

Three Warnings and the Remedy

by L.R. Shelton Jr

The sermon emphasizes the importance of fearing God and the judgment that awaits those who do not know Jesus Christ, while also highlighting the remedy for the unsaved through the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Scripture: 2 Peter 2:4

Topics: "Divine Judgment", "Eternal Punishment"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher focuses on three warnings given in 2 Peter 2:4-6. These warnings are set forth as examples of sin and destruction. The preacher emphasizes God's hatred for sin and his vengeance against it. He also discusses the lasting punishment of sin, highlighting the doctrine of hell as revealed in the Bible. The sermon emphasizes the need for individuals to turn to Christ and avoid the fate of the fallen angels.

Transcript

Our Father, my God, as we leave in thy presence this morning, we come in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and upon the basis of his Shedlight. We come to find mercy, to obtain grace, to help in time of need. And this is a time of need.

My Father, thou knowest the word you've put in our heart and in our mouth for this morning. Thou knowest how much I need the Holy Spirit to give us evidence, to fill us to what a full we might speak the truth in love. And I need the Holy Spirit to keep that word whole as it goes forth.

For all alone can circumcise the ears of the heart to hear. And all alone can turn our thoughts unto thee by thy grace. Father, live in all thy light that we've seen this past week.

And this morning, how much we need thee, continually, moment by moment. For without thy grace, we can do nothing. Without thy power, we cannot go.

Without thy blood, we have no cleansing. And without thy righteousness, we have no clothing. And without the Holy Spirit praying in us with groanings which cannot be uttered, our hearts would not lift themselves unto thee.

For it is thy name that doth come to dwell within us. That you would take the things of Christ and reveal them unto our hearts. And you would give us a love for thee.

A love for holiness. A love for godliness. A love that would cause our hearts to go out after thee.

To let thee be light to dwell in thy presence. For our Father, as we wait upon thee this morning, we praise thy name. That all of this has been prepared for us in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Now Father, we do not want to fail to give thee thanks for all that you've accomplished this past week. All the things that you've showed us. All the things we've heard.

All the ways that thou hast worked for our body in the outreaches from this place. Our Father, as we have meditated upon these things and cried to thee, our hearts have been given thanks and praise unto thee. For thou hast brought them all and worked them all and we thank you.

And oh my Father, we come to this word as we ask thee to take it home to our hearts and do us a mercy. Thou knowest the need of each and every heart. Thou knowest the need of each and every finger when we need it and will you have mercy upon us in this hour.

Let's beware not only as it's heard here but as it will be heard in the days and the weeks and months yet years to come. That it be a timely message for each and every heart. So we wait before thee asking for a pure heart and clean hands.

For in Christ's name we ask, Amen. I want you to turn with us again this morning to 2 Peter chapter 2. I'll ask you to read the first 16 verses. So in 2 Peter chapter 2 verse 1 So there were false prophets also among the people, even as there should be false teachers among you.

So privately shall bring in damnable harasses, even denying the Lord the Boston, and they are themselves swift destruction. And they shall follow their pernicious ways, and by reason of whom do their truth shall be evil spoken of. And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you, whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.

For if God spared not the angels with sin, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into the chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment, and spared not the old world, but saved the eighth person, a creature of righteousness, living in the flood upon the road of the ungodly, and turned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them with an overthrow, making them an example unto those that after should live ungodly, and deliver just lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked, to let righteous man groan among them in sin and healing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds, the Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished, but chiefly then to walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous are they, self-willed, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignity. Those angels which are greater in power and might, do not live in accusation against them, but they are the Lord.

But these, as naturally do beasts, may be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things that they understand not, and shall utterly perish in their own corruption, and shall receive the reward of unrighteousness, as they that carry pleasure through riot in the daytime. Spots they are, and blemishes, stirred in themselves with their own deceivings, while they feast with you, have an eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin, beguile in unstable souls, and hardly have exercised with prejudice practices, cursed children, which are forsaken the right way, and are born astray, on the way of Balaam the son of Bogart, who loved the wages of unrighteousness, but was rebuked for his iniquity, the dumb ass speaking with man's voice, forbade the madness of the prophet. And I dare to mark this message, to me

this is one of the most awful chapters in the bible, for it marks out to us false teachers, and prophets, and preachers, with their characteristics, and shows how they will come in subtly, with flight of hand as it were, bringing in damnable or destructive fallacies or doctrines, many should follow their pernicious or their lascivious ways, they need not be covetousness, and then it goes on and shows from verses four through six, the awful doom that awaits them, and they do not know it, so not only them, but verse six, and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them with an overflow, making them an example of the way the pastor should live ungodly.

