

FOREWARNED OF GOD

Lk 21:25-38

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Those who forewarn us of dangers can be of great benefit if we heed the warnings
- B. The crew of the ship "Titanic" was forewarned of icebergs but they did not heed. About 1,500 people perished.
- C. An engineer on a train was forewarned of danger by a red light in a fog. He did not heed. He rammed the rear of a passenger train and killed thirty-two people.
- D. Jesus graciously warned Peter that he would deny Him. Peter, however, was over-confident and failed to heed the warning.
- E. In our lesson Let's observe some of the forewarnings of God in regard to us.

DISCUSSION:

I. GOD FOREWARNS THAT ONE CANNOT ENTER THE KINGDOM WITHOUT THE NEW BIRTH Jhn 3:3,5

- A. Note the emphatic nature of the warning
- B. The new birth takes place when one is begotten of the Spirit and is baptized in water 1Pet 1:23; Rom 6:3,4; Mk 16:15,16
- C. However, millions are not heeding this warning.
 - 1 They are depending on their morality, good works, or on faith only
 2. Some day they will regret that they did not heed the warning of God

II. GOD FOREWARNS THAT WE HAVE AN ENEMY 1Pet 5:8

- A. Consider the nature of this enemy
 1. He is an aggressive enemy. Not a sleeping enemy not like snakes or wasps, aroused only when disturbed. He walks about seeking us
 2. He is a destructive enemy. Not content merely to wound. He devours, as a lion. He seeks our complete ruin
 3. He is a deceptive enemy Eph 6:11,16; 2Cor 11:14,15
- B. Because of the nature of the enemy we are warned to be vigilant, to be sober,
 1. "Be Vigilant" = stay awake; be watchful.
 2. How watchful would we be if in a forest where a lion was roaming about
 3. "Be Sober" = Use your head; think; be earnest and prayerful

III. GOD FOREWARNS THAT WE CAN'T BE SAVED IF WE WALK IN THE FLESH Gal 6:8; 5:17-21; Eph 5:3-6

- A. We should observe THAT some of these sins have to do with overt acts, while others are sins of disposition involving attitudes and feelings, especially toward others.
- B. Man, however, does not heed the warnings.
 1. They think THAT grace will cover their sins when they do not sorrow or repent
 2. They enjoy certain Sins and have no intention of giving them up.
 3. Yet they ask for forgiveness
- C. The doctrine THAT a child of God cannot be lost even if he does walk in the flesh is a false doctrine.

IV. GOD FOREWARNS THAT JESUS WILL RETURN AS A THIEF IN THE NIGHT 2Pet 3:10

- A. His coming will be as in the days of Noah Matt 24:37-39
- B. There will be no announcement to anyone
 1. Workers will not be told to "stay home today"
 2. THAT day men will buy houses but never live in them; Buy cars but never drive them; Take trips but never return; Plant fields but never harvest; Marry but never live with their companions; Die but never be buried
 3. People will have planned to obey the gospel, but will meet the Lord unprepared
- C. The Bible gives many admonitions 2Pet 3:11,17; 1Thess 5:1-6; Lk 21:34-36; 12:35, 36

CONCLUSION:

- A. How are we treating these warnings?
- B. The captain of the "Titanic" wished he had listened; So did the engineer on the train
- C. The rich man of Luke 16 wished he had listened to Moses and the prophets
- D. And just as certainly we will regret having not heeded God's warnings to us or simply taking them too lightly