

We are fools. We act as if there is no god. Every sin that we commit in thought, word and deed is rebellion against God. Every sin is based upon the belief that there is no god, that there are no consequences. Every sin is based upon the fact that we do not fear, love and trust in God above all things. And our heavenly Father will not allow anything that isn't absolutely perfect in His presence, into His kingdom. We act as if there is no God, because if we did believe that Our Lord is good and all-knowing and present everywhere, we would submit to Him alone and not do what He forbids. But we do not. We think that our sins will please us, that we will be satisfied in committing those sins; and if there is a God, we think to ourselves, He is either stupid in not knowing what is good or He is evil in keeping from us what we think is good. We think we know what is best for us and that we love ourselves more than God loves us. We must repent of such thinking.

Like the fool you mostly get away with your sins. You think to yourself: "there are consequences for my sins, but not much, it isn't too bad." You treat your spouse poorly, you look at pornography, you waste your paychecks at the bar or the casino or the mall, you run the red light, you miss your children's school activities, you call in sick when you are not sick, and what happens? Almost nothing. Your spouse complains a bit. You mumble you are sorry, even though you don't mean it. You buy them off with a little trinket or an act of service to pretend remorse, and that is it. Your spouse doesn't leave you. The kids don't hate you. You don't get fired. You go a bit deeper in debt but your light bill is paid. There is food on the table. There is gas in the car. Nothing seems to change. We must repent of such thinking.

We cannot think that our works will not follow us, that our sins are harmless. We are playing with fire. Any one of these things, any sin, can spin out of control in a heartbeat. Some people never recover in this life from running a red light. Some people get caught and publicly shamed, even lose their jobs, because of sexual misconduct or playing hooky from work. Look at Penn State University. Were they more stupid than you? Are you just lucky? No. You have been spared because the Lord is merciful. You have paid little for your sins, if anything. You have been blessed. No matter how hard your life is, no matter what consequences you have endured or how much you have been victimized, you are not in Hell. You are not separated from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Do not take this mercy for granted. Do not be a fool. Repent before it is too late. Eagerly receive the forgiveness of sins from your heavenly Father. The Day of Wrath is coming, you can count on it. Do not ask God to be fair. Do not think that He looks away from your sins, He doesn't. Ask Him for mercy. Pray that He would be slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love forever.

Consider the goats. They want to know when they failed. They can't see how they are any worse than anyone else. When did they see Jesus hungry and not give Him food, and so forth? So they get a list. "Here are the times you failed, when you were selfish, when you sinned, when you fell short of My glory. Now depart from Me. You are cursed." If you want to be judged by what you have done you will be. And you will be damned. To the goats Our Lord says, "Go into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his demons. They have

been your allies and your works follow you." If you want justice, you will get justice. If you say there is no god, by your words, by your thoughts or by your deeds, you will go to the place where there is no God of mercy.

Consider the sheep. They have almost the same response as the goats but in reverse. "When did we ever do such great things?" They also get a list. "Whenever you did it to the least of these My brethren you did it for Me." "But still the sheep are not sure. They cry out, "We are just sheep. We don't deserve Your Kingdom. Even when we sort of did what You demanded, we did it grudgingly or with mixed motives, and what we did wasn't much. Sometimes we did it for selfish reasons, to be noticed or to make ourselves feel better or because we just wanted to get along. We are not so different than the goats. It really isn't fair that we get the Kingdom and they don't."

And Jesus says. "My Kingdom is only given to those who **DON'T** deserve it. So come, you who are blessed by My Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you. Come and eat and drink and buy without money or cost. Reap where you did not sow. Live in houses you did not build. For My Kingdom is bestowed by grace and mercy. My works, My perfect life and death, count for you; they have accomplished what you did not do, what you could not do. I have defeated death with My death and quenched Hell's fire on your behalf. Your sins are forgiven. I have risen from the dead to open heaven for you. So, come, and be with Me and live in the bliss of Divine Wisdom, of mercy without measure and without end, of grace that passes all understanding."

Jesus continues with what He says to you. "In the meantime, while you wait for My second coming, I will do My work on earth through you, despite your sins, despite your wretchedness. First I will feed, welcome, clothe, and visit you through My Holy Word and Blessed Sacrament. I will give you Myself, My own righteousness, My own holiness. I will give you safe access to the Father, He is your Father and My Father, your God and My God. I will give you the service of the Holy Angels. I hear your prayers and answer them according to My holy will, according to what is good. But I also give you a part in My Kingdom right now. You are no longer slaves but my Brethren, my brothers and sisters, members of the house of God. You are mine. I live in you.

So, come, blessed of My Father, come, my dear children, come to My Holy Supper, come to the Divine Mystery of the My body and blood, given to you for the forgiveness of sins, for the spiritual union of all believers in Me, to the foretaste of the Feast to come. And soon, I will come back and bring you to the Wedding Feast where you will be the honored guest; because God's Kingdom is only given to those who **DON'T** deserve it." Amen.