

WHAT DOTH HINDER ME?

Acts 8

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Tell the story of Philip, who he was, his work. We find him in a great work in a city of Samaria. He was called from there to the way to Gaza. He followed, not knowing the exact purpose, but sees a man in a chariot (God is interested in the one man). Tell how he was told to join himself to the chariot, etc. He was asked questions and then preached "Jesus." After the sermon, the nobleman said "See, here is water, what doth hinder me to be baptized?" That's our sermon - one thing hindered him, he needed to make the confession. Now, there are many things that hinder people today - What are they?

I. Family Relationship

- A. Matt. 10:37 - make your own comments
- B. Paul's surrender - "But what things were dear to me those I counted lost for Christ, etc."
 1. What could be more dear than family.
 2. There are many today who had to make this lonely step.

II. I'm Not Ready Yet - usually those who say this admit they already know what to do and what is right, and that some day they plan to do it.

- A. Matt. 25:10 "they were not ready"
- B. "Now is the accepted time - today is the day of salvation"

III. Popularity

- A. Jno. 12:42; Gal. 5:7
- B. It is no sin to have the favor of men - Lk. 2:52
- C. But this should not be our aim - Lk. 16:15
- D. Gal. 1:10

IV. Afraid I Can't Hold Out

- A. How many times do people refuse jobs, regardless of how complicated and demanding they are, because they are afraid they cannot hold out? If people could only realize the value of the enterprise - far outreaching any earthly goal.

- B. 1 Cor. 15:58
“One step at a time dear Savior, I cannot take one more.
The flesh is so weak and hopeless, I know not what is before.
One step at a time dear Savior, I am not walking by sight.
Keep step with me, dear Savior, I walk by faith not by sight.
One step at a time dear Savior, O guard my faltering feet.
Keep hold of my hand dear Savior, till I my journey
complete.
One step at a time dear Savior, till faith grows strong in me.
One step at a time dear Savior, till hope grows strong in me.”

V. I Don't Feel Right

- A. Feelings are not a true and safe guide.
1. Paul felt the was right when he was wrong. Acts 23:1
2. Prov. 14:12
- B. The way to feel right is to learn the Bible. “Search the Scriptures” and read what the Bible says. After you know that, then do that and you will feel right. That's the only way to follow your feelings.
1. Revelation 22:14
2. Matthew 7:21

VI. I Plan To Someday

- A. Heb. 3:7 “Today,” and “now” are Bible words. The devil's word is “tomorrow.”
- B. The parable of the vineyard - must go when called. Matt. 20:1. The song: “Soul You Are Drifting Along in the Tide.”