

You've Been Warned Part 3

Trampling God

Hebrews 10:26-31

Memory Verses: Hebrews 10:31

MANUSCRIPT

Introduction (Me, We, & the Struggle)

Hebrews is an amazing book which shows us the sovereignty and supremacy of Jesus Christ. He is better than anything and anyone else. He is the Great High Priest over a New and Better Covenant through which we are saved of our sins and hell simply by faith in Christ. But on this awesome road we are met with warning signs. These warning signs cause us to take inventories of our souls and evaluate whether or not we are truly in Christ.

Two weeks ago we looked at our first warning sign... lest we fall. There is a danger in casually drifting away from our faith and falling into a calloused existence. The warning; Don't drift away from God or you may fall! Last week we looked at our second warning sign... impossible to restore. There is a danger in stalling out in your faith because a stall might reveal that you are further from Christ than you thought. The warning: stalling in your faith might be a sign that you never had it.

Now we come to perhaps the most sobering warning yet; what it means to trample on the grace of God. When I was younger, I got caught sneaking into a movie theater with my friends. One of my friends, Danny, worked at the theater and we convinced him to sneak us in the back door. We were poor and the theater was empty... what could it hurt. It wasn't until the theater manager came in that I knew we had messed up. He shown his flashlight in our eyes and told us we had to leave or he would call the cops. We all ran out of there like the place was on fire. Unfortunately my friend Danny lost his job. I felt awful. I had taken advantage of my friends kindness, I disrespected the manager, I had stolen something that wasn't mine, and I thought I could get away with it. In the end I got my friend in trouble.

Now take that feeling and multiply it by a million. That's what you get when you read **Hebrews 10:26-31**. Let's read it together right now. Do you see the danger here? The danger of treating God's grace like cheap entertainment. Do you see the utter contempt for an almighty God when you use him, like I used my friend Danny, to only get what you want, when you want it, and then discard him when he doesn't suit you?

Let's face it; we are not serious Christians if we treat God this way. We live in an age of casual Christianity. We claim to have faith, but our faith often only resembles bumper sticker platitudes that amount to nothing. We only pray when its convenient, we only obey when it

benefits us, we are going through a charade of religion. We have a semblance of godliness but we continue in our sin. This is practical blasphemy. This is a belief void of action. It's hypocrisy and it should scare us to death. And so the writer of Hebrews asks us a frightening question; what happens to those who receive the truth, but then willfully keep sinning? This is what many so called Christians deem a loophole. Just get saved and do whatever you want. Its a get out of hell free card. Its a license to sin. If you've ever wondered... why can't Christians simply get saved and then go on living any way they want as long as every time they sin they just pray a prayer asking for forgiveness? Even worse, if you've ever lived that way... this message is for you! Our main point this morning is this... **When we trample grace, we invite the judgment of God.**

Teaching (Expand on the Problem, God)

The first thing we need to see this morning is that... **Willfull Sin Is Treason Within**. Let's look at the first part of our passage in **Hebrews 10:26-27**. If we go on sinning deliberately? This isn't an oops, it's an open eyed offense. This is a purposefully thought out plan. This is a well thought out treason. This isn't first degree, a slip up in the moment. This is second degree, pre-meditated. Some sins are a trip up. My bad God, forgive me, I'll try to do better. But this is treason from within. This is as we call it in our house, direct disobedience.

In my home, direct disobedience receives a quick rebuke. Grounded, no phone, no screens, no car. Under the Old Covenant it received banishment. Look at **Numbers 15:30-31**. Here it receives the fearful expectation of judgment and a fury of fire. The greek word here for "deliberately" carries the idea of ongoing defiance. This is a heart posture, not a momentary mistake. The text is describing someone who hears the gospel and, knowing full well what they are doing, rejects it with their lifestyle. Simply put, **you can't cling to Christ while cozying up to sin.**

Do you understand what we are saying here? If you treat God's grace like a license to sin, then you don't understand God's grace. In fact you have trampled it... and you have rejected his lordship. Paul makes this clear in **Romans 6:1-2**. **When you persist in sin, the cross is no longer a comfort. It becomes a warning sign. There is no longer a sacrifice for those who have trampled all over the sacrifice of Christ. The Illustration is plain. When you say you love Jesus and have been saved by his grace and then go on sinning... its just like stomping all over your saviors dead body on the cross.** If you do that... theres no other means of your salvation. You are standing outside the shelter that protectec you from God's judgment.

