

# The Righteous Shall Flourish ©

By Asa Dockery

The Righteous Shall Flourish for the righteous have been ordained by the Lord to be the head and not the tail, to be above only and not beneath, the first and not the last, and to always prosper. He causes us to prosper for He gives us the power to get wealth; and He blesses us so that we may be a blessing to others. God intends for His children to be blessed. We are in this world but we are not of this world; this means we do not live according to the dictates of this world. We don't conform to this world, but we are transformed by the renewing of our minds and we are not bound by the things of this world. We have to get into the word of God to see who's we are; to see who we are planted in; to see how we grow; and to see what we are called to do and to be.

**Hebrews 12:18-19 (NKJV): 18 For you have not come to the mountain that may be touched and that burned with fire, and to blackness and darkness and tempest, 19 and the sound of a trumpet and the voice of words, so that those who heard *it* begged that the word should not be spoken to them anymore.**

This is speaking of when Israel came to Mount Sinai and God gave them His law. God came to speak to the people, but when the people saw the thundering and the lightning, the mountain shaking and burning with the smoke billowing up it scared them, to say the least. They could not bear to hear the words God spoke to them because of their fear. The writer of Hebrews is saying we have not come to that mountain for they could not endure what was commanded.

**Hebrews 12:20-21 (NKJV): 20 (For they could not endure what was commanded: "*And if so much as a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned or shot with an arrow.*" 21 And so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "*I am exceedingly afraid and trembling.*")**

Don't you wish God would show up like that every now and then? It would scare the heebie-geebies and the flesh out of us, wouldn't it?

**Hebrews 12:22-25 (NKJV): 22 But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, 23 to the general assembly and church of the firstborn *who are* registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, 24 to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than *that of* Abel. 25 See that you do not refuse Him who speaks.**

But you, he is talking to us now, the New Covenant believers. We have come to God, the Judge of all. We have now come to Him. Then the writer says, see, see what? See that you do not refuse Him. Now wait a minute, it just said there in verses 18-20, that they refused Him, that they didn't want to hear His voice, right? Now we, the New Covenant believers, have come to something better. We have come to a new covenant in the blood of Jesus Christ which speaks better things than that of Abel's blood. And the writer is warning us, 'See that you do not refuse Him who speaks.'

**Hebrews 12:25 (NKJV): 25 See that you do not refuse Him who speaks. For if they did not escape who refused Him who spoke on earth, much more *shall we not escape* if we turn away from Him who *speaks* from heaven,**

For if they, the Jews, did not escape who refused Him who spoke on earth; how much more, how much more, shall we, the believers of the New Covenant, not escape if we turn away from Him who speaks from heaven. This is serious, is it not? We must not lightly esteem our salvation; the salvation that Jesus died on the cross for in order that we might attain it, right? We must honor it. He says if God's chosen people did not escape because they refused Him who spoke on earth, how much more shall we not escape if we turn away from Him who speaks from heaven.

This is Bible people, the Bible says this. How shall we not escape if we turn away from Him who speaks from heaven? Please allow this to get into your spirit.

**Hebrews 12:25-29 (NKJV): 25 See that you do not refuse Him who speaks. For if they did not escape who refused Him who spoke on earth, much more *shall we not escape* if we turn away from Him who *speaks* from heaven, 26 whose voice then shook the earth; but now He has promised, saying, "*Yet once more I shake not only the earth, but also heaven.*" 27 Now this, "*Yet once more,*" indicates the removal of those things that are being shaken, as of things that are made, that the things which cannot be shaken may remain. 28 Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. 29 For our God *is a consuming fire.***

It says that God is speaking once more and not only is He speaking but He is shaking something. But this time He is not shaking just Mount Sinai or just shaking the earth, He is shaking the earth and the heaven. And in this shaking He is removing everything that can be shaken. Now if your eyes, as a Christian, are on something that is not God's kingdom, or is not God's word, or is not of God's eternal perspective, if your eyes are on something that can be shaken, then you will be shaken. We are in a season and a period of time where God is shaking everything that can be shaken.

