**Adult Sunday School**

October 31, 2010

**JOY**

* THE BLESSEDNESS OF OBEDIENCE;

(Deuteronomy 28:6,7,8-10,13-14)

* THE CURSES OF DISOBEDIENCE:

(Deuteronomy 28:15,19,20,23,36,38)

The meaning of the word “curse”:

To injure; to subject to evil; to vex, harass or torment with great calamities.

Affliction; torment; great vexation.

Condemnation; Sentence of divine vengeance on sinners.

ONE REASON FOR A CURSE

(Deuteronomy 28:47) Because thou servedst not the LORD thy God with joyfulness, and with gladness of heart, for the abundance of all things;

WHY THE JOYLESSNESS?

-A- “The abundance of all things”

(Ezekiel 16:49) Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy.

PRIDE, FULNESS OF BREAD, IDLENESS

-B- “Turned away hearts”

(1 Kings 11:2) Of the nations concerning which the LORD said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods: Solomon clave unto these in love. (1 Kings 11:3) And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart. (1 Kings 11:4) For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as was the heart of David his father.

(2 Corinthians 6:14) Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

UNEQUAL YOKES

-C- “Eating from the wrong tree”

(Genesis 2:17) But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die. (Genesis 3:5) For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

(Daniel 12:4) But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased. (Jeremiah 51:17) Every man is brutish by his knowledge; every founder is confounded by the graven image: for his molten image is falsehood, and there is no breath in them.

EXCESSIVE KNOWLEDGE OF EVIL

-D- “Pitching a tent toward wickedness”

(Genesis 13:12) Abram dwelled in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelled in the cities of the plain, and pitched his tent toward Sodom. (Genesis 13:13) But the men of Sodom were wicked and sinners before the LORD exceedingly

(2 Peter 2:7) And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked: (2 Peter 2:8) (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds;)

VEXED SOULS

Ps 43:3 O send out thy light and thy truth: let them lead me; let them bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy tabernacles. 4 Then will I go unto the altar of God, unto God my exceeding joy: yea, upon the harp will I praise thee, O God my God. 5 Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope in God: for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God.

IF THERE IS NO JOY IN HIM, THERE IS NO STRENGTH TO ABIDE IN HIM

WHAT ARE WE TO DO?

(Daniel 9:3) And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes:

Decide, rather, determine to “set our face” unto the Lord God”

(Daniel 9:4) And I prayed unto the LORD my God, and made my confession, and said, O Lord, the great and dreadful God, keeping the covenant and mercy to them that love him, and to them that keep his commandments; (Daniel 9:5) We have sinned, and have committed iniquity, and have done wickedly, and have rebelled, even by departing from thy precepts and from thy judgments:

Confess, yea much more, as Daniel “owned” his portion of responsibility in making his confession. “We have sinned”......

“HE THAT HATH AN EAR”

(Revelation 2:4) Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.

Is our love for Him still a strong and ardent passion?

(Psalms 51:12) Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit.

(1 Peter 4:8) And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins.

We demonstrate our love in Him by our love for each other.

JOYOUSLY PRAISING THE LORD