Everyone who is ungodly, without Christ, shall have the same doom. Jude in his approach corresponds greatly to 2nd Peter 2, in which 7 gives us these words, even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in right manner, driven themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal life. So therefore, these judgments that await false teachers and prophets and preachers, are set forth as an example to those who live ungodly, and those who live after the flesh, and do not know Christ, and that the judgments will fall upon them.

Now you remember the outline that we gave you of this chapter, that in verse one, these false teachers, even have destructive heresies. In verses two and three, it shows their shameful ways. In verses four through ten, it shows their condemnation.

First of all, the condemnation come upon the angels. Condemnation came in the days of Noah, because of the flood. Then the condemnation came upon the cities of the plain, and Sodom and Gomorrah.

And then, they were driven over to sin, verses nine and ten. And then, 10b through 16, shows their arrogant misconduct, their slander, their blasphemy, their adultery, and their covetousness, and wickedness, in verses 15 and 16. And then, it is described in verses 17 through 22, the inevitable doom of these false prophets and teachers, as they seduce the people.

I want you to listen this morning. If you think it's easy to stand here and preach what I'm going to preach this morning, then you don't know anything about preaching, or how God deals with his ministers, as they prepare for such a world this morning. Now God definitely and positively laid these messages on my heart two months ago.

I began to study Jude in second season two, looking into them, because we're living in such a day of apostasy, living in such a day of false religion, living in such a day that sin has become mockery, to make a mock of sin. Proverbs says, where is the man that makes a mock of sin? And that's what they have done. We're living in a day when we should have our spiritual antennas out continuously, to detect preaching and teaching and books and things of this nature, that we would not be come under the spell of the false teachers of this day, and all of the immorality of this day, and we would not be carried away by every wind of doctrine that comes along, but our eyes would be upon Christ and Him alone, as we seek his face.

And this is the reason God has laid this upon my heart, to warn us. And this to me is bringing forth the whole counsel of God, and you might know the whole counsel of God, and here it is, and the dream that makes the dream godly. I want you to remember this morning, that those outside of Christ, is under the same judgment with every false teacher and prophet.

If you're not in Christ, then you abide under the wrath of God. If you're not under the blood, if you're not the partakers of Christ's righteousness, and you're not walking in Him, and your life is not bearing the fruits of

true repentance and faith, and walking in godliness, then you're under the same judgment that's pronounced upon these women. We gave you all these marks of the false teachers in our first message.

Last Lord's Day, we switched over and showed you the marks of the true shepherds, so that you would have them in mind as we go through this chapter. And just one thing I'd like to say about the true shepherds. Even in this first official chapter 5 says, the elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed, feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight of, not by constraint, but willingly, not for fear for lucre, money, or the gain that it can get because of the offers which we make, I would feel, that are already mine.

Neither is being rewarded for the God's heritage, but being in samples to the flock. And when the chief shepherds shall appear, you shall receive a crown of glory that sayeth not away the characteristic mark of the true shepherd of God, that he takes the oversight to feed the flock, not by constraint, but willingly, he does not take it for gain at all, but he takes it because God has appointed him, and there he cannot get away from it. And so this virgin often told his men in his college, he said, if you can keep from preaching, then go someplace else.

But if you cannot keep from preaching, then stay here, because this is where God wants you. And by the grace of God, the Holy Spirit working in us this morning, trust that he'll give us utterance. I want to speak to you on those three warnings that he gives us in considering the angels that sinned, considering the flood that came upon Noah, the preacher of righteousness, and the fire from heaven came upon Solomon, Gomorrah, and the cities of the plains, reducing them down to ashes.

