

THE TOUCH THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Mat 14:36 And besought him that they might only touch the hem of his garment: and as many as touched were made perfectly whole.

1. **They were reflecting upon the ceremonial law of Moses:**

Num 15:38 Speak unto the children of Israel, and bid them that they make them fringes in the borders of their garments throughout their generations, and that they put upon the fringe of the borders a ribbon of blue:

Num 15:39 And it shall be unto you for a fringe, that ye may look upon it, and remember all the commandments of the LORD, and do them; and that ye seek not after your own heart and your own eyes, after which ye use to go a whoring:

Num 15:40 That ye may remember, and do all my commandments, and be holy unto your God.

2. **Mankind was born incomplete.** In a very real sense, we are all the victims of a serious birth defect.

Psa 51:5 Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Psa 51:5-6 -

David here confesses his hereditary sin as the root of his actual sin. The declaration moves backwards from his birth to conception, it consequently penetrates even to the most remote point of life's beginning.

3. **Most of us here are blessed with the five physical senses.**

a. **We can see, hear, smell, feel, and taste.** It is difficult to imagine our lives without these senses. They are the window to our world.

b. **Imagine** if you have never seen, you could hear me, but you had no reference point, no idea what a human face looked like, the movement of expression, the emphasis of gestures, not able to see .

the complexity of a crowd, the colors of a room. Red is only a concept, Blue an imagination.

4. **It is almost unimaginable to think of the world completely cut off.** No impulses, no information, no sight, sound, smell, touch or taste. NOTHING. The world itself beyond knowing not distant, simply not there, unreachable.
5. **There was and is such a world, and man once was home in it.**
 - a. He visited it, or more correctly, it visited him every evening in the cool of the twilight.
 - b. Adam and Eve once welcomed Him. And Walked and talked with God and was able to feel his warmth and presence.
 - c. This was not a strange world to them. They were at home there as in the other world.
 - d. It was simply part of them
 - e. **THEY HAD A SIXTH SENSE:** The sixth sense was the ability to recognize the presence of the Lord.
 - f. They heard his voice and felt His presence, they felt His love and approval. And new the joy of being with Him, and walking with him in his presence.
6. **Sin robbed Man of there Sixth sense:** the ability to Feel His Presence;
 - a. **I'm not sure it disappeared instantly.** When they were driven from the garden, and from His presence, surely in their imagination they could recall the warmth of His presence and His Love.
 - b. **But, Unused, It soon Shriveled and Died**
 - c. **Until man was so out of touch that other world,** and the world that they now lived in was filled continually with evil and only one man, Noah, had even the dimmest perception of God and His ways.

d. Through the centuries, even a crippled, incomplete perception of God's presence lifted a man from the masses.

7. **Through the centuries**, even a crippled, incomplete perception of God's presence lifted a man from the masses. Like Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, they sensed Him, but didn't always understand Him, but their sense of His presence made them great.

a. **Jacob**:

Gen 28:16 And Jacob awaked out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is in this place; and I knew *it* not.

Gen 28:17 And he was afraid, and said, How dreadful *is* this place! *this is* none other but the house of God, and *this is* the gate of heaven.

b. **Job**:

Job 23:2 Even today *is* my complaint bitter: my stroke is heavier than my groaning.

Job 23:3 Oh that I knew where I might find him! *that* I might come *even* to his seat!

c. **When we do not know the Lord**, we are blind spiritually and are void of spiritual understanding. And in hopelessness.

Isa 59:10 We grope for the wall like the blind, and we grope as if *we had* no eyes: we stumble at noonday as in the night; *we are* in desolate places as dead *men*.

8. **The New Testament: We have found Him!**

Joh 1:45 Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.

9. **This is why Jesus says we must be born again:**

a. We are now brought back into the presence of God

b. All things become New

- c. It gives us the sixth sense we were born without.
- d. Suddenly we recognize the presence of a whole new world.
- e. Found a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.

Act 17:27 That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us:

Psa 16:11 Thou wilt show me the path of life: in thy presence *is* fullness of joy; at thy right hand *there are* pleasures forevermore.

Heb 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.