

CHRISTIAN TRAMPS THE SIN OF GADDING¹ ABOUT

TEXT: *Jeremiah 2:36: Why gaddest thou about so much to change thy way? thou also shalt be ashamed of Egypt, as thou wast ashamed of Assyria.*

Jeremiah 2:10-12:

¹⁰ For pass over the isles of Chittim, and see; and send unto Kedar, and consider diligently, and see if there be such a thing.

¹¹ Hath a nation changed their gods, which are yet no gods? but My people have changed their glory for that which doth not profit.

¹² Be astonished, O ye heavens, at this, and be horribly afraid, be ye very desolate, saith the LORD.

Jeremiah 2:32: Can a maid forget her ornaments, or a bride her attire? yet My people have forgotten Me days without number.

The main reason some Christians behave like tramps, gadding about, is due to their waxing cold toward the Lord and the things of the Lord. So they run from place to place looking for a place where they will hear “smooth-talking”. They no longer drink from the Fountain of Living Waters, but run to other cisterns from which to drink. As a result, they have become lean in their soul, have gotten caught up in false systems, and have become worshippers of idols.



Timothy 4:3-4:

³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

⁴ And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

“Why gaddest thou about?” is the Lord’s pleading perplexity. He represents the nation of Israel as being married unto Himself, He being their Husband and they being His bride. Only the unfaithful wife who is false to her relationship would gad about. The ties of your relationship to Christ are as sacred as those of marriage, and the love which binds sweethearts together is more pure and deeper in the

¹Going around from one place to another in the pursuit of pleasure or entertainment.

spiritual.

What right have I, when I am in trouble, to seek an arm of flesh to lean upon or to pour my grief into an earth-born ear in preference to casting my care upon God and telling Jesus all my sorrows? Even if a human friend has the best intentions, he is still not like my Lord — he never died for me, he never shed his blood for me, and if he loves me, he cannot love me as the Husband of my soul can love.

My Lord's love is as ancient as eternity, deeper than the sea, firmer than the mountains, and changeless as His Own Deity. To trust any other in preference to Him is to throw Him a curve and slight His ability. It also exposes in us a weakness spiritually, and it reveals a drought in our barren soul which has forsaken the fountain of Living Waters.

Our relationship to Christ is that of a wife to her husband. Every wife should show dependence on her husband's care, should delight in his love, and should be diligent in his house. It is her kingdom and her highest joy.

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You all have something to do who have been married to Christ in the household of God. Why that gadding about, that wasting of time? That late rising? Will we dare to be untrue to Him? Has He been unkind to you? Surely His pure love toward His own is unspeakable — no tongue nor language can fathom. It goes beyond the highest star.

Lyrics for the song ***The Love of God:***

***Could we with ink the ocean fill
And were the skies of parchment made,
Where every stalk on earth a quill
And every man a scribe by trade
To write the love of God above
Would drain the ocean dry,
Nor could a scroll contain the whole
Though stretched from sky to sky.***

Why gaddest thou about? Have you found happiness thus? I confess that wanderings have made me many times poor, lean in my soul, and of no account. It is as the prodigal gadding about that led him in the end into a hog pen. It's like forsaking the Throne for a dunghill, leaving purple robes and fine linen for rags and poverty.

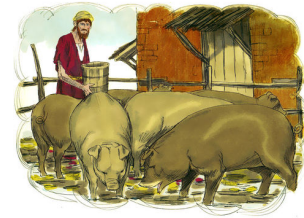
Luke 15:13-16:

13 And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living.

14 And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want.

15 And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.

16 And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.



We don't pray, read, and feed on the Word of God, nor do we look for the Coming of Jesus, because we're gadding about like a chicken with its head cut off.

When news came to a pastor that one of his members was about to join another church, knowing the person well, all he said was: "*Oh well, I guess there isn't any harm changing the labels on an empty bottle.*"

To you, sinner, *why gaddest thou about to change thy ways?*, the eternal Judge asketh thee. I know the devil is driving you to be on the go continually, giving you less time to think and to consider what you are doing which would bring you to the realization that you are lost, without God, and without hope in this world. You are on the broad road that leads to eternal destruction and damnation, and you cannot run away from God nor from your accusing conscience.



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