

Ignoring Warnings

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- Many people ignore the curve ahead signs going 15-20 mph faster without any harm.
- Others ignore warnings of doctors about losing weight, quitting smoking, lowering cholesterol, or blood pressure.
- They reason not all are harmed by such behavior.
- It won't happen to me.
- "I know someone who smoked and drank every day and lived to be a hundred.

Heeding the Warnings

- Much sage and sound advice is ignored because of exceptions in “*under the sun.*”

Life Under the Sun

- *I returned and saw under the sun that — The race is not to the swift, Nor the battle to the strong, Nor bread to the wise, Nor riches to men of understanding, Nor favor to men of skill; But time and chance happen to them all. Eccl. 9:11*
- These are exceptions. But they happen often enough “*under the sun*” that some can ignore sound wisdom and still make it work.

Heeding the Warnings

- Much sage and sound advice is ignored because of these exceptions “*under the sun*” because it operates with “*time and chance,*” as much as sound wisdom.
- Some will ignore all sound wisdom and still live to be 100.
- Most people are not so fortunate. For every one who escapes, 1000’s do not.

Warnings in Scripture

- Warnings in Scripture are not like this. There is no “*time and chance*” in God’s commands.
- When God speaks, it is absolute truth.
- If we choose to ignore His words, we will fail.
- *Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths. 7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the Lord and depart from evil. Pr. 3:5-8*

Look at Solomon

- Solomon had advantages none have today.
- God spoke to Him in a dream and gave wisdom.
- *I have given you a wise and understanding heart, so that there has not been anyone like you before you, nor shall any like you arise after you. 1K. 3:12*
- He was given inspiration to write the Proverbs and Ecclesiastes.
- He witnessed God take residence in the temple he built in glory and power.

God Had Strictly Warned Him

● *Now if you walk before Me as your father David walked, in integrity of heart and in uprightness, to do according to all that I have commanded you, ... 5 then I will establish the throne of your kingdom over Israel forever, 6 if you or your sons at all turn from following Me, and do not keep My commandments and My statutes which I have set before you, but go and serve other gods and worship them, 7 then I will cut off Israel from the land which I have given them; 1K. 9:4-7*

A Specific Command for Kings

● *15 you shall surely set a king over you whom the Lord your God chooses; ... 17 Neither shall he multiply wives for himself, lest his heart turn away; nor shall he greatly multiply silver and gold for himself. 18 "Also it shall be, when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write for himself a copy of this law in a book, from the one before the priests, the Levites. 19 And it shall be with him, and he shall read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the Lord his God and be careful to observe all the words of this law and these statutes, Deut 17:16-20*

Solomon Ignored A Direct Command

- *But King Solomon loved many foreign women, as well as the daughter of Pharaoh: women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians, and Hittites — 2 from the nations of whom the Lord had said to the children of Israel, “You shall not intermarry with them, nor they with you. Surely they will turn away your hearts after their gods.” Solomon clung to these in love. 1Kings 11:1-11*

What was he thinking?

- Why with all his wisdom and devotion would he cling in love to those God had warned against?
- Sadly, not even all Solomon's wisdom and early devotion could overcome the danger God warned against.

What God Warned Against Happened!

- *from the nations of whom the Lord had said to the children of Israel, "You shall not intermarry with them, nor they with you. Surely they will turn away your hearts after their gods." Solomon clung to these in love. 3 And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines; and his wives turned away his heart. 1 Kings 11:1-11*

Solomon's Terrible Fall

● *For it was so, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned his heart after other gods; and his heart was not loyal to the Lord his God, as was the heart of his father David. 5 For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. 6 Solomon did evil in the sight of the Lord, and did not fully follow the Lord, as did his father David.*

The Full Extent of His Wickedness

- *Then Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the abomination of Moab, on the hill that is east of Jerusalem, and for Molech the abomination of the people of Ammon. 8 And he did likewise for all his foreign wives, who burned incense and sacrificed to their gods. 1 Kings 11:7-11*

The Full Extent of His Wickedness

- *9 So the Lord became angry with Solomon, because his heart had turned from the Lord God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice, 10 and had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods; but he did not keep what the Lord had commanded.*

This was a tragic story!

- If Solomon with all his wisdom, inspiration, devotion, faith and conviction could not avoid the fate that God warned would surely happen, neither can we.
- James asked those he was writing, and also ignored Scripture in the same way a very important question
- We will all be greatly blessed if we consider and always strive to give the right answer
- *“Do you think that the Scripture speaks in vain (to no purpose).” (Jas. 4:5).*

The Line We Cross

- If I read a warning in Scripture and think it won't happen to me, doesn't apply to me, or I'm strong or wise enough to avert what God warned of, I'm following Solomon.
- That Scripture speaks in vain (in my mind).
- By such actions we thus proclaim it speaks for no purpose, is vain and empty of power when it comes to our own personal life.

It Only Takes One

- One command brought Solomon to apostacy
- There may be a single command with us also
- *“Do not be deceived: “Bad company ruins good morals,”*
- *“Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers.”* (1Cor. 15:33; 2 Cor 6:14).
- They speak to all of us. Yet some, think they can set such Scriptures aside because, at least to them, they speak to no useful purpose. , that we can see or understand.

We must not be deceived.

- We only get one chance at this life and the hope of everlasting life.
- When a passage or sermon points out such things, we ignore it to our peril.
- *“Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. 8 For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.” Gal. 6:7-8*

Single Minded Purpose

- *“So Samuel grew, and the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground.” 1Sam. 3:19*
- Joshua was told: *“This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.” Josh. 1:8-9*

As Joshua's Life Ended

- *choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.” (Josh. 24:15).*