

THE BLAME GAME

Gen 3:9-13

INTRODUCTION:

- A. A common and dangerous practice today is refusing to accept responsibility for our own mistakes
- B. This sin ("the blame game" or "passing the buck" as it is sometimes called) is as old as mankind himself
- C. Look at some things on which people blame their mistakes and sinful lives

DISCUSSION:

I. SOME BLAME OTHERS FOR THEIR MISTAKES

- A. Some Bible examples:
 - 1. Adam and Eve Gen 3:12 Adam blamed Eve and indirectly blamed God
 - 2. Aaron Ex 32:22
 - 3. King Saul 1Sam 15:15
- B. Sinners blame hypocrites in the Church for their continued disobedience
 - 1. Say: "I know I am better than they are"
 - 2. Person hiding behind a hypocrite is smaller
 - 3. Would rather be with a few here than go to hell and be with all for eternity
- C. Unfaithful members blame disinterest on other members
 - 1. They are not friendly Prov 18:24
 - 2. I was sick and they didn't visit me
- D. Husband and wife blame each other for their troubles
 - 1. I know I have done wrong "but"
 - 2. She/He is just as much to blame as I am

II. SOME BLAME A BUSY LIFE FOR THEIR SPIRITUAL FAILURES Lk 10:40-42

- A. Too busy to study 2Tim 2:15
- B. Too busy to attend services Heb 10:25
- C. Too busy to visit the sick, fatherless, widows and orphans Jas 1:27
- D. Parents become involved in so many activities they are too busy to train their children Eph 6:4
- E. Kingdom of God must come first Matt 6:33
(See Article "Too Busy")

III. SOME BLAME CIRCUMSTANCES OF LIFE FOR THEIR SPIRITUAL FAILURES

- A. Bible examples Lk 14:15-24
 - 1. Bought a piece of ground must go see it
 - 2. Bought five yoke of oxen must go prove them
 - 3. Married a wife, I cannot come

- B. Spouse not member and won't go with me, I don't go
 - 1. Convert partner by being faithful 1Pet 3:1,2
 - 2. Spouse will think nothing to religion if you are unfaithful
- C. Don't have suitable clothes 1Sam 16:7
 - 1. Do you go other places
 - 2. God looks at the inward man

IV. NOT ACCEPTING RESPONSIBILITY FOR SINS (MISTAKES) HAS CONSEQUENCES

- A. Become liars Rev 21:8
 - 1. Misrepresent things
 - 2. Place blame where it does not belong
- B. Become cowards by allowing the innocent to be blamed for our wrongs
 - 1. Coward is fearful
 - 2. Fearful not pleasing to God Rev 21:8
- C. We become blind to our own mistakes and think more highly of ourselves than we ought Rom 12:3
- D. Become hypocrites Matt 7:1-5
 - 1. Unfairly judge others
 - 2. While not realizing what we really are

CONCLUSION:

- A. Instead of making excuses for ourselves and passing the responsibility for our failures on to others, we must have the integrity and courage enough to recognize, admit, and repent of our wrongs
- B. If one has not obeyed God's commands in the Gospel no excuse "blame game" or "buck passing" will take the place of obedience in the eyes of God Matt 7:21
- C. As unfaithful children of God, no excuse will make you into a faithful child of God (becoming faithful again involves more than just coming back to the assembly)
- D. No excuse accepted in the judgment 2Cor 5:10; Rev 22:12