All these things are for our example. In these verses of scripture, we come face to face with three of the most awful pictures of sin and destruction given in the name of God. The examples are left thus on the pages of Holy Writ, to put us in remembrance of God's hatred for sin, to put us in remembrance of God's vengeance against sin, and to put us in remembrance of God's everlasting punishment of sin.

You see, God's word is true. God is angry with the wicked every day, and if the wicked turn not, God will let his sword in judgment. Our God is a consuming fire, and vengeance belongeth unto him.

He will recompense, for the Lord shall judge his people, and it is a fearful thing to fall in the hands of the living God. Now, beloved, what is wrong today with everyone outside of Christ, what is wrong with our nation, our leaders, our judges, all of us in authority, there is no fear of God before their eyes. That is what is wrong today, for if man could look and see what God is going to do, and his eyes would be open, he would speak to Christ.

I'll give you an illustration. Two things come to my mind every time I see our president with a bible in his hand, and it's quite often his picture will be in the paper with a bible in his hand. He's going to church, or this or that, but he does not know that he's carrying in his hands the very words of his own doom and destruction.

Uriah the Hittite, the wife of Bathsheba, when David called him in from the army, and when he could not get Uriah to go down, to his house, so that his sin would be covered up, twice he tried, twice he failed, then he wrote a letter to Joab, telling Joab to put him up in the front of the thickest of the battle, and then withdraw so that he would be killed. And he gave the letter, he wrote and gave the letter to Uriah, and Uriah did not know that he was carrying in his hands the orders for his own death. And you know what?

This book tells us about what's coming, and the judgment that awaits every man outside of the Lord Jesus Christ.

All but the fear of God would fall upon our hearts this morning. And when we go to church with a bible in our hands, we've got a book that tells us in there, that if we're outside of Christ, that we've not bowed our knees to the Lord Jesus, and we've not sought him in mercy and in grace, and he has not come in to dwell in our souls, we're carrying in our very hands the instructions of our own doom and damnation before God. But the trouble is, that man by nature is blinded, has no fear of God before his eyes, and therefore he knows not that judgment awaits him when he dies.

It's amazing, the believer goes off into eternity with that hope in Christ, the soul that knows not Christ, he goes out into eternity in darkness, no fear of God before his eyes, and he's leaping off into darkness, he knows not what is going to come. Now, I want you to understand, these are not my words this morning that I'm preaching from, it's from the word of God. Let's go a little bit further.

Our God is not a thin soldier. Our God is not an old man who sits upon the throne and weeps at sin. Our God is a God who is going to punish sin.

The whole word of God pictures him as a man of war, a God of justice, as well as a God of love, a God of wrath, as well as a God of mercy. One who declares in Deuteronomy 32, listen to God's word, I, even I, am he and there is no God with me. I heal and I make alive, I wound and I heal, neither is there any that can deliver out of my hand.

For I lift my hand to heaven and say I live forever. If I let my glittering sword in my hand take hold on judgment, I will render vengeance to my enemies and I will reward them that hate me. I will make mine arrows drunk with blood and my sword shall divide flesh and back with the blood of the slain and the captives from the beginning of the revengers upon the enemy.

Is that your God? Is that your God who said that? That's my God. Beloved, all you got to do is to remember that the very God who spoke this is the very God who went to Calvary in the person of his son and had this very same judgment poured out upon him. In other words, the living God has tasted of his own wrath, of his own judgment, of his own vengeance against sin.

He got by saying to God's standard, he's got a lot, he'll never send anybody to hell, but he sent his own son to hell. He sent his own son to die underneath this sword and this vengeance that he talks about. We should be prepared.

Again he says in Psalm 50, These things hast thou done and I kept silent. Thou thoughtest that I was altogether such as one as thyself, but I will reprove thee and set them in order before thine eyes. Now consider this, ye that forget God, lest I tear you to pieces and there be none to deliver.

That's the God of the Bible. With this in mind, we can see, we can well understand the expression in our text this morning and in other places it's set forth. That this is set forth as an example.

It is set forth as an exhibit. These three verses set forth on the stage of time. Are you listening to me? These three verses, four, three verses, four, five, and six of 2 Peter 2, they're set right on the stage of time to speak to us, to speak to us this morning.

