

John 6:37, 44 Invincible Grace

I. Intro

I L V

- D A. Definition of resistance movement (opposing invader, legitimate, violence = freedom fighters)
 1. Modern "Resistance" originates from the self-designation of many movements during World War II, especially the French Resistance."
 2. Over-romanticized by movies, most of us consider such resistance movements as highest expressions of human courage and nobility.
- I B. Today I'd like to introduce you to a resistance movement that is far from courageous or noble, the Foolish Resistance.
 - F1. Farthest extreme from the French resistance, and worst of all, we are all born into it, and some of you are still in it, doomed to defeat
 - H2. I'd also like to give you hope, hope of leaving the resistance and joining the winning side, *welcoming occupation*.

II. The Perfect Government

- G A. FR opposed evil gov- the German Nazi Government of Adolf Hitler. It was tyrannical, cruel, vicious, merciless, unjust, and murderous.
 - B1. Greatly blessed to live in much better times, none of us think that our Government is perfect (almost 50% at election, petitions)
 - I2. All gov imperfect - Good but also mistakes and damage > resisted and opposed to some degree. That's understandable.
- N B. Not understandable: most perfect government in the universe is resisted and opposed (God's)
 - K1. He and His entire Government is kind, merciful, wise, benevolent, good, merciful, etc., and yet His rule and kingdom are resisted.
 - K2. K = God and R = you: Born into & unless born again we stay in it, and fight in it, even to the death - our death.

III. The Foolish Resistance

- P A. No one could persuade the French resistance that the Germans were out for their good (obvious, evidence, Nazi threat to world . right > admire)
 - F1. Foolish R: we see courage alright - mightiest gov in world - but foolish courage, because v someone who only desires to do good (evid)
 - C2. Context: Jews are rejecting the heavenly food and water that Christ has brought to give life - They saw & yet did not believe (John 6:34-36).
- I B. Father iPad illus: Only sees legs, punches, pushes, little boy slams the door shut and turns around delighted with himself.
 1. Lord comes w wonderful gifts that don't get outdated, need upgraded, benefit the soul, never brake - forgiveness, etc - How courageous/fool
- A C. Father Amazon illus: "I'll go first...I know the dangers and the signs to watch out for." How courageous! How foolish!!
 1. Same courageous folly & foolish courage when we reject the Lord's guarding, when we live our lives without really praying, "Lead me not...
- O D. Father drive ill: Let me do it my way - scrapes, bumps, and bangs as he collides with lampposts, trees, cars, and pedestrians refuses help, pile-up ..
 1. Lord offers to guide our lives, but we know better, we'll do it our way...we yank it away from Him or smack His hands. How courageous!
- W E. We resist God, refuse God, defy God, oppose God, reject God.
 1. Gifts; we resist. Guard; we resist. Guide; we resist. So much grace! So much resistance! Foolish Resistance needs irresistible grace.

IV. The Irresistible Grace

- G NA. Irresistible grace does not mean we do not resist - It means that we need irresistible grace to overcome our resistance.
 - m1. No man can come except... The Holy Spirit can overcome all our resistance and make God irresistible.
 - T2. TD = Never choose God. God chooses sinners (innumerable). He sent His son to die for them.
 - B3. Dealt w barrier on God's side -angry opp to our sins - we need barrier removed on our side -angry opposition to God/salvation.
 - A4. No amount of electing and atoning will suffice > IG = Father's drawing power = does not just encourage, advise, beckon but draws.
 - R5. The Father has chosen a people, the Lord Jesus has died for them but they're running away # sends HS to pursue them, catch, return
 - W6. Not a drawing that brings back a person against their will: HS targets, softens, changes, re-directs, and energizes the will. (Ps. 110)
 - H7. HS makes us willing to come to God to receive His gifts, to welcome his guard, and to accept his guidance (why not mentioned?)
- ID B. Differences in the Father's Drawing
 - A1. Different ages: HS works on young hearts and old hearts but majority are younger as their hearts/wills have not grown so hard/skillful
 - F2. Different time periods: Sometimes the drawing can take place in a few minutes, sometimes it can be over many years.
 - F3. Different forces: The Holy Spirit is sometimes "violent" (e.g. Saul of Tarsus), but often gentle (e.g. Lydia)
 - E4. Different expectations: Sometimes we are not surprised...At other times, the Holy Spirit picks out the least predictable and most unexpected.
 - M5. Different means: The Holy Spirit may use a sermon, a Scripture reading, a tract, a book, a witness, even an argument to draw sinners to Christ.
- S C. Similarities in the Father's Drawing
 - W1. HS uses the Word: Not some kind of mystical mid-air experience. Mystery but always rooted in the Scriptures. Nor fizz of feelings
 - M2. HS works through the mind: Rational experience as HS persuades and reasons w Scripture, explains, exposes, exhibits, encourages (Jn. 6:45)
 - P3. HS changes will's direction by changing its passions: Reasons > turned 180 degrees from going away>going to with love (3 G's) (emotion)
 - T4. HS draws to Jesus: Not general theism. Beauty, fascination, obsession, impelled, HE RECEIVES. Died for. None o'side begging to get in.
 - W5. The Holy Spirit always wins: Gen work of HS always resisted and frequently defeated in the sense that it does not accomplish its purpose.
 - S a. However, when the Holy Spirit sets out to save, He saves. He has never been defeated. A big fat zero is in his losses column. ALL
 - J b. This will not be frustrated by the unbelief of the Jews (v. 36).
 - P c. We're not talking possibility or probability but certainty. And we are not talking just of coming but of staying...forever.

V. Conclusion

- L A. Don't limit the Spirit to one way of working. Multitudes of drawing. Don't demand a formula/formulaic approach & don't impose on others
- E B. Enjoy the essential unity of every Christian with one another. "All that" = united people. Diff ways but same dest by same HS
- T C. How thankful we should be that the Holy Spirit overcame our foolish resistance. Not ashamed - humanity's only hope. Murmur > Repeat (43)
- P D. Pray for the Holy Spirit. Encourage ourselves as Christ did when facing mass unbelief, that all who are elect will come to Him. Eternal purp
- U E. If you are an unbeliever, plead with the Lord to defeat and overcome your foolish resistance.
 - S1. Hear the plaintive sighs in Christ's words, "No man can come to me..." Don't use your inability as an excuse for inactivity or irresponsibility.
 - B2. Notice that it does not say "All that the father gives shall be brought to me..." It is not "brought to me," but "come to me."
 - I3. The Father gives, the Spirit draws, the sinners come." Use your inability as a plea with the Lord. "I cannot, but you can!" Gen call > Eff call
 - m4. It's a great mistake to dwell on "All that the Father gives me" and wonder, "Have I been given to the Father."
 - F5. Far better to focus on the second part of the phrase, the coming to Christ.

Wm