It's like this; Have you ever gotten an alert on your phone or tv that there was a tornado warning in your area? You see it, you go to a safe room and you wait it out. How many of you have gotten a lot of those? How many of you have gotten a lot of those and never seen a tornado? Do you

grow tired of being lied to? They keep saying there is a tornado but I never see one. Maybe you get mad at the warnings and so the next time you see one you just ignore it. But this time its real and now there's no time left to seek shelter. When you ignore the warnings of sin too many times eventually you will be desensitized to it. And before you know it you are trampling the sacrifice of Christ, standing in the wrath of God. True **salvation** doesn't just **save** you from sin... it keeps you from **sinning**. Why trample the grace of christ with sin? **When we trample grace, we invite the judgment of God.**

The second thing we need to see here is that.. **Rejecting Grace Is Spitting In God's Face.** Let's look at the second part of our passage in **Hebrews 10:28-29**. There are three accusations leveled here against those who willfully disobey and rebel against God. You've trampled underfoot the Son of God. You're treating Jesus like roadkill. You've profaned the blood of the covenant. You're treating Jesus' blood like mud. You've outraged the Spirit of grace. You're treating the Holy Spirit like a stranger. All in all.. you've abused the love of Christ. In **Romans 2:4-5** Paul warns us of abusing the kindness of God. Our hearts will grow hard and we will be standing in God's wrath. Have we presumed on the love of Christ, the redemption in his blood, and the conviction of his spirit? Not good! It's crazy how many people think they can claim to love Jesus and be under his salvation and then live like hell! **You don't get to spit on the gift and expect to please the giver.**

Shevi, hold up. I thought if you were saved you couldn't lose your salvation. Thats absolutely true. No one who is truly saved will face the wrath of God. So how do we reconcile this? Easy. Anyone who says they are saved and can live in direct disobedience to Christ... is... You got it.. not saved. Never was! **Grace abused is grace refused.** Anyone living in the loop hole has refused the grace of Christ in order to live like the world. **When we trample grace, we invite the judgment of God.**

Application

So what do we do with this? This passage is sobering. The question we have to ask ourselves is... is this talking about me? Let's evaluate? Have you grown comfortable with sin to the point that habitual deliberate sin doesn't bother you. You can live like hell on Saturday and worship like a saint on Sunday and its no problem. Maybe you've tried to live in the loop hole of grace. I can sin all I want as long as I ask for forgiveness. I know I'm saved so I don't have to worry about God's wrath. I can do what I want. If you find yourself here, let this be a wake up call. The most **dangerous** place to be is **near** the gospel but **never changed** by it. If you are near the gospel but not under the gospel you are still under God's judgment. **Romans 8:13** tells us that if you live accordign to

the flesh you sill die in the flesh. So.. if you are a true believer... kill sin before sin kills you. If you aren't a true believer... today is the day of salvation... Come under the shade of Christ and out of the fire of God's judgment.

Conclusion

In 1830, a man named George Wilson was convicted of robbing a mail carrier and sentenced to death. But President Andrew Jackson offered him a pardon. Wilson refused it. It was taken to the Supreme Court, and this was their ruling: "A pardon is an act of grace... but delivery is not complete without acceptance. George Wilson must die." He was offered grace. He rejected it. And he died.

That is exactly what Hebrews 10 is warning us about. Grace has been offered through the cross. Jesus Christ bore the wrath. The pardon is signed in His blood. But if you trample it... if you spit on it... if you say "No thanks," then the judgment is just, and it will be terrifying. "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." - **Hebrews 10:31** Friend, fall into His arms now—before you fall into His hands then.