



*Sweat the*  
*SMALL* *Stuff*

# Should We Sweat the **SMALL** Stuff ?

- ▶ **If 99.9% is good enough then...**
  - IRS will loose 2,000,000 documents this year
  - 22,000 checks will be deducted from the wrong bank account in the next 30 minutes
  - 1314 phone calls will be misdirected by the telephone company in the next 5 minutes
  - 12 babies will be given to wrong parents daily
  - 268,500 defective tires will be shipped this year
  - 20,000 prescriptions will be filled incorrectly each month



What about the  
spiritual realm?

Is “pretty close”

good enough?



# A Little Faith, NOT sufficient !

## ▶ Jesus noticed the small stuff, such as...

◦ **Matthew 10:29** , *“sparrow...shall not fall on the ground without your father”*



◦ **Matthew 6:28**, *“the lilies of the field and how they grow”*



◦ **Mark 12:42**, *“there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites”*



◦ **Luke 9:48**, *“Whosoever shall receive this child in my name receiveth me: and whosoever shall receive me receiveth him that sent me: for he that is least among you all, the same shall be great.”*



# God Records the Little Things

- ▶ **Matthew 25:31–46**, *“I was...thirsty...stranger...naked...sick...prison...”*
  - On the Right Hand: *“In as much as ye have done it unto one the least of these ...ye have done it unto me.”*
  - On the Left Hand: *“In as much as ye did it NOT to one of these, ye did it not to me.”*
  - Reward: *“...these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.”*



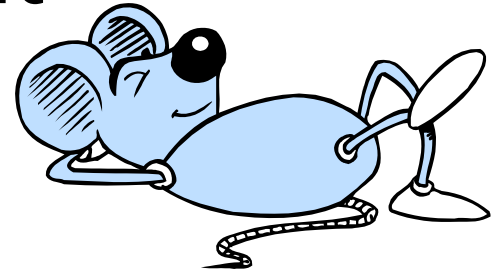
# Jesus Condemned, Little Faith

- ▶ **Matthew 6:30**, *“...if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?”*
- ▶ **Matthew 8:26–27**, *“O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds”*
- ▶ **Matthew 14:31**, *“Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?”*



# One Little Fault Affects Character

- ▶ “He’s a good guy, but he’s always late.”
- ▶ He’s has a great heart, but you can’t depend on him to do what he says!”
- ▶ “She means well, but she always sticks her nose into other’s conversations.”
- ▶ He’d give you the shirt off his back, but he has a problem with \_\_\_\_\_.”



# Little Faults=Bring Big Problems

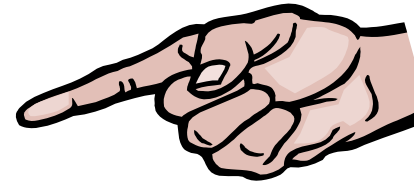
▶ A little envy,

- James 3:16, *“where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.”*



▶ A little critical

- Matthew 7:1-2, *“Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged”*



▶ A little lust

- Matthew 5:28, *“whosoever looketh upon a woman to lust after her has already committed adultery with her in his heart”*



# Little Faults=Bring Big Problems

## ▶ A little lazy

- **Proverbs 20:4**, *“The lazy man will not plow because of winter; He will beg during harvest and have nothing.”*



## ▶ A little undependable

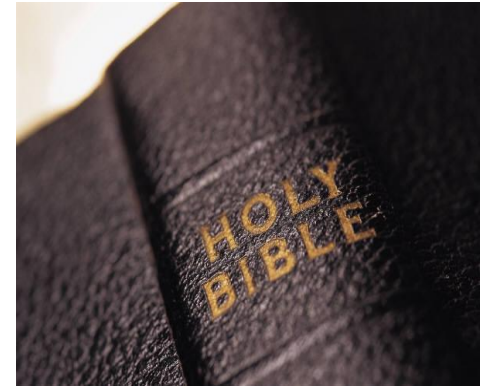
- **Acts 15:37–38**, *“Barnabas determined to take with them John, whose surname was Mark. But Paul thought not good to take him with them, who departed from them from ...and went not with them to the work.”*



# A Little Unforgiven Sin Condemns

## ▶ God watches the small stuff

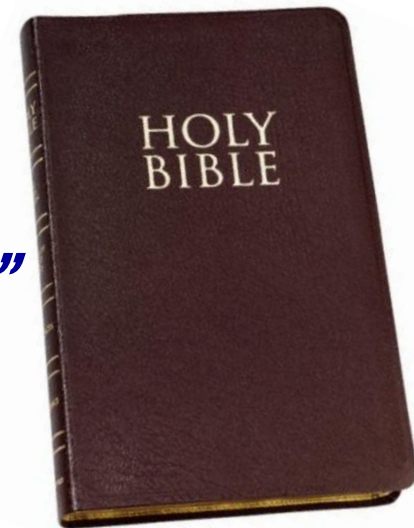
◦ **James 1:10**, *“whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.”*



- Ahab, wicked king of Israel suffered defeat, dogs licked up his blood, **2 Kings 21:18–19**
  - **2 Kings 10:18**, *“Ahab worshipped Baal a little”*
- **Numbers 25:2–3**, *“They invited the people to the sacrifices of their gods, and the people ate and bowed down to their gods, So Israel was joined to Baal of Peor.”*

# A Little False Doctrine Poisons

- ▶ Doctrine, key word in New Testament
  - **1 Timothy 1:10**, *“the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient...(etc.)...and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine”*
  - **2 Timothy 1:13**, *“Hold fast the form of sound words”*
  - **Titus 1:9, 13**, *“Holding fast the faithful word... **be sound in the faith**”*
  - **Titus 2:1**, *“speak thou the things which become sound doctrine”*



# A Little False Doctrine Poisons

- ▶ God expects preachers & teachers to be tested on sound doctrine
  - **1 John 4:1**, *“believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world”*
  - **Luke 16:10**, *“He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much.”*
  - **Acts 18:24–28**, Aquila & Priscilla took Apollos and *“expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly.”*





# Sweat the **Small** Stuff

- ▶ Decimal point out of place
- ▶ Spark in the wrong place
- ▶ Lint in a washer filter
- ▶ Stumping a little toe
- ▶ Little hole in your tire
- ▶ One little gauze left after surgery
- ▶ One little acorn



# Sweat the **Small** Stuff

## ▶ One Little Sin

- **2 John 1:9, 11**, *“Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God...For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.”*
- **Luke 16:10**, *“He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust in much.”*