God brought us here. This is his word. We're looking at the word of God.

It is set down on the stage of time as to what is going to happen to all that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Well if you think the words of the Old Testament were awful, listen to these words in the New Testament. 2 Thessalonians 1:7. And the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels.

He shall in flaming fire take vengeance on them that know not God and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. And they shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord have them deplore his power. So that word is God's word.

That's not my opinion. That's not my sentiment from that viewpoint. That's God's unbroken, unchanging, earthly inspired word.

And that word, he said, would stand forever. He starts off by giving us in verse 4 these words. What if God spared not the angels of its sin but cast them down to hell and delivered them into the chains of darkness to be reserved unto judgment? Jude puts it this way.

In verse 6 of Jude, in the angels which kept not their first estate but left their own habitation he hath reserved an everlasting chains under darkness under the judgment of the great day. In other words, a judgment has already taken place for a third of the angels. We do not have much written in regard to the fall of the angels.

But when we go to Revelation chapter 12, we find that when Satan fell, he took a third of the angels with him. Isaiah 14 shows us what it was he did. He desired to have a throne above God.

And maybe I should give you first Ezekiel chapter 28 and then truth. And it shows just a little bit of why they fell. In Ezekiel 28, we find these words.

And thou art the anointed sheriff that covereth, and I have set thee so. Thou wast upon the holy mountain of God. Thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.

Thou wast perfect in thy ways. From the day that thou wast created till iniquity was found, then be. It says that he was full of wisdom.

Twelve years full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. And he led the worship. He was the anointed sheriff that covereth.

I know he's speaking to Tyrus, but Tyrus here is just an earthly figure picturing Lucifer. If you'll hold this and get your finger at Isaiah 14, you'll find his name. His name was Lucifer, son of the morning.

And you'll find that he desired, this is what he desired to do. And we'll go back to 28. Verse 9, hell from beneath is moved for thee to meet thee at thy coming.

Verse 11, thy prop is brought down to the grave in the noise of thy vows. The worm is spread under thee and the worms cover thee. How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning? Art thou cut down to the ground which fits weak in the nations? And this is why he fell, for thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven.

I will exalt my throne above the stars of God. I will sit upon the mouth of the congregation in the sides of the north. I will ascend above the heights of the cloud and I will be like the most high.

Now we find in Ezekiel 28, he was the anointed sheriff that cometh and led the praise to God of all of the angels. Look at verse 16 of Ezekiel 28. By the multitude of my merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence and God's sin.

Therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God and I will destroy thee, O covering sheriff, from the midst of the stones of fire. Watch verse 17. Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty.

God corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness. I will cast thee to the ground. I will lay thee before kings that they may behold thee.

Pride, we are told in 1 Timothy 3.6, pride was his downfall. He hated the eternal son of God. He knew, he must have known what was in God's mind to do and he hated it.

He wanted to be the one that would be worshipped instead of the son in the bosom, hidden in the bosom of God. That's my understanding of scripture. And then it was pride that brought him down.

And a third of the angels, now let's understand, 1 Timothy 5 tells us that there were elect angels. So God must have made a third of the angels mutable. They could fall.

Two thirds of the angels he made immutable, they could not fall. Just like he made Adam. He could have made Adam immutable but he could have never fallen.

He made immutable, there was a possibility of him falling and he did. So a third of the angels went with him. Most of them he cast down into the pits of hell waiting in chains of darkness and the rest he left to be the evil spirits, the demons that cover the earth and take vengeance upon the people of God and upon everyone.

And he said, if these creatures, are you listening to me? If these creatures that God has made, who are so close to God, who saw the very glory of God in the very presence of God, if they sin and they cast out of his presence into chains of darkness, what do you think shall happen to us if we die outside of Christ? That's what he's saying. Damnation shall be great. Then he goes on in verse 5 and says, and spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world the ungodly.

The whole ancient world was ungodly. Every imagination of the thoughts of men's hearts were only evil continually. All the time, all the time, their hearts and thoughts, it is awful to be so full of sin that a man is driven, constantly driven for lust, fornication, homosexuality, driven for the damnable lust of his heart.

