The Church and Our Sin

Luke 5:1-8 ; Psa. 51:1-12

Intro. A. 3rd and final message on the church.

B. Church and our Sin. Speaking church as redemptive fellowship. Nothing more central. Fail here, and regardless of other successes, a failure.

C. This clear by the concerns of him whose life and ministry cont'd by the church.

1. The company he kept.
2. Whole need no physician.
3. Made self of no reputation.
4. Became sin.

D. We should not be deceived by the change from ancient to modern times. Education has re-phrased; culture has landscaped our problem. Look around, read, look within - Sin is still here; no evidence necessary save our disappointment with ourselves.

I The Church Has Not Been Adequate for the Task. (Tho I realize criticism takes less than a minimum of brains)

A. Inadequate analysis.

1. Common caricature. Burning vows, soulless blonde, strong drink, empty laughter, racy entertainment. Hence see sin ever as the distant disease.
2. Confuse symptoms with the problem. Band-aid work. Frustrating.
3. Fail to see real dimensions of sin.
   a. Note 2 passages. Psa. 51; Luke 5. Agony of self discovery; moral flaw. Won't God to withdraw from. He will. Psa. 51. Peter holds to Jesus' feet & says - Depart.
   b. Sin is a deceptive force, coming as Reason, Law, Good. Paul & Law. Deceived. True in any case.

C. No necessarily dark picture. Very fact we can do good makes sin possible. Only man can sin for only man can do good. Only he can take God's name; live as man wife, only he kiss, so —

4. What is sin? An act prohibited by society? a. Look at temptation of Jesus? Or what convict? Ill. Milton's picture.
b. Temptation at 2 pts. - Relation to God + use of life.
c. To miss mark. Don't this it? Detour be-lavior, proving self sufficient. or detour, see those expressions labelled sin. No adequate todau for missing mark.

B. Inadequate Therapy.
1. Sophistications, new terms. Stages, nervous.
2. Police action. Morality becomes hide + seek. Really no authority needs to enforce. Ill. child + dime or desk.
3. Stay busy. Rock steps on water.
4. Do good. Pile high the relative acts of goodness. Ill. - Cripple a child. How fix?

What Can Church Do Redemptively?

A. Continually proclaim God's acceptance in grace. Accepted for what God is, not what I am. Then be what are!

B. Demonstrate God's acceptance. God's prize blessings channeled thru persons. and then not just brought to me; drawn out of me. Ill. - Rocks + infra-red ray. Never underestimate power ministry to others.

To whom can forgiven person go?

C. Provide worship experience. Keep aware of contact of all morals + religion - Before God. Redemptive standard is God. In God's presence, caught up, who then is able to be small, mean, base?

Let the thought flow over mind + heart + wash them clean - We no people are people of God, called to reflect excellencies of him who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light.