I don't know if you have ever been to an orchard and seen how they get the fruit from the trees. They used to pick each piece by hand, but now they have a machine and it grasps the trunk of the tree and shakes it. What happens when they shake the tree? The fruit falls off and then they gather it. But the thing is when God does the shaking He is not trying to shake you off the vine. He is trying to establish you in the Vine. He wants to see if your focus is on the world or if it is on Him. The shaking is going to reveal where our heart has its focus.

There is something I need to say up front before we continue on into this. When God is shaking everything that can be shaken the enemy is going to use that as an opportunity; because we are human and we tremble when God shows up, the enemy likes to use the shaking as an opportunity to come and tell us we are not going to make it. God shakes us *to build our confidence* and when the enemy shakes us, he shakes us *to shake our confidence*.

Do you remember when Jesus was going to die on the cross? He said the night before He was betrayed, ‘All of you shall be offended this night because of Me and you will be made to stumble.’ You think as you read this, ‘Why were they made to stumble? Why did they get offended by what happened to Jesus?’ It was because they saw Him as a Lamb being led to the shearer, being led to the slaughter, and it looked in the natural as if He was being defeated.

When God started shaking things, when Jesus was dying on the cross, God was not just shaking earth, He was shaking heaven, He was shaking hell and everything else. In the natural it looked like Jesus was defeated and when the disciples saw this they had no boldness or confidence in themselves about **this** Christ. So when the persecution came against them, and the people said, ‘I saw you with this Jesus, you are one of His disciples;’ they stood up and said, ‘Absolutely not. It was not me, I do not know Him.’ And the Bible says every one of them denied Him.

When God shakes something, do you now see how the enemy uses it to come and talk to us? Do you see how he tries to shake our confidence in God? But God says when He shakes something it is only to establish the person, so that they will know they are rooted and grounded in Me, they are established in Me, and that they may know who I can now bless.

This isn’t a great analogy but I am going to use it anyway. Have you ever seen the commercial where the person goes into a kitchen and turns on the light, and then you hear this roach scream out ‘Raid!’ Then you see roaches go running for cover in every direction? Well, when the shaking begins that seems to be the time Christians want to go running for cover. But it is then that God says, ‘Be still and know that I am God and see the salvation of the Lord.’ He wants to see who is going to be still in the shaking. He wants to see who it is that He can bless! God wants us to flourish in this time! He doesn’t want us to be distraught, to be full of fear, or to be full of anxiety, but He wants us to be established so that He can use us in the earth! The righteous of God shall flourish!

So God chose Israel, His holy people, to reveal who He is to the world. Now we have to understand, before Abraham you had Adam and Adam kind-of blew it. So in Adam things fell apart and the world could not come to know God in the same way He had revealed Himself to Adam. As a matter of fact, Adam had a very small revelation of God because Adam did not have the whole counsel of God. He did not desire it. He desired the things of this world. And so when God comes to somebody, as He did to Abraham, and as He did to Moses, He shows Himself to them. He shows His attributes to them.

He came to Moses and Moses said, ‘You want me to do what?’ ‘I want you to go into the land of bondage and I want you to tell Pharaoh to let My people go.’ And Moses’ response was, in my lingo, ‘Do you not remember my face is on their post office wall as the most wanted fugitive? If I am to go in there, who do I say sent me?’ God told him, ‘Tell them I Am that I Am sent you.’ See, God was showing Moses an attribute of Himself, and to his people, through what He was about to do. I Am That I Am. I Am the Self-Existent One, the Eternal and Living One. I Am has the power to rescue and to deliver His children from anything that would try to defeat them or to hold them in bondage. He is The Father; the Defender, Deliverer, and Rescuer of His children.

Then later God comes to Abraham, and He says, “Abraham, take now your son, your only son, up to the mountain that I will show you and offer him up to me.” And Abraham obeyed the voice of the Lord and took Isaac, his son, up the mountain and prepared him for the sacrifice. When he was ready to offer Isaac up, when he had the knife over Isaac to slay him, the Angel of the Lord stopped Abraham. And the Angel of the Lord said, “I have seen that you have obeyed Me and you have not withheld your son, your only son from Me. So now in blessing I will bless you. Take now the ram that is caught in the bushes and kill him as a sacrifice instead of Isaac.”

Through this trial of Abraham’s faith, Abraham received a revelation of God’s character. Abraham got a new revelation of an attribute of God, that God is Jehovah-Jireh; the God who provides. He is the God who will see to it that my needs are met according to His riches in glory through Christ Jesus.

