

Isaiah 58

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Isaiah 58.

B. Subject: If you do so and so, then God will do such and such.

C. Setting: people may have a daily quiet time and even period fasting but live in period hypocrisy if there is not a turning away from sin.

D. Make objectives by praying everything.

1. Do this in order to see God answer.

2. Do this while experiencing God's presence. (John 14:21)

II. Two "ifs."

A. What you get rid of.

1. The yoke of sin. Sin is binding, blinding and grinding.

a. One kind of sin has to do with a bad conscience.

b. You get back on track through repentance.

c. The other kind of sin is bitterness, which is one of the prime sins that makes a Christian unusable.

2. The pointing of the finger. This is contempt for others. (Romans 14)

a. This is an issue of pride.

b. God resists the proud and gives grace to the humble.

c. Often we project our own guilt upon others too.

d. In humility we are to count others as better than ourselves. (Philippians)

e. The basic principle of training a man is to meet his need. This is what love does freely accepting another and meeting his need.

B. What you plant.

1. Pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the afflicted soul.

- a. This often requires laying aside your schedule.
- b. Spend time thinking of what you can do for people.
- c. The point of assembly is to stir people to good works.
- d. Guidance and satisfaction are ours when we lay aside our problems to help others.
- e. To establish means to prop or support. When we help others, we are established.

III. Nine “thens.”

- A. A little investment made for God and a fantastic dividend is reached.
- B. This is a principle that runs throughout the whole Bible: give and it shall be given unto you. (Luke 6:38)
- C. We do the “ifs” and we will experience the “thens.”

Application questions

1. What things in the passage does God require us to do in order to receive His reward?

2. Explain in your own words why there is a strong correlation between what one does and what one receives.

3. Can you think of someone you can do something good for this week? How would your activity meet his or her need? Make a plan to reach out and help someone intentionally.
