

Bible Warnings

Introduction

1. We live in a world that is full of dangers and warnings are everywhere we look.
2. The Bible is full of warnings from the Old Testament throughout the New Testament.
 - A. By faith Noah, **being warned of God...** (Heb. 11:7)
 - B. Ezekiel, the prophet continues to warn the people of their wicked ways.
 - C. In the NT
 - a. To the Ephesian elders (**Acts 20:31**)
 - b. To the Corinthians (**1 Cor. 4:14**)
 - c. To the Colossians (**Col. 1:28**)
3. We see the importance of warnings throughout the Bible. The word beware appears 28 times and the phrase “take heed” is used 64 times in the Bible.

Discussion:

I. Beware lest ye forget

- A. “Then beware lest thou forget the LORD, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.” Deut. 6:12
 1. In this section of Deuteronomy, Moses is commanding the people to remember what God has done for them and to tell their children about it so they may never forget. **Deut. 6:4-12, 20-25.**
 2. Again, but two chapters later Moses in Deuteronomy 8 to beware that they forget not the LORD. **Deut. 8:1-2, 11-20**
- B. In order to not forget God, one must take heed or pay attention to himself. In Deut. 4, Moses reminds the Israelites twice to take heed unto themselves. **Deut. 4:9,23**
- C. Ultimately, Israel failed! “my people are destroyed for lack of knowledge” (**Hosea 4:6**)
- D. We should heed the words of the wise man “*Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth..*” (**Eccl. 12:1**)
 1. If we remember God in our youth, we will not forget Him easily in old age.
- E. God knows we are a forgetful people. This is why we remember the Lord’s death each first day of the week by partaking in communion.
- F. Let us never Forget God and all He has done for us “all things pertaining to life and godliness” (**2 Peter 1:2**)

II. Beware of False Prophets

- A. “Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves” (**Matt. 7:15**)
- B. **Matt. 24:4** “*Take heed that no man deceive you*”
- C. **2 Tim. 3:13**
- D. **2 John 7**
 1. This is just one kind of deceiver!
 2. **1 John 4:1**
- E. What keeps us from being deceived?
 1. One answer: know the truth! How well do you know the word of God?

III. Beware of having a wicked heart

- A. Heb. 3:12 “Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.”
- B. Sin starts in the heart as Jesus so vividly describes in Matt. 5
 - 1. **Matt. 5:21-22, 27-28**
 - 2. **Matt. 5:29-30**
 - 3. **Matt. 15:18-20a**
 - We are to beware the thoughts of our heart as those thoughts lead us to sin and away from God. (**Mk. 7:20-23**)

IV. Beware of Covetousness

- A. Luke 12:15
 - 1. Look at the context beginning in **Luke 12:13 – 21**
 - 2. The parable of the rich fool follows.
 - a. He remembered himself, but he forgot God, and he forgot others
 - b. He failed to thank God for his abundance
 - c. He failed to be benevolent, and generous, and giving.
 - d. Made an idol out of wealth (**Col. 3:5**)
- B. The cure to covetousness –
 - 1. **1 Tim. 6:6-11** – godliness with contentment
 - 2. **Matthew 6:33** - seek first the kingdom of God

V. Beware of Falling

- A. **2 Peter 3:17** “beware lest ye also... fall...”
- B. **1 Cor.10:12** let the strong take heed lest he fall
 - 1. Wherefore :: look the context
 - 2. **1 Cor. 10:1-12**
 - Learn from their fathers and don't be saved only to be destroyed.
- C. Usually occurs over time (**Heb. 2:1**)
 - 1. **1 Pt. 5:8**
 - 2. **2 Cor. 13:5** – “examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith”
 - 3. We must not be prideful and think that we stand firm and let our guard down.
 - Look at Noah, David, Solomon, Demas, and Peter just to name a few.
 - 4. We must spend time seriously thinking about our true standing with God.
- D. How to avoid Falling – **2 Peter 1:5-11**

Conclusion:

- 1. We would do well to heed these warnings. (Beware Lest We Forget, Beware of False Prophets, Beware of having a wicked heart, Beware of covetousness, Beware of Falling)
- 2. Practice self-reflection and examine whether we are in the faith.
- 3. Requires diligence and continual effort.