God chose a covenant relationship with Israel for this reason, **to establish who He is in the earth**. So that through Israel the nations of the world would see how great a Father He was, and how big a blessing their God is to His people. I don’t know if you understand this to the full extent. I don’t know if you fully understand what God’s favor is all about, but if you have God’s favor on you people will hate you and yet they don’t even know you.

God used Israel **to provoke the nations of the world to jealousy**. They have a Father and we are fatherless. He provides for them and we have no one to provide for us. Where is our God? Why do our gods not provide for us and protect us as their God does? Even today, religions around the world are killing millions of people trying to attain public affirmation, or public acceptance of their religion as being legit. They are trying to earn through bloodshed what can only be given through Jesus’ blood.

But God chose Israel to reveal or to show His glory and power through that the earth might come to know Him. You may ask, ‘Where do you get that from?’ You get it out of Exodus, when God sent Moses into Egypt to Pharaoh to deliver His people out of bondage. God told Moses, ‘I am sending you to not only set My people free, but that I may gain honor over Pharaoh, and that the Egyptians and the nations may know My power.’

And we know that is what happened because the Bible tells us that. God got honor over His enemies, did He not? Not only did Egypt know the power of the God that watches over Israel, but the nations began to know it and it began to spread abroad throughout the earth. The word spread, ‘Don’t mess with Israel for they have a True and Living God. Don’t tick them off.’

Now later on, when Joshua and Caleb are raised up, God sends spies into the land of promise to spy it out. When the spies entered into Jericho, the people within Jericho said, ‘We have already heard about the God of Israel. We are afraid for ourselves for we have already heard what He did for you in Egypt. How He delivered you with great power. We have heard you were coming, and we have been waiting with dread.’ They knew it was just a matter of time before they bit the dust. And guess what happened? They bit the dust. The exterior walls surrounding of the city of Jericho were big enough to run chariot races on and yet they came down.

A musician recently stated that when the children of Israel went around the walls of Jericho, God knew the molecular structure of those walls, and if you can get to a frequency to match the molecular structure of a made object, that frequency will shatter the object. Do you remember the operatic woman that sounded out the notes of the musical scale and when her voice hit the perfect pitch or note, it shattered the crystal glass? That is what the musician was defining. He said when Israel was walking around the walls silently, the hum and rhythm of their feet created a frequency that started interfering with the soundness of the walls and the crumbling began on the inside. The continuous sound repeated daily, began a molecular change and when on the seventh day it was combined with the shout of triumph and the blowing of the horns, the walls gave way. God knew what it would take to bring down those walls. It was not by might or by man's power; it was by them being obedient and walking around and following the instructions of God. God knows how to do it. He doesn't have to use dynamite. He simply has to have obedient vessels. So now the inhabitants of Jericho receive a revelation of Israel's God. He is the Captain of the hosts of the Lord, the Mighty Arm of salvation, and the Commander and Chief of Israel. He not only gave them the battle plan and the strategy, but He also wrought the victory!

God says, 'Wait a minute guys, this is only the beginning, because through My relationship with Israel I will reveal My goodness, My power, and My love for you to the whole world. Therefore remain in close covenant with Me and I will show you what I can do.'

Israel was to remain in close relationship with God. They were to honor their covenant with Him and remain faithful to Him. But Israel rejected God at Mount Sinai, and they rejected Him again when Jesus came to them as the Word incarnate. Therefore God has given Israel, not as an example which He shows His glory and His power through, but He has given Israel as an example to the New Covenant believer to show what will happen to us as God's children if we should chose to reject Him. What has been going on in America the last fifty years? We have seen a rejection of God. What has come as a result of that rejection? A cutting off; a dying has come as the result.

Have you ever run a motor without oil? Guess what, it seizes up. It stops running. It locks down or it slings something outside the block, right? When you take God out of it, you are removing the oil from the working parts and instead of it flowing, running smooth and operating as it should, it begins to be laborious and hard. Things start seizing up. You cannot get anyone to do anything you need because it isn't working. As a matter of fact it begins to work counteractive or counterproductive. The word says God gives grace to the humble but He opposes the proud.

