

The Wolf

by Harriet N. Cook

The sermon explores the symbolism of the wolf in the Bible, highlighting its association with wickedness and cruelty, but also promising a future time of peace and transformation.

Scripture: Isaiah 11:6, Ezekiel 22:27, Matthew 5:9, Matthew 7:15, Revelation 21:4

Topics: "Nature Of Sin", "Redemption And Restoration"

Description

Harriet N. Cook uses the analogy of wolves to illustrate the wild, savage, and cruel nature of sin and wickedness in the world. She draws parallels between the behavior of wolves, their hunger for prey, and the destructive tendencies of evil in humanity. Cook also highlights the transformation that is prophesied in the Bible, where the wicked and cruel shall become holy and Christ-like, leading to a peaceful coexistence symbolized by 'The wolf shall feed with the lamb.' This sermon serves as a reminder of the power of redemption and the ultimate restoration of harmony and peace in God's kingdom.

Transcript

The wolf is rather larger than our largest dogs, and looks somewhat like them; but he seems more wild, savage and cruel. The wolves go in large companies, making a terrible howling noise; and though they are in general cowardly, yet when they are very hungry they attack large animals, and even men. They almost always go out by night, and the Bible refers to this when it says, "Their horses are more fierce than the evening wolves." Jacob, just before his death, said of one of his sons, "Benjamin shall raven as a wolf; in the morning he shall devour the prey, and at evening he shall divide the spoil."

There were once a great many wolves in New England and in other parts of the United States, and some are left yet, although many have been killed or driven away. There are still great numbers of them in some countries. In England the month of January used to be called Wolf- monat, or wolf-month; "because," as an old book says, "people are wont in that moneth to be more in danger to be devoured of wolves than in any season els of the yeare, for that through the extremity of cold and snow those ravenous creatures could not find other beasts sufficient to feed upon."

A sad story is told of something that happened in Russia a few years since. A woman was one day riding on a sledge with her three children over a lonely road, when suddenly she heard the noise of wolves behind her. She was not very far from home, and tried to urge her horse on, to get out of their reach; but they gained upon her every moment, and were just on the point of rushing on the sledge, when the poor woman, to save the lives of the rest, caught up one of the children and threw it to the wolves. This stopped

them but a short time; they devoured it at once and again ran howling after the sledge. The mother threw out a second child, hoping to escape with the other; but in vain. Again the cruel animals were close behind her, and to save her own life, hardly knowing what she did, she threw over her only remaining child. She succeeded in reaching home herself, in safety, but where were her children? She told the terrible story; but while she was endeavoring to excuse herself by telling of her exceeding fright and danger, a man who stood by struck her on the head with an axe and killed her at one blow-saying that a woman who would thus give up her children to save her life, was not fit to live.

The Bible tells us of a time yet to come, when "The wolf shall feed with the lamb." Perhaps this will be exactly true of the animals in those days, though it now seems so unlikely; but I suppose it means also that wicked and cruel men shall become holy and Christ-like. Then all will be peace on earth, and "none shall hurt or destroy in all" God's "holy mountain."

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/harriet-n-cook/the-wolf/>

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