

SHINNING THROUGH THE DARKNESS

Lesson #7 –Darkness of Harden Hearts

Introduction:

1. It becomes a challenge to speak to those whose hearts are hardened against the gospel.
2. We must shine our light before a variety of hardened hearts.
3. We shine our lights to the hearts hardened by...

I. IGNORANCE –Ac 17:22-34

A. THE MEN OF ATHENS

1. The worshipped the “unknown god” –vs. 23
2. Paul spoke of Jesus rose from the dead –vs. 29-31
3. Note their reaction –vs. 32-34

B. OUR CULTURE

1. Biblical information is literally at our fingertips!
2. Sad irony is that there are many who lack the knowledge of God’s word –Hosea 4:6
3. We let our light shine before men through teaching and encouraging Bible study

II. FALSE WORSHIP –Ac 19:21-41

A. RIOT AT EPHESUS

1. Demetrius viewed the preaching of Jesus as a threat to their income
2. The crowd cried out for the goddess Diana for two hours
3. Note the resolve –vs. 35-37

B. OUR CULTURE

1. There is no shortage of disputes among the religious community
2. Our response:
 - a. Preach the truth in love –Ep 4:15
 - b. Preach Jesus and Him crucified -1Co 2:

III. IMMORALITY –MK 6:14-29

A. HEROD AND HIS UNLAWFUL WIFE

1. Herod had his brother’s wife
2. John warned him that this was unlawful and they should repent
3. His was put in prison and later killed for his desire to save their souls.

B. OUR CULTURE

1. Some hold on to immorality. They please self rather than God.
2. We must not succumb to the pressure of society to bend -2Ti 4:1-5

Conclusion:

1. Remember the words of Jesus when we are faced with the darkness of hardened hearts –Jn 15:18-20
2. We must continue to labor for the Lord for our labor is not in vain -1Co 15:58.