He can't help himself. He's held captive by faith and he's driven until he dies. And I've known people like this.

I've had people confess this to me, that they were driven. Had no peace day and night. Nothing would ever satisfy them.

Can you imagine the thoughts and inclinations of the heart being evil continually? And the whole world like this? And only eight souls were saved out of the flood. And he spent 120 years, Noah did, building the ark and put them all under condemnation. And he preached, he was a preacher of righteousness.

And he preached and had not one convert for 120 years. Everybody watching him, everybody making fun of him. But he went on, believing God.

And therefore it was found him for righteousness were told. Hebrews 11, and then came the flood. I've read that somebody calculated that there were 15 billion people upon the earth.

Because men lived in those days, eight, nine hundred, nearly a thousand years. And the scripture says in Genesis 5 that they begat children all this time. Can you imagine and visualize God's judgment so great that he would pour out his vengeance and wrath upon 15 billion people by sending the flood to utterly and completely destroy them? And if God did that, shall he spare you and I? If we go on in our rebellion against God, and our knees never bow to him, then we never take this man to be our Lord and Savior.

And you go through life saying, I will not have this man to rule over me. I'll have my lusts. I'll do what I want to do.

There's a rewarding word to our hearts. I tell you what, after this morning's message, you who know the Lord, if there's not a praise in your heart that God snatched you from the burden, then I believe there's something wrong with you. After you see the word of God here speaking to our hearts.

Then he goes on to the 19th chapter of Genesis and he picks up the verse 6. And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them with an overflowing, taking, making them an example of the goals of after should live on God. I blush every time I read Genesis 19. I'll be honest with you.

There's the most awful chapter of sin in the whole book, in the 19th chapter of Genesis, but God recorded it for our understanding and learning. I praise that he left. Left came upon the cities of the plains, because the cry of that city and its sin went up to heaven.

And the 18th chapter, it says that God came down. The angel of the Lord, which was the Lord Jesus, came down with two angels to see about what was going on. And God always comes down before judgment.

That's why I work in what? In revival, for him to come down. And Abraham prayed, you know, that prayer. He started off with 50, because God told him what he was going to do.

And he said, if there's 50 souls, will you spare it? Sure. And he kept coming on down, number by number by number by number. And he said, would you spare it if there's only 10? He said, I will spare it if there are 10 righteous in the city.

And Abraham quit. And the Lord left him. The next scene we see is Solomon.

For a lot was sitting in the gate of the city as one of the elders. He was a righteous man. I would have never known it if Peter hadn't told us.

I would have never known it from what I read in Genesis 19. But the word said he was a righteous man. His soul was vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked.

But he was one of them. I felt he wasn't practicing their sins. How much witnessing he was able to do with them, against them.

All I know that when he began to tell the judgment was coming, his son-in-law just laughed at him. He had never probably spoken a word to them. He said, get up.

Get out. Judgment is coming. And you know that the next morning the angels had literally dragged him out of there.

And he said, do not look back. And you know how Lot's wife looked back and turned to a pillar of salt. But the story in Genesis 19 is one of destruction.

It is one of awful lust. For these individuals and Sodom had completely hunted themselves in fornication and going after strange flesh. They satisfied themselves completely with the lust of the eyes and the lust of the flesh.

They knew no restraint. They would have no restraint and cried like Phil, who is the Lord that I should obey him in seeking to restrain myself from having all that my heart desires. They therefore gave themselves, how to know, to the satisfying of every fleshly desire, no matter what it cost them or anybody else.

What an awful state of sin. As I said before, what an awful state of sin where the soul gives itself over to self with no restraint. I sat at the bedside of a man who had been a deacon in the church, a leader in a Sunday school.

He had turned back. He had given himself over to fornication and lust. And I went to see him on his sickbed.

And I bade him, by the grace of God, to turn back to God, to mend his ways. He looked me straight in the eye and told me, right in the front of his wife, he says, I got another woman across the river. She's mine.

I'm going to keep her. Nobody is going to tell me I can't. He died in that condition.

The hardness of the heart and the blindness of the soul is awful. Not only did they give themselves over to fornication, but they went after strange flesh. That is, they went after forbidden flesh.

