

“Discouragement”

Job 14:1-2

Introduction

- I. Discouragement is something with which a Christian can struggle.
- II. We need to understand what the Bible teaches in regard to discouragement so that we make sure that it does not overwhelm us.

Discussion

- I. What does it mean to experience discouragement?
 - A. “Dis”-means “apart,” “asunder,” or “away”
 - B. “Courage”-defined as “having heart”
 - C. Put the two parts together and it means “apart from having heart”, or a lack of confidence.
- II. What are some Biblical examples of discouragement?
 - A. Israelites-in regard to taking the land of promise as God commanded (Num. 14:1-4; 32:9).
 - B. Elijah-(1 Kings 19:1-4, 9-10).
 - C. Job's wife (Job 2:9; cf. 1:13-19; 2:7-9).
- III. How do we overcome discouragement?
 - A. Remember the assurance from God (Rom. 5:35-39).
 - B. God is always faithful (Deut. 7:9; 1 Cor. 10:13).
 - C. God is forgiving to those who repent (Isa. 1:18).
 - D. God welcomes the prayers of Christians (Psm. 18:6).
 - E. Do not compare our success to that of others (Matt. 25:14-30).
 - F. Keep focused on the things that really matter (Matt. 6:33; 2 Cor. 4:17-18).

Conclusion

- I. From time to time, we can all become discouraged.
- II. Let us do what we can to make sure that we do not remain as such (Jos. 1:5-9).