen because of pride and unwillingness to humble.

I pray you'll heal marriages, Lord, where there's been pride and an unwillingness to take the place of a sinner, to take the place of saying, I'm guilty, I'm guilty, I'm guilty. It's my fault. It's my fault.

I'm sorry. Husbands, are you hearing God speak? It's your fault. It's your fault.

Husbands, listen. When was the last time you went to your wife and your children and said, It's my fault. I'm guilty.

I'm a proud, stiff-necked, horrible, rotten sinner. Forgive me. Oh, God, bend that proud, stiff-necked eye.

Bend it, Lord. That proud heart that will not bow. And start with mine, Lord.

Mine, I pray. Brothers and sisters, I beg you. Seek the Lord as a sinner and you'll find multiplied grace.

But continue in your sin and in your pride and in your rebellion and in your self-righteous Pharisee attitude and you'll come up against a closed heaven and ultimately rejection because the Lord knows the proud of far off, but He gives grace to sinners. Grace. And you'll know God's done a work in your heart when you can't see anyone's sins but your own.

And when God does let you see someone else's sins, you'll realize that they're far better off than you are because all of their sins combined together doesn't equal the weight of just one of yours. And until you can see that and not just say it, but really, really see it, and it brings you down to Calvary, you or I are not where God wants us to be. May God bring us there.

When I was in Scotland, the Lord spoke to me many things and one of them was this, Son, I'm going to fulfill everything I promised you. Everything. And He wasn't referring to anything that has to do with things for me.

It has to do with a revelation of Himself. This is the beginning. Coming to Jesus as sinners.

May God do it. Some of us are going to have to go very low. Listen, some of us are going to have to go very low.

Some of us are going to be required to go and ask forgiveness. Some of us are going to have to swallow a bowling ball size of pride. And it's going to be very difficult.

Very difficult. But Jesus said, the way is narrow. Pride and self-righteousness and holier than thou has to be burned away by the eyes of a loving God.

That's what He's going to do. So may God help us as we come confessing our need as sinners, seeking grace at the foot of the cross.

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