That which God had forbidden them to have. Now, if you'll turn to Romans chapter one. I make no apologies for preaching on this subject this morning.

I make no apologies in going into this sin that is so prevalent today. I want you to turn to Romans chapter one. And I want you to begin reading with me verse 18.

And I want you to see what's coming. For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who hold the truth in unrighteousness. Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them.

For God has showed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood, but the things that are made, even as eternal power in Godhead, so that there are none without excuse. Because that when they knew God, they glorified him not as God.

Neither were thankful, for there became pain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like the corruptible man, and the birds and the four-footed beasts and creeping things. Then look what happened.

Wherefore, God also gave them up. To what? To uncleanness through the lust of their own hearts, to dishonor their own bodies between themselves, who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshiped

and served the creature, that is, themselves, more than God who is blessed forever. For this cause, God gave them unto vile affections.

The outside of the 19th chapter of Genesis, I want you to see through the most awful verses in the Bible, the sin that is so prevalent, the pounding sin in our world today, in our nation today, from the president on down. And beloved, it would be me, except for the distinguishing grace of God. Listen to what he said.

For this cause, God gave them up unto vile affections, for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature. And likewise also the men leave in the natural use of the women, bird and their lust one to another, men with men, working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was neat or suitable. And they, even if they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind to do those things which are not convenient.

Beloved, he's talking about the sins of homosexuality and lesbianism here. Pardon me. That was the sin of some of us, where the word came from.

God hates it. God hates it, and God has never changed. Yet we are asked to accept and sanction that which God in his holy word has called an abomination in his sight.

We are asked to give people their right to practice and promote their immoral acts because they enjoy what they're doing and claim it is only an alternative lifestyle, even though God's word says that they are marked for judgment. Now, to the law and to the testimony. Portray what God's word says.

To the law and to the testimony. What does God's word say about sodomy, homosexuality, and lesbianism? It is not what we think, or what some news reporter thinks, or some talk show host thinks, or some teacher or preacher thinks, because the majority of them will put their sabbath clothes on, bring them to the church with no change in their lives, even ordaining them to the ministry for the slap in the face of God. It's not what some psychiatrist might say about it, or even what the poor souls caught in this sin say about it, but it's what God's word says about it.

Listen to what he says. In Deuteronomy 23, 17, he says, there shall be no whore of the daughters of Israel, nor a sodomite of the sons of Israel. Now, the Hebrew will bear out that the word whore used here can be translated sodomitis, or lesbian, for the word is the feminine of sodomy.

We can read the verse like this, there shall be no lesbian of the daughters of Israel, nor a homosexual of the sons of Israel. This does not leave any doubt as to what God's word says about the matter. And beloved, his attitude toward this practice is never changed, because he does not change.

It is still a sin and hated by the holy God. Now, you think I've gone off on the deep end, let me read you what our Lord said in Luke 17. Our Lord said in Luke 17, likewise, also as it was in the days of Lot, they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded.

But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom, it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. Now, watch the next verse. Listen to it.

Even worse shall it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed. That's the day in which we're living. Let's go further.

There's more scripture. In addition to that, very strong language is used in the 18th verse of the 23rd chapter of Deuteronomy. Thou shall not bring the heart of a whore or the price of a dog into the house of the Lord thy God for any vow, for even both these are abominations unto the Lord thy God.

Here again, the Hebrew will buy out that the word whore can be translated sodomist or lesbian and to show God's utter contempt for this awful sin. You listen now. Man, this shocked me when I got a hold of this.

When I saw this, this literally shocked me. If men only knew what God, they are in the sight of God. The price of a dog.

What he's saying here is this. God, to show his utter contempt for this awful sin, he calls a homosexual or a sodomist a dog. It makes me shudder to think of the awful judgment of this sin in the sight of God and of God's pronounced judgment upon it.

And he leaves this, listen to me now, as our text tells us according to that 6th verse of chapter 2 of 2nd Peter, he leaves this on the pages of holy writ upon the stage of time that you and I might be warned by it that sin is going to be punished. Judgment is coming and those who have followed the pernicious ways of these men who have preached without holiness, who have preached and let men abide in their sins, promised them everything under the sun but not Christ and holiness. God said that the judgment is going to come upon them and I want to be found in the Lord Jesus Christ when death comes and when he comes.