Now because the Jews rejected Jesus, because they rejected the only Hope, God has given them as an example to us to warn us what will happen to us if we reject the Hope. So when God shakes something, it is for the purpose of removing those things that can be shaken; and those things that cannot be shaken will remain. In this world if you want to be able to stand in tough times and to endure hardships, along with afflictions, then you must be willing to hear and to stand on God's word. That is it.

If you will listen to the voice of God, and if you will believe His promises, and if you will do as He commands, He says He will establish you. That's all? Yes. That is it. Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of

God. So if I listen to and adhere to the word of God, the word will give me faith? Yes. And faith will give you *the victory that overcomes* this world. Do you see how it works?

So, by the same token, if I reject the word of God then I am rejecting faith. And when I lose my faith then I have no victory over this world and I will succumb to it and I will live in bondage. You have a choice as a Christian. You can live in bondage to the world; or by listening to the word of God and keeping it, you can overcome this world. Be victorious not victims.

If we do not hold on to God, and His promises, we will be like David, we will distain it for a moment of pleasure, then when the shaking occurs in our life, and it will, there will be nothing to hold us from slipping away and perishing. Hebrews 3:7-10 says the Jews hardened their hearts to the voice of the Holy Spirit and because they hardened their hearts to the voice of the Holy Spirit, they didn't have strength and because they had no strength, they could not enter into the promise land. And they all died, they all perished in the wilderness. See as a nation we must repent and get back to the word of God.

I like technology as much as anyone else. You can see that in our ministry, but the word is the only thing that is keeping this church. It isn't the lights, it's not the cameras, it's not the internet; it is the word of God. As a pastor, I not only read His word, I not only pray His word, I not only stand on His word, but I live by His word. I hold on to the promises of God in His word because in Christ they are yes and they are amen. But if I should get away from the word I will fall just like anyone else has fallen. His word is the anchor for our soul.

In the time of shaking we do not have to fear, when the drought or famine comes we do not have to be afraid, because we have a God who is faithful to His word. When I cry to Him, 'There is no meat on my table and You said in Your word I have never seen the righteous forsaken or His seed begging bread.' God answers, 'I will give you the bread that you have need of.' The righteous are going to flourish no matter what! They are going to flourish because they are living righteously. But if you are not living righteously then you are not living at all; you are deceiving yourself.

I had finished praying and was asking the Lord where He wanted me to read; and He spoke two scriptures to me, Psalms 1, and Psalms 92. When I went to Psalms chapter one and began reading it, God began to unfold this word to me. Psalms one and Psalms ninety-two are the bookends to this word. In one moment He gave me this word.

**Psalms 1:1 (NKJV): 1 Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly,**

Blessed is the man or the woman who walks not, walks not, in the counsel of the ungodly.

**Psalms 1:1-2 (NKJV): 1 Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; 2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night.**

Now if you do these things that He says in verses one and two, you will **be** verse three.

**Psalms 1:3 (NKJV): 3 He shall be like a tree planted**

He shall be like a tree that is planted. A tree that is planted is rooted, is it not? A rooted and planted tree is a tree that is anchored, right? It is a tree that is established. When you are rooted you will stand in a storm. The black pines which grow here have no root system. Their root system is close to the surface of the ground, it isn't buried and established in the soil; and that is why when you see a tornado come through our area the black pines are the first trees to go. The oak trees are standing about them laughing. "See we told you that you had no roots. You poor pitiful thing, now you are going to be pulpwood."

The oak doesn't worry when the storm comes. Why? The oak has deep set roots. Does the Christian who has been in the word of God, who has been living the word of God, and who has a testimony with God's faithfulness worry when storms come? No, they are established! But the one who does not care about God has to worry. He cries out, "Oh God, help me, help me! Please help me!"

**Psalms 1:3 (NKJV): 3 He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper.**

He is planted by the rivers, rivers of water. He is established, kept and he flourishes. Do you see this? In the time of drought you are going to prosper. Why? You are rooted; you are grounded in the law of God. Your delight is in the law of the Lord. You are keeping it, honoring it, living it and sharing it. And whatever you do, it is going to prosper. I don't see how their business is still open. Then go find out what they are doing when their doors are closed.

