

The Confirmation

2 Kings 6:23-7:20

It is the commonest of things to repent with the lips, but still have a hard heart.

Main Idea: No one can fathom how dark our own natural heart is. God in love provides grace to rescue every person who believes in Him. Everyone who benefits from the grace of God is responsible to share His grace with others too.

The Depth of Our Desperation

“The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?” (Jeremiah 17:9 [ESV](#))

There will be tribulation and distress for every human being who does evil, the Jew first and also the Greek, but glory and honor and peace for everyone who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek. For God shows no partiality. For all who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law.” (Romans 2:9-12 [ESV](#)).

“as it is written: “None is righteous, no, not one; . . . no one does good, not even one.”” (Romans 3:10-12 [ESV](#))

“for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,” (Romans 3:23 [ESV](#))

The Diversity of Responses.

Truth: Unbelief is man’s greatest danger because unbelief is the one sin that will keep us from receiving God’s grace. Faith is man’s greatest friend because faith is the one response that opens the door to God’s grace.

“Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.” (John 3:18 [ESV](#))

“Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.” (John 3:36 [ESV](#))

The Disclosure of God’s Grace

Truth: The LORD gives His Word so that people who trust in Him will have hope in times of desperation and darkness.

Application: Ask God for an opportunity to share your testimony of God’s grace this week.

“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. . . . For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.” (John 1:14-18 [ESV](#))

The Destruction of Unbelief

Truth: Our own unbelief cuts us off from the LORD’s loving provision to overcome every broken-world trial. Faith is the open hand that receives God’s loving provision.

*“He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. **No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God**, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised.” (Romans 4:19-21 [ESV](#))*

The Demand for Evangelism

“Then they said to one another, “We are not doing right. This day is a day of good news.” (2 Kings 7:9 [ESV](#))

“Let us tell men that the Saviour has overcome our foes, and has opened the kingdom of heaven to all who believe. Let us speak from a full heart of all that He has proved to be. Let us invite men to share with us the grace which hath neither shore nor bound . . . One ounce of testimony is worth a ton weight of argument . . . Let us remember that we are called to be witnesses of what God hath done for us.” F. B. Meyer

The Dependability of God’s Word

Truth: The LORD does not lack power to fulfill His Word to us. Not one Word from God’s Book will fail. What God says, He can be trusted to do.

Application: Let us immerse our lives in God’s Word and be careful to receive it by faith.

“And when they say to you, “Inquire of the mediums and the necromancers who chirp and mutter,” should not a people inquire of their God? Should they inquire of the dead on behalf of the living? To the teaching and to the testimony! If they will not speak according to this word, it is because they have no dawn. They will pass through the land, greatly distressed and hungry. And when they are hungry, they will be enraged and will speak contemptuously against their king and their God, and turn their faces upward. And they will look to the earth, but behold, distress and darkness, the gloom of anguish. And they will be thrust into thick darkness.” (Isaiah 8:19-22 [ESV](#))