You wait now, if you think I'm not going to give you a hope, you wait. I'll preach the gospel but I have to go through this. Let me give you one more.

In Leviticus 12.22 God's word calls this sin an abomination in sight thou shalt not lie with mankind as with the one kind, it is abomination. Homosexuality is absolutely forbidden by the word of God for it is an enormous sin. If a man lies with mankind as he lies with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination.

They shall be put to death, their blood shall be upon them. And the penalty for homosexual acts in those days was death to both parties. They brought it upon themselves.

God has not changed and this sin still bears the death penalty, not before man's court but before the bar of God's court. This is not my word but God's word saying that this sin he hates and that's what that sixth verse tells us all about. It is set as an example upon the stage of time that those who are ungodly should be warned of what is coming.

I didn't prepare to go into lots of deliverance or for I'll get into that next week the Lord willing but I wanted to go into this for you this morning. It has not changed. So we are to remember Sodom.

We are to remember Lot's wife who turned back. The escaping woman had tasted deliverance from a place of doom by God. She followed the word of God even with the angels almost to the deliverance place but she turned back.

I feel Israel in the wilderness she had no more opportunity. It was gone. Can I tell you beloved the thing that rings my soul and grieves my soul how many have I saw in my lifetime who seem to have it all.

I'm telling you they professed everything but then turned they've done despite to the spirit of grace and we all should learn also should learn the lesson this morning of everlasting punishment. It is the doctrine of God's word. Man never invented it.

There are three doctrines in the word of God that men hate. They hate total depravity. They hate the solitude of God and they hate hell or the wrath of God.

Those three men hate. They don't like to listen to it and this is one of them this morning. How many hearts God's going to touch this morning I don't know.

How many of you have turned me off I don't know. How many of you will go out here and be the same as you were when you came in I don't know. I came praying that God would let none of us go out of here without a change of all our whole being and we would begin to pray as never before for revival and a working of the spirit in the hearts of men that our souls may be turned unto him.

What I would ask you this morning like the angel stole lots from his family escape for thy life. Look not behind thee neither stay thou in all the plain but escape to the Lord Jesus Christ who is the mountain of grace bless you be consumed. And beloved this is the only escape that God has appointed.

Praise God he has appointed a city of refuge. That city of refuge is the Lord Jesus Christ. He calls us to come unto him.

Beloved you may not know it this morning but this message was intended to cause men to flee to Christ and to warn us as we look at our loved ones and our friends all about us who have not come into the grace of God that we would cry to God that they would flee from the wrath to come and that they would call upon his name that by two immutable things in which is impossible for we might have a strong consolation who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope that's before us which hope we have as an anchor of the soul both sure and steadfast which enters into the back within the veil for the forerunners thrust entered even Jesus.

And so I come with him this morning and I point you and tell you that the only escape from this awful judgment of these three that we saw this morning the angels who fell the men before the flood and those in sovereign Gomer in the plains as God has set them before us this morning and their sins and the awfulness of it and that God hates sin God's going to punish sin I want to tell you that God has not told us all of this without giving us a city of refuge come unto and I'll tell you who know the Lord I don't care how much you've got to fight the devil I don't care how much he comes with all these accusations against you and to fill your mind with this and that and something else we have a refuge and that refuge is Christ we have the blood that overcame him by the blood of the lambs and

by the word of their testimony our hope is in Christ that substitute that God has provided for poor sinners I praise him this morning that he's left upon the pages of holy writ such words as these he says for when we were yet without strength and due time Christ died for the ungodly remember that when you're without strength you're helpless and you're hopeless died for the ungodly he died for the helpless he died for the hopeless he died for those who know that they are sinners only he can break the power of sin I love Romans 5 6 for when we were yet without strength in due time Christ died for the ungodly for stand before a righteous man when one died yet for adventure for a good man some would even dare to die but God commended his love toward us in that while we were yet sinners Christ

