

Devotion Notes

Mike Ho gives the devotion on "Repent or Else" from Luke 13:1-9 on Nov 5, 2010

- Some self-righteous reporters assumed the Galileans got what they deserved. But, Jesus brought another example to tell them in both cases the victims of these tragedies were not especially evil.
- Jesus led their focus of their eternal destiny. Unless they repent they too will perish.
- Then, Jesus used a parable to illustrate what he meant.
- When I grew the fig tree, I got some fruit in the first year. Here, this fig tree had been there for 3 years, but still no fruit. The vineyard symbolizes the nation of Israel. Fig tree was to symbolize Jews.
- Jesus had been with them for 3 years, yet they have not accepted His message, to repent and acknowledge Jesus is the Messiah.
- The man asked for one more year to give it another chance. So, God is patient and forbearing, He gives more chances for people to repent. But there is a time for judgment. People have to repent or be doomed.
- Questions:
 1. When we know anyone who still has not repented, We should petition and earnestly pray for God to provide one more chance. Pray for "one more year", "2nd chance" – showing Psalm 103:8-13
 2. "dig around & fertilize" – our effort must be relentless and don't give up.
 3. What will happen if they die today? - the consequence is clear. If he has repented, he will perish.
 4. Do we love them enough to do what we could to tell them the good news?
 5. From "barren" to fruit, God is looking for a sign of change in life. This person has a chance.
 6. God's patience will run out when we keep resisting. "if not, then cut it down."