

## God's Warnings

### - II Peter 3:9

- **This morning I want to share with you an amazing thought. The God & Creator of this universe cares about you. He loves you.**
  - He loves you so much in fact that He takes opportunities throughout your life to point you to Him, to get you to understand your need of Him.
  - God has not chosen certain people or specific groups to love. He created you specifically b/c He loves you & desires for you to have a personal relationship with Him.
- **Some have the notion or the thought that Heaven or hell has little to do with their choice, perhaps God has already picked who will go. But I am here to tell you this morning that actually that choice is COMPLETELY up to you.**
- **READ SCRIPTURE**
- **As you comb through the passages of scripture, you will find real people who lived their lives just like you & me & in many cases are not much different than you & me.**
  - Some had a pretty easy life, some very difficult.
  - Some were wealthy, and some had very little.
  - Some had a great knowledge of God, some knew very little.
  - But in all their lives you will find God trying to steer them to Him and away from a place called hell.
  - God does the same thing to you & I today.
- **There's not a lot of theology or extensive background to this scripture this morning, just one solid truth. God will do everything He possibly can to get your attention in order to keep you from a place called Hell.**
  - It seems as though some people are determined to go to hell; no matter how much God warns them, they are fixed on eternal judgment.
  - But if they choose to go to hell, it will not be b/c God has not warned them or called them, it will be b/c they willingly chose to ignore His warnings.
- **There are certain warning signs that God gives even today to those who don't know Him.**
  - Perhaps you are here this morning & you have refused to trust in Christ yourself, potentially even ignoring some of these very warnings.
  - Maybe you are here this morning & you are close to giving up on your lost loved ones. Let me remind you that perhaps God is using YOU to be a warning to them.
  - One of those warning signs is ...

## 1. The Church

### a. Sharing The Love of God

- i. If we as a church are doing our part, people will see that Jesus loves them ... through our lives.
- ii. Church I want to remind you again, this church exists for 2 main reasons:
  1. To glorify & worship the name of God.
  2. To be a light to a lost & dying world.
- iii. Everything that we do & are a part of must revolve around those 2 reasons.
- iv. We are here so that men & women can not only see but hear the Gospel & we can show them the way to Christ.

- v. The church never saves anyone; but, we are the agency that God has ordained to carry the Gospel to those who are lost.
- vi. If a person comes through these doors & they leave not knowing Jesus, it ought to be b/c they saw Jesus & rejected Him, not b/c they never saw Him among us.

#### **b. Sharing the Gospel Message**

- i. When you come to the house of God, you are going to hear, “Thus saith the Word of the Lord.”
  - 1. If the Bible says it’s right, it’s right.
  - 2. And if the Bible says it’s wrong, then it’s wrong.
  - 3. If God calls it sin, there’s no room for argument, it is sin.
- ii. And so I want each & every Gospel message to very clear & precise.
  - 1. John the Baptist, Peter & John all went out proclaiming the gospel message to all who would hear – “Repent of your sins and turn to Christ.”
- iii. That is the only message worth preaching. Every message that we preach, every song that we sing & every prayer that we pray should point to the Precious Savior who gave His life for us.

### **2. God’s Word**

- **Perhaps the greatest warning that God gave to us was His Holy Word.**
  - Many a men have read & studied the Bible to try & disprove its truth & convicting power only to have their own souls pierced with the convicting power of God.
- **If anyone will sincerely pick up this Precious Book & truthfully study its content, God will speak to their hearts & point them directly to Him.**
  - Church, if you are here this morning & neglected the Word of God in your life & you leave this life not knowing Jesus Christ as your Personal Savior, you have no one to blame but yourself.
  - God has showed us His love, He has showed us His power, He has shown us our judgment & yet He has also shown us the way.

### **3. Our Conscience**

- **One of the things that still amazes me today is the willingness of others to continue in their sin.**
  - God has been so gracious in our lives to instill in us what is right & wrong so that we are without excuse in realizing our need of Him.
    - Romans 3:23 – “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;”
  - That one verse alone is enough to condemn us. There’s not a one of us that if we honestly searched our hearts would refute this verse. We have all sinned.
- **When you talk to people today about coming to Christ & giving their lives over to Him, some will say, I know I need to do better”, or “I know I need to change some things in my life.” Even then their conscience is pointing them to God.**

### **4. Sorrows & Disappointments**

- **God will use any & everything to get our attention ... even the times of hardship.**
  - Sickness
  - Financial hardships
  - Death
  - Loss of job

- Personal/National tragedies
- Broken relationships
- **You say, “Pastor these are terrible things to have to go through in life.” Sure they are. But if a period of sorrow will spare your life or the lives of others from an eternity of judgment, isn’t it worth it?**
  - Surgery is something that no one in the right mind wants to go through b/c of the pain & the weeks of therapy that follow to get you back on your feet.
  - But is surgery done just to cause you pain? It is done to make you better, right?
  - Yes the incision hurts, yes the healing is sometimes slow, but you know that ultimately it was for your good. It had to be done to save your life.
  - In the same manner, God uses these opportunities in our life to get our attention. Though we may have to endure some temporary pain in this life, the reward far outweighs the tears we shed today if we will trust in Him.
- **I will remind you, God loves you today. He doesn’t want to see you hurt or in pain. But He will use these opportunities to point you to eternal safety if we will cling to Him. Do not turn a deaf ear to these pleadings of a loving God.**

## **5. The Cross of Calvary**

- **Finally, we look to the cross. If there was ever a symbol of God’s love for you that clearly showed just how much He cares for you, it’s the cross.**
  - Whether we choose to believe it or not, God is “not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.”
- **The Bible tells us that He stands at the door of our heart today & He knocks ... will we answer?**
- **Because of the Cross of Calvary & the finished work of Christ through the shedding of His blood, the promises of eternity are ours to have if we will trust in Him.**
  - Isaiah 1:18 – “though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow;”
  - John 3:36 – “He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life;”
  - John 6:37 – “and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.”
  - I John 4:10 – “Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.”
- **If we leave this life without Christ, it will not be b/c God has not warned us. It will not be b/c He does not love us or care for us. It will not be b/c of a lack of God’s longsuffering & patience with us. It will be b/c we willingly rejected His free gift of salvation.**
- **If you are here this morning & you have never trusted Christ, don’t wait any longer. If God is speaking to you today, don’t shun His conviction. Be thankful that God loves you enough to warn you one more time to get your life in order with Him.**
- **Church, if you are here today & you realize that you have not been doing your best at leading others to Him, why don’t you take this time to come & surrender yourself to His service today?**
- **Jesus is the ONLY way, but we are the feet to the Gospel message, we are the ambassadors that God has called to go out & seek the lost. Are we giving our all to save the lost?**