

Some Dangerous Suppositions

Luke 2:41-44

Introduction:

- A. Joseph and Mary supposed too much! (v. 44)
 - 1. A happy ending. (vs. 48-50)
 - 2. Still, a bad practice.
- B. Good people often suppose too much! Let's notice a few dangerous suppositions:

Discussion:

I. Regarding Their *Children*. (Luke 2:44)

- A. Physical safety.
- B. Spiritual safety.
 - 1. With friends
 - 2. With relatives.
 - 3. With school or church personnel.
 - 4. With other "Christians".

II. Regarding Their *Consciences*. (Acts 23:1; 26:9)

- A. Considering "voice of conscience" as "voice of God."
- B. Conscience cannot be ignored. (cf. Rom. 14:22,23), but must be trained.

III. Regarding Their *Spirituality*.

- A. As to its meaning. (1 Cor. 14:37).
 - 1. Think "being spiritual" is:
 - a. Ability to deeply meditate.
 - b. Ability to stay calm, mild mannered, soft-spoken.
 - c. Ability to "feel God's presence" -- an emotional experience.
 - 2. But, real spirituality is obeying "law of the Spirit" (cf. Rom. 8:2; 1 Jn. 3:3-5; 5:2-3).
- B. As to its strength. (1 Cor. 10:12).
 - 1. Strong enough to bear with weak brethren. (1 Cor. 8,9).
 - a. Refrain from idol's feast. (8:10).
 - b. Refrain from all meat -- if necessary. (8:13) -- illustrated in chapter 9.
 - 2. Strong must not over-estimate own strength. (1 Cor. 10:1-12).
 - a. Do not take for granted ability to resist idol worship!
 - b. Do not take for granted ability to resist fornication, lasciviousness, drunkenness, etc.

IV. Regarding Their *Brethren*.

- A. Many suppose that every brother who comes in among them is safe.
 - 1. Need to check brethren out before acceptance. (Acts 9:26-28).
 - 2. Need to know that they are genuine and faithful.
- B. Many eagerly suppose a brother is what he claims to be based on surface analysis.
 - 1. Such a thing as "false brethren" who act "privily" (Gal. 2:4; 2 Cor. 11:26).
 - 2. Know them by their fruits rather than their claims. (Matt. 7:15-20).

V. Regarding Their *Prosperity*. (1 Tim. 6:5)

- A. Think prosperity (or popularity) is sign of God's favor.
- B. Think prosperity end of godliness -- "health and wealth" gospel -- cf. Rev. Ike.

Conclusion:

- 1. Don't suppose too much when it comes to the safety of your soul!
- 2. Don't suppose that you can be saved without obedience! F.R.C.B.