

4-30-2016, COTR Texarkana

Title: Warning!

Spiritual Truth: If I care about people, I'll warn them about the consequences of living in rebellion against God.

Purpose: Provoke people to warn people when they're on a path of destruction.

Text: 2 Peter 2:5

Topic: Heroes, Noah, Warning, Judgment

Series: Heroes

Series Purpose: Provoke people to follow the example of Biblical heroes.

Warning!

I. Introduction

A. **Warning Video:** (Center Screen Image) Why does the highway dept. post warning signs, e.g. STOP, Speed Limit 65, Ice on bridge? Because they care about us and want to help us avoid a disastrous outcome. Shouldn't we do the same for people we care about? Shouldn't we warn them about the consequences of living in rebellion against God?

B. **Title: Warning!**

C. **Def. warning:** To caution people about approaching danger so they can avoid it.

D. **Today we'll continue the series, 'Heroes' and talk about Noah.** Noah loved people enough to warn them about the consequences of ignoring God's righteous standards.

D.1. Listen to messages @ChurchOnTheRock.org or on the COTR iPhone/ Android app

D.2. Text: 2 Peter 2:5 (NIV) ...he (*God*) did not spare the ancient world when he brought the flood on its ungodly people, but protected **Noah, a preacher of righteousness** ... (NLT) **Noah warned the world of God's righteous judgment.** So God protected Noah when he destroyed the world of ungodly people with a vast flood.

D.2.a Noah told people about God and then people about coming judgment and in so doing saved his own life and his family's.

D.3. Spiritual Truth: If I care about people, I'll warn them about the consequences of living in rebellion against God.

D.4. Purpose: Provoke people to warn people when they're on a path of destruction.

II. Noah, a righteous man who cared enough to warn people

A. **Noah lived in a world that was wicked and corrupt.**

- A.1. Genesis 6:5–12 (NIV) The LORD saw how great the **wickedness** of the human race had become on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only **evil** all the time. 6 The LORD regretted that he had made human beings on the earth, and his heart was deeply troubled. 7 So the LORD said, “I will wipe from the face of the earth the human race I have created...11 Now God saw that the earth had become **corrupt** and was filled with **violence**. 12 God observed all this corruption in the world, for everyone on earth was corrupt.
- A.2. The worldwide flood was a literal event that was be a moral judgment upon the wickedness of the people as well as a warning to future generations.
- A.3. John Morris, PhD, ICR says nearly every ancient culture tells a story of a worldwide flood that destroyed the earth with a flood because of man’s sin. He has collected 200 of these stories, inc. S Am and Pacific Is.; Wikipedia calls them a flood myths.
- A.4. Def. wicked: a comprehensive word covering everything contrary to God’s law; to be sinful. Def. evil: To have a depraved, corrupt heart. Def. corrupt: to pervert; to entice from good and allure to evil. Def. violence: to use physical force to injure or abuse with the intent to maim or destroy.
- A.5. Does this sound like America? According to the FBI Crime Clock a violent crime occurs every 26 sec; 1 murder every 37 min; 1 rape every 5 min; 1 robbery every 2 min; 1 aggravated assault every 43 seconds. Our songs, TV and movies are filled with violence and wickedness. By the time the average child is eighteen years old, they will have witnessed 200,000 acts of violence and 16,000 murders.
- A.6. Matthew 24:37–44 (ESV) For **as were the days of Noah**, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. 38 For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, 39 and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man...44 Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect. (This is why we warn people.)
- A.7. Should it matter to me if people are wicked and do evil, violent things? It mattered to Noah and it should matter to us. Modern Political Correctness (avoiding language or behavior that any particular group of people might feel is unkind or offensive) says, Who are you to judge? You don’t have the right to tell me what to do so tolerate me and keep your mouth shut if you disagree.
- A.7.a People may not want to be warned about danger now but I wonder what the people outside the ark were thinking. Picture Noah’s Ark.

