

Sermon Text Discussion 11/19/2017

“Is the Reformation of 1517 Still Relevant for Transformation in 2017?” by Edgar Momoh

Overview

1. Defining Reformation
2. Defining Transformation
3. Relevance: Why? Where? How?

Quotations

“Jeremiah was an early reformer.” –Edgar Momoh

“Without this inner transformation in human nature, all reformative movements are destined to fail.” –Charles H. Patterson, commenting on the book of Jeremiah

“From the beginning of my Reformation I have asked God to send me neither dreams, nor visions, nor angels, but to give me the right understanding of His Word, the Holy Scriptures; for as long as I have God’s Word, I know that I am walking in His way and that I shall not fall into any error or delusion.” –Martin Luther

Understanding & Application

- 1) In what ways were the prophets in ancient Israel like the Reformers of the 16th century?
- 2) Edgar defined *reformation* as making straight, or bringing something back to its right shape. What are some areas today that need *reforming*? Consider our culture, the church, your family, and your personal life.
- 3) Edgar defined *transformation* as a change in *nature*. Read the second quote given above. What are some examples of attempts at reformation that have failed for lack of transformation? Read 2 Corinthians 3:18. What is ultimately necessary for transformation to take place?
- 4) Read the quote from Martin Luther above. With the need for transformation in view, why Luther’s emphasis on Scripture? Do our lives reflect the same emphasis?
- 5) The “why” of reformation is that confessing the truth, hearing the truth, and believing the truth matter. Discuss each one, and how they relate to each other.
- 6) Edgar pointed us to Romans 12:2 to answer the “how” of transformation. Read that verse. What are some ways in which we are in danger of being conformed to our present culture? How does the verse indicate that we are to escape that conformation? What practical steps should we take to obey this verse?