**Psalms 1:4 (NKJV): 4 The ungodly *are* not so, But *are* like the chaff which the wind drives away.**

Now if I understand sifting like when Jesus said to Simon Peter, per my paraphrase, 'Simon I have some good news. Satan has asked the Father that he may have you that he might sift you as wheat, but I am praying for you brother. I am not asking God that this go away, I am praying that you will handle it. I am praying that your faith will sustain you in it. And when you are converted, when you return to Me, strengthen your brethren.' Isn't that comforting?

The way I understand sifting to be is, when they gather up the wheat there are also tares and chaff among it. Remember the parable of the tares and wheat? In the parable the harvesters said, 'there have been tares sown among the wheat. Let us go and pull up the tares and destroy them.' But the owner of the field said, 'no, lest while you are pulling up the tares you also pull up the wheat also. Let us wait until the harvest and we will pull them up together, take them to the threshing floor and then we will have a sifting.' So they gather the tares and the wheat together, they lay them upon a large sifting tray, and then toss them into the air. The wind blows the light weight tares away and the full wheat grains, which are heavier, remain.

So we are in a shaking and God is tossing us in the air but we do not fear for we are attached to God. It may look like God has thrown us over the edge, but He hasn't. We are being tossed into the air so that we can come back down rooted and grounded in God and in His word. But the chaff, the wicked things that aggravates you

and bothers you, they are blown away. You will say I have been dealing with that demon for years, where did it go? This storm just blew them out of my life. I thought this storm was going to kill me and instead it got rid of what was bothering and tormenting me. See that is the sifting! God is shaking us. He is tossing things up into the air because He wants the chaff in our lives done away with.

**Psalms 1:5 (NKJV): 5 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment,**

First John 4:17-18, deals with this. He says, **love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment, because as He is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love. (NKJV)**

So we are to take this time as we come to faith in Christ, to get to know Him and to know the Father, who has called us through Christ, that we can become established. When we know Him and our love is perfected in Him then we will have no fear. And in the day of judgment, like right now where it looks like this thing is going down south real fast, we will have boldness, right?

That is a hard place to get to, because when you are walking on water, you know that it is not concrete under your feet. You will say I don't like this feeling. I like something firmer, something harder and something steadier under my feet. I don't like this sinking feeling that I have under me. But have you noticed in that place that God has kept you? You are still here and you are doing better than two-thirds or more of the world because God has sustained you. He has kept you because of the heritage we have as Americans. God is honoring His word to our forefathers. Even though we have been faithless, He has remained faithful. He has kept us but our time is running out, the seceding generations have left the first Love. This is why He is saying to America, 'Return unto Me.'

**Psalms 1:4-6 (NKJV): 4 The ungodly are not so, But are like the chaff which the wind drives away. 5 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. 6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, But the way of the ungodly shall perish.**

This is where we are at. This is why God has given this to me to share with others. We are in a season, right now, where we are seeing people perishing, left and right. A thousand shall fall by your side, and ten-thousand at your right hand, but it shall not come nigh you. Only with your eyes shall you see the reward of the wicked. We are living in a season when the enemy is going about as a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour, and we are seeing them perish, they are dropping like flies. And it is scaring us. God what is going to happen to us? Are you planted? Are you abiding under the shadow of the Most High God? Are you abiding in The Vine? If you are, then don't fear. You are not appointed under wrath, but you are appointed unto salvation. Don't fear, you are established. You are in the Rock. Did you know that Rock is Christ Jesus, and the Rock followed the Israelites through the wilderness and gave them water out of that Rock? God will take care of us in the wilderness, and He has, and He will continue to do so. He does not change. But the ungodly shall perish because they have no root; they have no solid foundation in the shaking.

Let's recap for a moment. God calls us blessed when we don't walk in the counsel, in the advice or the guidance of the ungodly, or stand in the path or in the direction of sinners, or sit in the seat of the scornful. I looked that up, scornful. It means to speak or to act arrogantly against God. Do not speak or be arrogant toward God, toward His word or toward His people. God sees it.

We are blessed when we choose to follow the ways of God, because He will plant or establish us in Christ like a tree by the water. I find that very interesting. We are going to be planted but where we are planted matters. He is going to plant us next to the water, the rivers of water. This means that in the time of drought and famine and in the time of shaking, we are going to have a foundation, but not only are we going to have a foundation, we are going to have provision. We are going to be held still in Him and we are going to be provided for; because God knows that if you don't know that He is with you then you will be moved by your unbelief.

