

Crowding Out God

by John Henry Jowett

The sermon warns against the affront of forgetfulness and neglect of God, urging listeners to take heed to themselves and keep their souls diligently.

Scripture: Deuteronomy 4:9, Proverbs 4:23, Matthew 26:41, Galatians 6:7

Topics: "Spiritual Neglect", "Worldliness"

Description

John Henry Jowett emphasizes the danger of forgetting the Lord God, highlighting how easily we can neglect Him and His benefits, ultimately leading to a state of spiritual wilderness and sin. He urges believers to 'take heed' and be vigilant in steering their spiritual lives, keeping their focus on God and His guidance to avoid drifting away carelessly. Jowett stresses the importance of diligently guarding one's soul, comparing it to tending a garden where neglect allows weeds of worldliness to choke out the flowers of holy desire and devotion.

Transcript

"_Lest thou forget._"

--DEUTERONOMY iv. 5-13.

That is surely the worst affront we can put upon anybody. We may oppose a man and hinder him in his work, or we may directly injure him, or we may ignore him, and treat him as nothing. Or we may forget him! Opposition, injury, contempt, neglect, forgetfulness! Surely this is a descending scale, and the last is the worst. And yet we can forget the Lord God. We can forget all His benefits. We can easily put Him out of mind. We can live as though He were dead. "My children have forgotten Me."

What shall we do to escape this great disaster? "_Take heed to thyself!_"

To take heed is to be at the helm and not asleep in the cabin. It is to

steer and not to drift. It is to keep our eyes on the compass and our hands on the wheel. It is to know where we are going. We never deliberately forget our Lord; we carelessly drift into it. "Take heed."
" _And keep thy soul diligently. _" Gardens run to seed, and ill weeds grow apace. The fair things are crowded out, and the weed reigns everywhere. It is ever so with my soul. If I neglect it, the flowers of holy desire and devotion will be choked by weeds of worldliness. God will be crowded out, and the garden of the soul will become a wilderness of neglect and sin.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/john-henry-jowett/crowding-out-god/>

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