

The 'Rote' to 'Rutness'

by A.W. Tozer

The sermon warns of the dangers of spiritual numbness and decline, emphasizing the importance of awareness of one's spiritual condition.

Scripture: Proverbs 4:23, Jeremiah 17:9, Matthew 15:8, 2 Corinthians 13:5, Galatians 5:1, Ephesians 4:22-24, Hebrews 12:1, James 1:22, 1 John 1:8-10, Revelation 3:17-18

Topics: "Spiritual Awareness", "Breaking Free from Rote Practices"

Description

A.W. Tozer emphasizes the peril of being in a spiritual rut, which he describes as a bondage to rote practices that can blind us to our true condition. He illustrates this with the analogy of a man who is critically ill but unaware of his sickness, going about life as if everything is normal. Tozer warns that this lack of awareness can lead to spiritual danger, as we may not recognize the bondage we are in. The sermon calls for self-examination and awareness of our spiritual health to avoid the risks associated with complacency. Ultimately, Tozer urges listeners to seek a deeper connection with God to break free from the rut.

Transcript

We can go one step further and come to what I will call the rut, which is bondage to the rote. When we are unable to see and sense bondage to the rote, we are in a rut. For example, a man may be sick and not even know it. The doctors may have confided in the man's wife and said, "We don't want to frighten your husband, but he could drop any minute. He is critically ill, so just expect it at any moment." But the man himself does not know he is seriously ill. He goes about his business as though nothing is wrong. He may play golf or tennis, maybe even go on a hunting trip. He is sick, and yet he does not know how sick he really is. This may in fact hasten his end.

Not knowing is risky business and full of danger.

Spiritually speaking, the rut is bondage to the rote, and the greatest danger lies in our inability to sense or feel this bondage.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/aw-tozer/the-rote-to-rutness/>

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