Therefore God wants you established so you are not moved, and He wants you provided for so that you do not worry. This happens when you remain continuously in it. You have to remain continuously in it. Don't go out and dip your foot in the water and say it felt good. I got a dose of the Holy Ghost. I am good to go. And then turn back and live in the world again. That is not being rooted and grounded. That is taking a hit.

The ungodly that rejects God, the unrighteous that rejects God and ignores His word, has no spiritual roots or foundation, so when the shaking comes they are removed and forgotten. The ungodly shall perish; but the righteous shall be established and flourish in trying times because we have an anchor that holds us so that we don't drift away from God, who is our life. He is the anchor to our soul. He keeps us from drifting away.

Have you ever had a boat? Have you ever had a boat without an anchor? Then you didn't have a boat anymore. A person can be sitting in a boat on a placid body of water. They will think the boat isn't moving and then they look to see that they are twelve miles from the shore. They drifted but they didn't sense the undercurrent. They thought they were still, but the water was moving beneath them, drawing them away from the shoreline. You must have an anchor that resists the drifting. This is why this generation is drifting away from God; there is no root in them.

**1 Corinthians 10:1 (NKJV): 1 Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea,**

We know Paul is speaking here of when the Jews were led out of bondage, and they were passing through the Red Sea and the Spirit of God was over them as a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night to lead them and to protect them, right?

**1 Corinthians 10:2-5 (NKJV): 2 all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, 3 all ate the same spiritual food, 4 and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ. 5 But with most of them God was not well pleased,**

The Rock was Christ as I said while ago; but with most of them God was not well pleased. Without faith we cannot please God, that is what Hebrews 11:6, tell us; so they were not walking in faith, were they? No. They just wanted Him for His hand.

**1 Corinthians 10:5 (NKJV): 5 But with most of them God was not well pleased, for *their bodies* were scattered in the wilderness.**

They were scattered in the wilderness. They perished in the wilderness because they would not listen to the voice of God. They hardened their hearts when He spoke to them and dealt with their hearts, right?

**1 Corinthians 10:6 (NKJV): 6 Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted.**

Now these things became our examples, isn't that what I said while ago? God wanted to use Israel, and His relationship with Israel, to show how great, powerful, loving and kind He is to the lost and dying world so that through Israel they might come to know Christ. However they rejected God, and because of that, God cut them off. Now these things became our examples.

**1 Corinthians 10:6 (NKJV): 6 Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted.**

These things became our examples to what intent? They became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust, lust after what? That we should not lust after evil things. Are we getting what the word is saying here? The enemy is using the things of the world to cause us to lust. He is using the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh, and the pride of life, the idolatry of this world, the idols we have set up to draw us away from God. The enemy is using the things of this world to draw people who have evil lusts away from God. But Paul is writing to us and saying, Wake up, guys, this is exactly what happened with Israel and God cut them off and how will we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?

**1 Corinthians 10:6-12 (NKJV): 7 And do not become idolaters as *were* some of them. As it is written, "*The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.*" 8 Nor let us commit sexual immorality, as some of them did, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell; 9 nor let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed by serpents; 10 nor complain, as some of them also complained, and were destroyed by the destroyer. 11 Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. 12 Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.**

Not doing the word of God, he is just being religious. I don't have to worry about that, I can sin and still stand. Take heed lest you fall.

So because Israel chose to reject God, to reject His word, God used them as an example so we in the church would not desire to walk according to evil lusts and perish as they did in the wilderness and we in the world. Even though God has given Israel as an example of what not to do, believers still choose their own lusts and

reject God's convicting power which comes to a very high price to their soul. God is warning us. He is shooting some shots over the bow. He is trying to get our attention to wake us up.

Used to, and some preachers still do, preachers would preach hell so hot it would scare people into heaven. It would scare them so much they would be afraid to go to sleep. Romans chapter two does not preach that. Romans chapter two says it is the goodness of God that leads men to repentance. I can use fear to manipulate you and once you have repented with tears of fear, and you realize that you were manipulated, you are going to be as hard as a rock. If I pluck you prematurely, premature apples are bitter. You must do it with the goodness of God. It leads, not drives.

