

DIVIDING LINE 103

INTRODUCTION:

- A. We heard former Pres. Bush talking about the line in the sand.
- B. There are land lines separating one farm from another-county lines, state lines. Lines like the Mississippi River.
- C. God also has drawn some lines.
- D. Often He has used water as a sort of dividing line.

BODY:

I. NOAH'S FLOOD WAS A DIVIDING LINE SEPARATING BETWEEN THE OLD WORLD AND THE NEW WORLD.

A. Gen. 6:5-9. Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man [was] great in the earth, and [that] every intent of the thoughts of his heart [was] only evil continually. And the Lord was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. So the Lord said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them." But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord. This is the genealogy of Noah. Noah was a just man, perfect in his generations. Noah walked with God.

1. On the former side of the flood, the world was very wicked and lost.
2. On this side the righteous were saved and safe.
3. Matt. 24:37-39.
4. Heb. 11:7 By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.
5. 2 Pet. 2:5-9.

B. Noah had to cross the dividing line of water in order to be on God's side and saved.

1. 1 Pet. 3:20-21.
2. Saved through water, carried over.

II. THE RED SEA BECAME A DIVIDING LINE BETWEEN BONDAGE IN EGYPT AND FREEDOM UNDER MOSES.

A. Before the Israelites crossed the Sea, they were on enemy ground and in danger.

B. They crossed the dividing line of the Sea and God saved them.

C. Ex. 14:1-31.

C. Any failure to cross the dividing line would have shown a lack of faith on their part- Heb. 11:29 **By faith they passed through the Red Sea as by dry [land], [whereas] the Egyptians, attempting [to] [do] so, were drowned..**

III. THE WATERS OF THE JORDAN STOOD AS A LINE BETWEEN NAAMAN'S LEPROSY AND A DIVINE CURE.

A. 2 Kings 5:1-14.

B. He came near not crossing the line because of too much pride and confidence in his own wisdom.

C. Until he crossed that line he was Leprous.

IV. THE WATER OF THE POOL OF SILOAM STOOD BETWEEN THE BLIND MAN AND THE RECEPTION OF HIS SIGHT.

A. Jn. 9:1-7.

B. Before he went and washed he was blind. After he washed he came seeing.

C. Any failure on his part to believe and obey would have left him blind.

D. Washing was a test of faith, Jesus healed him after he crossed the line.

V. GOD HAS PLACED THE LINE OF WATER BAPTISM BETWEEN THE WORLD AND THE CHURCH.

A. Jn. 3:3-5.

1. Before being born of water, one is a child of Satan- Jn. 8:44 b "You are of [your] father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do.

2. Afterward one is in the kingdom of God and thus His child. Col. 1:13. **He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed [us] into the kingdom of the Son of His love,**

B. Mk. 16:15-16.

1. Before baptism, men are of the world and lost.
2. After they are saved- 1 Pet. 3:20-21.

C. Acts 2:38.

1. Before they obeyed the gospel, they were wicked and guilty of all their sins.
2. After they repented and obeyed they had remission of sin.

D. Rom. 6:1-4.

1. Before the Romans were baptized they were out of Christ.
2. After they were baptized they were free from condemnation- Rom. 8:1.

E. Acts 2:47, Mk. 16:16.

1. Before baptism men are out of the church and in the world.
2. After baptism, they are saved and in the church.

CONCLUSION:

A. Which side are you on?

1. Satan's side.
2. God's side.

B. How close are you to the line?

C. Come with us to the Lord's side.

D. On which side do you wish to die??? 2 Thess. 1:7-9.