- A.7.b We have no problem with warnings like this. E.g. Picture sign drinking while pregnant. How much more should we warn people who are in danger of God's eternal judgment? If I care I'll say something.
- B. What kind of guy was Noah? What can we learn from him?**
- B.1. Righteous man and blameless: Genesis 6:8-9 (NIV) Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD. This is the account of Noah and his family. Noah was a **righteous man, blameless** among the people of his time, and **he walked faithfully with God.**
- B.1.a Righteous describes his relationship with people not God, i.e. a very good man.
- B.1.b Blameless describes a person's relation to God, and can be translated, always obeyed God or was faithful to God but he still needed faith in God to be saved. Hebrews 11:7 (ESV) By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark By this...he became **an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.**
- B.1.c Noah's story serves as an exhortation to righteousness and enduring faith in the face of degenerate times. His lifestyle gave him credibility to warn people.
- B.2. He cared about people enough to warn them: 2 Peter 2:5 (NLT) **Noah warned the world of God's righteous judgment.**
- B.2.a E.g. He'd go in Loews for nails and warned people about the coming flood.
- C. Like Noah, Ezekiel warned people:** Ez. 3:17–21 (NLT) “Son of man...Whenever you receive a message from me, **warn** people immediately. 18 If I **warn** the wicked, saying, ‘You are under the penalty of death,’ but you fail to deliver the **warning**, they will die in their sins. And **I will hold you responsible** for their deaths. 19 If you **warn** them and they refuse to repent...they will die in their sins. But you will have saved yourself because you obeyed me. 20 “If righteous people turn away from their righteous behavior ...they will die. And if you do not **warn** them, they will die in their sins. None of their righteous acts will be remembered, and **I will hold you responsible** for their deaths. 21 But if you **warn** righteous people not to sin and they listen to you and do not sin, they will live, and you will have saved yourself, too.” (I wonder if this applies to us.)
- C.1. E.g. FB bathroom controversy, local repeal effort/ Target boycott: Deut. 22:5 (NLT) A woman must not put on men's clothing, and a man must not wear women's clothing. Anyone who does this is **detestable** in the sight of the LORD your God.
- D. Judgment of the wicked in Noah's day**

- D.1. Ge 6:13–18 (NLT) God said to Noah, “I have decided to destroy all living creatures, for they have filled the earth with violence...14 “Build a large boat (*NIV ark*) from cypress wood (*ESV gopher wood*) and waterproof it with tar...17 “Look! **I am about to cover the earth with a flood that will destroy every living thing that breathes** ...18 But I will confirm my covenant with you. So **enter the boat**...
- D.2. Sin brings judgment. It happened before and it will happen again. Ecclesiastes 3:17 (NLT) ...“In due season God will judge everyone, both good and bad, for all their deeds.” Romans 2:5 (NLT) But because you are stubborn and refuse to turn from your sin, you are storing up terrible punishment for yourself. For **a day of anger is coming, when God’s righteous judgment** will be revealed. (We need to be ready.)

III. **Conclusion: God wants to save people and not judge them**

- A. **Ge. 6:17–18 (NLT)** ...Everything on earth will die. 18 But I will confirm my **covenant** with you. So **enter the boat**—you and your wife and your sons and their wives.
- A.1. When Noah entered the ark something supernatural happened. God shut the door and water came from the sky and from the earth. After 50-75 years of waiting and warning judgment came to those who rejected God but Noah was safe in the ark.
- A.2. In the same way, God has a plan of salvation to protect us on Judgment Day. In Noah’s day it was an ark; in our day it is through Jesus Christ. The ark was a type/picture of Christ. Just as Noah came into the ark we come to Christ for salvation.
- A.3. Jesus promised in John 3:16...

IV. **Response: Prayer for salvation; commitment to be like Noah and warn people.**

- A. *** *Logos Bible Software and library, A handbook on Genesis, Noah Webster’s first edition of An American dictionary of the English language were used to prepare this message.*