So here is the goodness of God. When Moses said to God, You know I have a speech impediment and yet You are wanting me to go to Egypt and lead out your people. Pharaoh has his vast empire and great armies and he believes these same people are his slaves. You don't know what You are asking of me. I need a little confidence boost. God told Moses to stick his hand inside his breast covering and then to pull it out. Moses put it inside his tunic and pulled it out and it was leprous. Then God commanded him to put it back in and when Moses did so it was restored.

Moses said that was good God, but do You have anything else? God said yes, what is that in your hand? Moses answered a stick. God told him to throw the stick on the ground and when he did it became a serpent. It scared Moses. Then God told him to pick the serpent up by the tail. No! It is a serpent you pick them up by the head. If you pick it up by the tail it can coil and strike you. God said to pick it up by the tail. God has the authority over the head. When Moses obeys and picks it up by the tail, it turns into a rod once more. Now, Moses, do you feel better about what I have called you to do? Yes, that was some good stuff God. It has given me some courage and strength, but I am still having some issues here. Would you please do something else? That was the goodness of God being shown to Moses.

God didn't say, Moses get yourself some backbone! Get over it! Get a grip! God went along with him, and He gave Moses just a few drops, a few morsels of miracles, to build his confidence so that through the faith of knowing God is with me, he would know and say, I can do this now. Therefore God says My goodness causes or brings men to repentance. Not My wrath, but My goodness. My wrath destroys people and that is why I sent Jesus and not a legion of angels. I want you saved.

You have a rebellious generation and the church is saying, 'God destroy them so they will get saved. It appears as though God is allowing them to just run wild.' People are asking, 'God, are You not going to deal with these people and their ways?'

God is being long-suffering, patient, waiting. They get into a fix that should have destroyed them and God spares them. And instead of them seeing the goodness of God that they were spared, they look at what they lost and they complain to God. And instead of humbling themselves because of God's goodness, they go back and they harden themselves against God and God says that is one.

Then they go a little further, continuing their old behavior and habits, and they keep going their own way. They keep ignoring God, all the while knowing that God is calling them in His goodness to repentance. And then they get into a mess again. Then all hell blows up in their lives and it is worse this time. Instead of seeing the goodness of God and that He has again sustained them, that He has spared them and pulled them out of the mess again, they curse God. They blame Him and say, ‘Why did you allow this to come upon me? I thought I was Your child.’

God says, ‘Don’t you understand you have sown into your flesh and you are now reaping your own corruption. My grace has kept you from being destroyed in your soul. Satan is trying to destroy you and to take you to hell. Will you not repent even now?’

God is not going to come up to you and beg you to repent. Please repent, please. He won’t. He won’t do it. He will show you His goodness over and over but eventually He will say that is it. He will allow you to reap what you have sown. He told Israel that. After forty years He told them that was it. He washed His hands of them. The enemy had them. They would not have anything to do with Him. They had rejected His word over and over again. They kept rejecting His goodness over and over again. They would not allow Him to give them anything and they were cut off because of their rejection. They perished in the wilderness.

**Hebrews 2:1 (NKJV): 1 Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away.**

You can hear a message like this in church, or as now, you can read it in a booklet, and then you go right back to your old ways. You say you will change but you don’t. You think you can change later, but you are drifting further and further away. It is better for you not to hear this than to hear it and to turn away from it. We must give the more earnest heed to what is being said lest we, lest we, lest we, we drift away.

**Hebrews 2:1-3 (NKJV): 1 Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away. 2 For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, 3 how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation,**

Here it is again in another part of the word. Is this not the New Testament; the New Covenant word? Ministers need to preach the complete word of God. They are setting men up for destruction because they preach a watered down gospel. The Bible says how shall we, how shall we, that is to Christians, how shall Christians escape it we neglect so great a salvation?

**Hebrews 2:3-4 (NKJV): 3 how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him, 4 God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?**

See He gives us signs and wonders, He gives us various miracles and the gifts of the Holy Spirit according to His will, and this is His goodness also being given to men. His goodness is reaching out to this generation. If God's chosen people were cut off because they refused to hear and obey His word and His will, and He has given their outcome as a warning to the New Covenant believers who think they can do as they please, then we might want to pay closer attention to what the Bible says about forsaking so great a salvation. We don't need to forsake it; we need to adhere to it, because we will not escape.