died for us and watch this much more than being now justified by his blood we shall be saved from wrath through him how by his blood the love that he's given us his blood discovered us he's given us his blood that we may plead before him he's the one that God has set forth as we heard last Sunday evening out of Romans 3 we hear it again this morning he is the one who accepts Christ to be a propitiation through faith in his blood for we've all sinned and come short of the glory of God and he freely justifies us by his grace through that redemption that is in Christ Jesus go to the cross sit on there by the grace of God take that 47th chapter of Matthew begin to read what he went through with all the mockery all the taunting all the cursing all the bitterness that was put out all the

sufferings from the nails went through his hands and feet the thorn of crowns that was placed upon his brow when it beat him upon his back see him there his blood shed as a propitiation that we through faith in his blood might be declared righteous before God by the remissions of our sins that's grace brethren that's grace brethren and then when you hear him with all darkness covers the earth and God has poured out his wrath upon him and turned away from him and he cries in the darkness with his father's faith he is he cries Eli Eli my God my God why have thou forsaken me the only answer i get out of those words is this that he was forsaken for me and i would not be forsaken in the day of God's judgment by the grace of God our brother this our brother described that word propitiation the

other night as being that wrath that apart i like i like to look at it as being that wrath that's swallowed up at Christ on earth and therefore it cannot it cannot be poured out upon me brother the safe place is beneath the blood in Christ hid in him the other morning brother Edward once in a while he comes with a verse of scripture that opens up a lot of things and he did the other morning that he'd been raffling with second corinthians 5 21 it says that God had made Christ sin i take away from that but the interpretation that he gave to it just really satisfied my heart too he made Christ to be the sin offering the same thing he made him to be seen in our sins were put upon him imputed to him but he was made a sin offering for us that we might be in turn in him i know it's hard to go

back and look but what pit did he dig you from where were you when he found what did he draw you out of the son said i cried into the Lord and he heard my cry and he lifted me up out of the miry clay and set my feet upon a rock and established my goings and put a song in my mouth even praise to our God he come up out of the miry clay Isaiah said for peace i had great bitterness but that happened love to my soul delivered it from the pit of corruption where's he brought you from have you come to Christ are you resting in him he is our hope beloved these things have been set before us this morning judgment is coming i cannot get away from it since i saw that picture this week i cannot get away from it i'll carry it with me to my grave that our president carries around when he carries his

bible he's carrying around with him the very instructions of his damnation and ruin and hell because of his sins that he would take up saving i would have mercy upon him wouldn't that be great but did you know that sixty percent that were told of this nation approved of him in all of his sin you know what that shows me it just shows their hearts we got a buddy up there that does what we do now we got somebody on our side and we can do it in peace now and okay but there's someone up yonder the great God of the universe looks and he sees and even in the darkest chamber where we might hide ourselves and there are that dark chamber is right here in our minds we sin against God in our minds by which it works in our minds sin comes and it's not repented of and taken to the cross taken to the

blood taken to Christ it'll damn you came this morning and you've listened and you've heard now i want you to ponder you can never be neutral after today's message three things set before you four things i've

told you the remedy that would spare you from the awful judgment of the angels the awful judgment that the people of flood went through the awful judgment that those in sodom and gomorrah and the plains went through i tell you that God has set forth Christ to be by officiation for our sin let us come to him let us fall down before him let us call him king and lord of our lives this morning let us give everything over to him and say here i am i'm yours and i'll have to go through with it i'll have to go through it i am his by creation i am his by regeneration i am his by conversion

i'm his i'm his by adoption and i'm his for eternity i belong to him lock stock and bow teeth and toenails the old saying used to go i belong to him so i run to him or you run to him how do you come to him by your feet no you come to him by faith faith and what does faith do faith has got to go outside of yourself faith will never find anything here worthy to bring to God faith has three steps first of all faith has to have a felt need if you feel your need this morning you're not going to find a remedy for that need here the second step in faith is it goes outside of itself it reaches outside of self because there's nothing good here to find and where does it go well through saving faith goes to Christ there's a felt need i've got to have it my sins are dragging me down to the pit i've

got to have them they hold me in bondage i've got to be delivered then it goes outside itself and it goes to Christ the one whom God has set forth to be a propitiation through faith i've sat before your life i've sat before your death i've sat before you the word of God this morning i've delivered my soul i pray that God will take it home and use it for

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