

SERMON OUTLINE

SERMON TITLE: Crossing God's Deadline

SERMON REFERENCE: Proverbs 29:1

LWF SERMON NUMBER: #2037

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) Can a person spiritually pass the point of no return?
 - i) Can a person be so willfully rebellious that God will give up on him?
 - ii) The answer to these questions is yes.
- b) There is a deadline that, if we cross it, our doom is sealed and we have no hope.
 - i) God is a God of infinite love, but He is also a God of wrath and judgment.
 - (1) It is truth that God is love; but when we take part of the truth and make part of the truth all of the truth, then that part of the truth becomes an untruth.
 - (2) We need to see and believe all of God's Word.
- c) Proverbs 29:1
 - i) We find four definite truths in this one verse that we will focus on in this message.

2) SPIRITUAL CONVICTION (Proverbs 29:1)

- a) God does convict us; we are often reprovved.
 - i) No one goes to Hell unloved, unwarned and unconvicted.
 - ii) God strives with us and knocks on our heart's door, calling to us over and over again.
 - (1) God is merciful if He warns us just one time, but the Scripture says that He reprovves us over and over and over again.
- b) How does God speak and reprove us?
 - i) Through His Holy Spirit.
 - (1) The Holy Spirit of God will gently but strongly speak to our hearts, convicting us of our sin and our need to be saved.
 - (2) If the Holy Spirit is speaking to you today, please listen to the Spirit of God.
 - ii) Through sickness.
 - (1) Psalm 119:67
 - (2) Sickness is a messenger that reminds us that we will one day pass away.
 - (a) We will not be upon this Earth forever.
 - iii) Through sorrows.
 - (1) Perhaps God has spoken to you through the death of a loved one or through a financial hardship.
 - iv) Through sweetness.
 - (1) Romans 2:4
 - (2) God will reprove us through the simple smile of a baby or through the beauty of a flower.
 - v) Through His servants.
 - (1) God speaks through songs, sermons and soul winners.
- c) The Holy Spirit of God speaks to each one of us.

- i) God loves us too much to let us go to Hell without being warned and reproved.
- 3) STUBBORN REBELLION (Proverbs 29:1)
- a) To “harden your neck” means to say no; we might say today, “bowing up the neck.”
 - b) How do you harden your neck?
 - i) By procrastination.
 - (1) Proverbs 27:1
 - (2) Some have the idea that they will give their hearts to the Lord one day, maybe tomorrow.
 - (a) Dr. R. G. Lee once said that tomorrow is a time only found on the fool's clock.
 - (3) Exodus 8:9-10
 - (a) Pharaoh entreated Moses to ask God to take away the plague of the frogs.
 - (b) When Moses inquired of Pharaoh when he'd like Moses to intercede for him, Pharaoh responded with, “Tomorrow.”
 - (i) Many of us are like Pharaoh: we say we want to come to Jesus, but we'll wait until tomorrow.
 - (ii) We choose another night with the frogs.
 - ii) By pride.
 - (1) The enemy will try to persuade us that we'll look foolish if we give our lives to Jesus or that we shouldn't admit our need.
 - (2) Proverbs 16:18
 - iii) By pleasures of this world.
 - (1) 2 Timothy 3:4
 - (2) Some do not want to give up their sin and the pleasures of this world to come to Jesus.
 - (a) Hebrews 11:25
 - (b) The Bible also speaks about the pleasures of righteousness.
 - (i) Psalm 16:11
 - (c) Don't think that when we come to Jesus we give up something.
 - (i) Psalm 84:11
 - (ii) God is a good God.
 - (iii) If it will make us happy, holy and healthy, God says, “Help yourself.”
 - 1. 1 Timothy 6:17
 - (iv) Every time God says, “Thou shalt not,” He is simply saying, “Don't hurt yourself.”
 - (v) When God says, “Thou shalt,” He is saying, “Help yourself to happiness.”

4) SUDDEN DESTRUCTION (Proverbs 29:1)

- a) There comes a time when we cross God's deadline.
 - i) God will bring judgment.
 - b) How may the sudden destruction come?
 - i) Destruction of the mind through strong delusion.
 - (1) Destruction may come, not merely to your body or soul, but also to your mind.
 - (2) God will destroy your ability to think correctly.
 - (a) 2 Thessalonians 2:11-12
 - (i) "Delude" means to be deceived.
 - (b) The opposite of truth is not error but sin; unrighteousness.
 - (i) When we are reprov'd and faced with the truth but we embrace our sin rather than the truth, the baggage is strong delusion.
 - (ii) The baggage is just judgment.
 - ii) Destruction of the spirit through desertion.
 - (1) John 6:44
 - (2) Unless the Holy Spirit of God brings us under conviction, we will never be saved.
 - (3) The Bible teaches that we can say "no" to the Holy Spirit so many times that God's Holy Spirit will cease to work in our hearts.
 - (a) Romans 1:24-28
 - (b) Genesis 6:3
 - (4) It is possible to come to a place of sudden destruction in your spirit, as well as in your mind, where the Holy Spirit no longer speaks to you and God no longer draws you.
 - iii) Destruction of the body through death.
 - (1) Proverbs 29:1
 - (2) Eternity is only a heartbeat away.
 - (a) 1 Samuel 20:3
- 5) SETTLED DESTINY (Proverbs 29:1)
- a) Once we die, we will not stand before God and ask for a second chance.
 - i) There will be no second chance.
 - (1) Hebrews 9:27
 - b) Luke 16:19-31
 - i) This passage tells of a rich man who died and went to Hell.
 - (1) He looked for some alleviation from the suffering he was experiencing, but there was no second chance.
 - (2) God describes Hell as a place of hellfire.
 - (3) Hell is a bottomless pit from which no one who goes there can escape.
 - c) "Without remedy" means "without hope," "without a cure."
- 6) CONCLUSION
- a) God loves you with an infinite love and has spoken to you over and over again.

- b) God reproveth you because He loves you so much and wants to save you.
- c) If you're concerned about whether you've crossed God's deadline, please know that you haven't if you'll call upon Him.
 - i) Anyone who wants to be saved can be saved.
 - ii) The person who crosses God's deadline has no desire to be saved.
 - iii) If you have a desire to be saved, it is because the Holy Spirit is working in you.
- d) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- e) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
 - i) Romans 3:23
 - ii) Romans 10:9-10
 - iii) Romans 10:13
 - iv) Acts 16:31
 - v) John 3:16