You can feel it in the air right now. Something is going to happen. There is a rod that is going to fly off the fly-wheel. Something cataclysmic is about to happen. You can feel it in the air. God is saying the flood is coming Noah! But if you prepare yourself now I will take you out before it comes. You will escape! But if you do not prepare yourself you will have no anchor for your soul!

Here is what we have to do.

**Ephesians 6:10 (NKJV): 10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.**

Be strong in what? Be strong in the Lord and in what? Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Be strong in Him and in His power. How?

**Ephesians 6:11 (NKJV): 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.**

Put on the whole armor of God, why? You put on the whole armor that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. What did I write earlier? The enemy, when God is shaking things, takes that time to come and shake people's confidence, but you are to resist him. How? Put on the whole armor of God and then you will be strong, and then you will do great exploits. Those **who know** their God shall be strong and do great exploits. It takes the whole armor of God. It takes knowing your God.

**Ephesians 6:11-13 (NKJV): 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day,**

Take up the whole armor of God that you may be able to withstand, withstand when? In the evil day; we are there are we not? We are there, and it is time to suit up. It is time to take a stand against the strategies, the methodologies, and the wiles of the devil. It is time to be stand up for God and to be blessed as Israel was in Goshen while the plagues were being released in Egypt. This is not the time to get cozy with the world. This is the time to come out from the world. Something is about to happen. You can sense it in the Spirit.

After the plagues were poured out in Egypt what happened? God delivered them.

**Psalms 92:8-11 (NKJV): 8 But You, LORD, are on high forevermore. 9 For behold, Your enemies, O LORD, For behold, Your enemies shall perish; All the workers of iniquity shall be scattered. 10 But my horn You have exalted like a wild ox; I have been anointed with fresh oil. 11 My eye also has seen *my desire* on my enemies;**

See, God is fighting our battles.

**Psalms 92:11-12 (NKJV): 11 My eye also has seen *my desire* on my enemies; My ears hear *my desire* on the wicked Who rise up against me. 12 The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree,**

The righteous shall what? The righteous shall flourish, is that not what it says? The righteous shall flourish like what? They will flourish like a palm tree. Did you know that a palm tree in a hurricane will bow all the way to the ground? Blessed are the flexible that do His will!

**Psalms 92:12-15 (NKJV): 12 The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, He shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon. 13 Those who are planted in the house of the LORD Shall flourish in the courts of our God. 14 They shall still bear fruit in old age; They shall be fresh and flourishing, 15 To declare that the LORD is upright; *He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.***

Those who are planted where? Those who are planted in the house of the Lord, whose house we are. The Spirit of the Lord dwells in us. We will flourish in His courts. We shall be fresh and flourishing for what purpose? We shall be fresh and flourishing to declare our God is upright, that He is our Rock in these evil days, and He is our righteousness. We are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus and there is no unrighteousness in Him. Thank you Jesus, we glorify you Father.

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If you have a special need or prayer request, you can contact us at our email address or at our office address listed below. We will be so honored and glad to hear from you and to join you in prayer regarding it. Our intercessory team joins us in prayer daily for the needs and requests we receive. Our God is mighty and He is willing that none perish but that all have abundant life through our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ.

If you have not yet become a member of the household of God, or if you have grown away from the Father and need to rededicate your life to Him, please won't you take that step now to enter into His presence and know the joy of being His very own child? Let us not cast away our salvation but let us embrace His life-giving Spirit and walk with Him that He may instruct us in the way to go.

Won't you confess with your mouth and believe in your heart that God raised His Son Jesus from the dead and that Jesus died to give you eternal life and to remove your sin? Simply believe this, surrender your life to Him and receive His forgiveness. When you do this, the Bible says in Romans 10:8-10, you will be saved.

If you need to rededicate your life to Him, surrender your will and life to Him, confess your sins, accept His forgiveness and He will forgive you and receive you again.

If you have made either decision, please contact us and let us know. We will be glad to send you material about salvation and rededication. We would also like to enclose a CD or DVD, free of charge, to encourage you and to welcome you into the family of God.

Thank you for joining us in this word. We pray you were blessed and encouraged.

Pastor Asa Dockery