

God Means What He Says

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One of the things we see and learn in the bible among many others is what God did to the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. We see Abraham pleads for these cities that if possible God may spare them (Gen. 18:16-33). But because they did not change from their wickedness, God so that it is good to destroy these cities. In (verses 23-25) we see Abraham is talking to God asking Him if He gets fifty righteous in the city, God said He will not destroy the cities; in fact, Abraham wanted to know if He will sweep all the people in that land including the righteous. But He did not sweep Lot and his family. We learn many things in this subject but the most of it is compassion as Abraham was to the people of Sodom and Gomorrah, he could have just asked God to spare his nephew Lot but that would have been hypocrisy. That did not change God's mind because the people of the two cities were more that wicked. We may be smart as we can but when it comes to God's turn everything changes and this how the people of Sodom and Gomorrah looked like. They thought of being smarter that the creator.

When He created man and put him in the garden, He expected the creator to obey all the instructions that they were told not to do. They were told not to eat of the fruit of the knowledge of good and evil or they would surely die (Gen. 2:15-17). And because they sinned there was no other way of rescuing because they were warned. They were to follow instructions that they were given; just the same today Jesus set the steps of salvation to us that we may follow but human being decided not to follow and do what is commanded to do, instead we are doing what we have been told not to do. And do you know that when we don't do what God has commanded us to do what follows? We die. And what is the cause of death to a Christian spiritually? Sin. 1 Cor. 15: 56, "The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law." When sin we die and God has told and warned us before that a person doing such things will surely die, He mean what He says. When He set the steps of salvation to mankind He mean it so that we may follow these steps. In Jam. 1:15, "Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin and sin when it is finished, bringeth forth death." (KJV). "If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it." (1 Joh. 5:16).

There are many people we read about in the Bible that disobeyed God and they were put into a punishment for their fault. Let us see how God punished them when they disobeyed Him, and it applies to us when we don't do what He tell us to do:

- Cain and Abel, brought sacrifices to the Lord and He accepted that of Abel and rejected Cain's (4:4-5). God had told them what to bring and by faith Heb.11:4, Cain did not do as they were told and he was driven away from the sight of God (Gen. 4:14-15). Job. 15: 20-24; Ps. 51:11; Num. 35: 19-21. And do you know what happens when the Lord kicks you out of His presence? You die.
- Man became so wicked and God said He would destroy all living (Gen. 6:5-6). And waited 120 years when Noah prepared the Ark and then God brought the flood (Gen. 6:3, 1 Pet 3:20).
- Jesus said "*remember Lot's wife*" (Luke 17:32). She was told not to look back as she and her family fled Sodom and Gomorrah, but she looked back anyway and became a pillar of salt (Gen. 19:26). God mean what he says if not so He would have spared Lot's wife, same to us today.
- God told Moses to "*speak to the rock*" to bring forth water for the children of Israel (Num. 20: 8-11). But Moses smote the rock twice with his rod. And because of this he was allowed to see the promised land, but not allowed to enter into the it (Num. 20:12; Deut. 34: 1-4). God mean what he says and we all need to follow what he command.
- God told Aaron and his sons that for burnt offerings to use fire taken from the altar (Lev. 6:9), but Nadab and Abihu offered strange fire from another source and God killed the both (Lev. 10:1-2). I can remember Ellis on this subject when he taught one time in Shirati when we gathered with all the churches in that region.
- God choose the tribe of Levite to carry the Ark of God and no one else was to touch it lest they die (Num.4:15). On one occasion the ark was carried on a new cart and Uzzah put forth his hands to steady the ark and prevent it from falling when the oxen stumbled; God smote him dead right there. Sometimes a human being acts like he is smarter than God but at the end he finds himself in trouble.
- King Saul was commanded to utterly destroy Amalek and all that they had (Isa. 15:3). But Saul spared Agag and "*all that was good*" and everything else (Isa. 15:9). Although Saul tried to blame the people, God took his kingdom away from him.

So what about us today? Does God mean what He says about the certainty of “HEAVEN” if we do what He says and the certainty of “HELL” if we don’t?

“Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God for he will abundantly pardon.” (Isa. 55:6-7). I remember Ellis as he was explaining about the Ark of the Covenant and Uzza.

Brethren, God always means what He says.

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