Isaiah 30:21 Sermon ID - 1949 am – 04 01 09

"GUIDANCE"

Introduction

1. We have come to a New Year: 2009
2. Instinctively: we think of the Future
3. What lies ahead: Where does my path lie?

1. GOD PROMISES GUIDANCE TO HIS PEOPLE

1) God has a purpose for each of his people:
   (i) every Christian belongs to God
   (ii) He has a plan for every believer
   (iii) Our duty is to seek to do God's will
   APPLICATION: Here is one great difference of the believer

2) God's readiness to show us the way to go:
   (i) "Lead us not into temptation…"
   (ii) "Green pastures…still waters"
   (iii) Ps. 32:89: "I will instruct thee…"
   ILLUSTRATION: a mule – so stubborn
   (iv) Ps. 25:4-5: "Show me thy ways…"
   (v) Christ: "…walk in the day…" (Jn. 11:9-10)
   DOCTRINE: God will guide us if we ask him
   APPLICATION: Do you ask for God's guidance?

2. THE BIBLE MANY TIMES ILLUSTRATES THIS

1) A wife provided for Isaac: Gen. 24:27

2) Jacob on his way to Syria: Gen. 28:15

3) Joseph – marvellously guided: Ps. 105

4) The Apostles – to Europe: Acts 16: 7-10

PSALM

25[1]: 1 – 6

105: 16 – 22

32: 7 – 11

5) "Led by the spirit": Rom. 8:14
   APPLICATION: Believe this + pray for it

3. HOW DOES GOD LEAD AND GUIDE US?

1) We admit here there is mystery – "The Mystery of Providence"

2) But God's eye is always on us for good:
   (i) "I will guide thee with mine eye"
   (ii) The Bible shows us our moral path
   ILLUSTRATION: a "woman minister"
   (iii) God guides our thoughts as we seek him
   (iv) Our "chance" meetings are His work:
   ILLUSTRATION: Saul's asses > Kingdom!
   (v) Look at this: Ps. 37:23-24
   OBSERVE: Our duty is to seek His will; our comfort is that God promises guidance
   APPLICATION: Is this how you are living?

4. WE NEED GOD'S GUIDANCE ALL OUR LIFE

1) The young:
   (i) study
   (ii) work
   (iii) marriage
   APPLICATION: Why do so many go wrong?

2) Those of middle life:
   (i) you are in the way – pray to be kept there
   (ii) to "finish your course with joy"
   (iii) Not to be discouraged with your falls (Ps. 37:23-24)
   ILLUSTRATION: Peter's denials > Pentecost

3) The elderly: to keep our testimony – to die well

CONCLUSION

1.Believe and expect this
2.The believer lives his life in union with God.