

# The Danger of Failing To Listen When God Speaks For The Last Time

## 1) Readings

- a) 2 Chronicles 36:11-16, particularly verses 12-13
- b) Proverbs 29:1
- c) Acts 17:30
- d) 2 Peter 3:4

## 2) Introduction

- a) The fourfold deliverance in Exodus
  - i) Deliverance from the executed judgment due to birth
    1. Liberation from the enslavers
      - (a) Taskmasters (Ex. 1:11)
      - (b) Bondmen (Deut. 7:8)
      - (c) Pharaoh (Deut. 7:8)
    2. Release from the sphere of enslavement
    3. Deliverance from the slaves / Egyptian mind set, living by sight, human rationale
- b) The difficulty to be free from the Egyptian mind set because we are bombarded by the world of anti truth attitudes
  - i) The serious deadly anesthetic of procrastination, there will always be tomorrow (2 Pet. 3:4)
  - ii) Tomorrow, tomorrow, tomorrow
  - iii) The rich man thought there would be a tomorrow (Lk. 12:19)
- c) Is it a possibility or a reality that we do not have a heart belief in the truth of:
  - i) The uncertainty of life
    1. There is but a step between me and death (1 Sam. 20:3)
    2. The immanency of the Lord's return
    3. The fact that God speaks to the unsaved for the last time **while they are alive on this earth**
- d) We who have unsaved relatives and associates
  - i) God speaking to them for the last time

## 3) The scripture records individuals to whom God spoke for the last time

- a) All these individuals who I now use as illustrations had a time in life's experience when:
  - i) They began to have a God consciousness
  - ii) They began to believe in the reality of God
  - iii) They heard unmistakably the commands of God
  - iv) God spoke repeatedly to them
  - v) They out of hand rejected the voice of God, the commands of God

## 4) The individuals on earth to whom God spoke for the last time

- a) Zedekiah (2 Chron. 36:11-16)
  - i) He refused to humble himself
  - ii) He refused to turn to God
  - iii) He made little of the compassion of God
  - iv) He mocked the messengers of God (Jeremiah and x 4 rising up early and pleading)
  - v) And God came in with judgment
  - vi) Stood and watched as his sons were killed before him
  - vii) Had his eyes gouged out
  - viii) If only he had listened and obeyed
  - ix) No, it is too late
- b) Pharaoh (Ex. 5:1-14:28)
  - i) He rejected the repeated prodding of God
  - ii) He heard the command of God

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- iii) He saw the power of God in judgment and mercy, but he hardened his head
- iv) His last words, Ye shall see my face no more
- v) Moses turned his back on him
- vi) Judgment was settled and now it was only a matter of time
- vii) Stood by the side of his sons casket, his dead body
- viii) It was too late

c) People of Noah's day (2 Pet. 2:5)

- i) Noah had preached for possibly 100 years, but they disbelieved
- ii) It had never happened before and they did not believe it would happen now
- iii) They rejected the **only** way of salvation, the ark (Gen. 6:15)
- iv) God waited (I suggest) with an open door seven days (Gen. 7:4)
- v) The door was shut (Gen. 7:16)
- vi) Judgment was settled and now it was only a matter of time
- vii) The rain began to fall, the foundations of the earth were broken up
- viii) Too late to weep, etc.

d) Belshazzar (Dan. 5:5-6)

- i) A man to whom God spoke when judgment was about to fall, no time for repentance
- ii) The religious leaders of the world could not give the understanding, there was needed a man with God's understanding (Dan. 5:7-8; 17-30)
- iii) How well he knew of God's humbling His grandfather Nebuchadnezzar (Dan. 5:18-19)
- iv) But how he mocked God in the use of the holy vessels (Dan. 5:1-4)
- v) God spoke in the midst of revelry, the starkness of eternity became real
- vi) But this man had rejected the warnings and now God speaks condemnation

5) Never a word from God to the unsaved after death

- a) In Luke 16:19-26 a man gets a message from the a man in hell
  - i) A great gulf fixed
  - ii) There is no transference of place
  - iii) And there is no repentance in this man
- b) A word from God to man in transit into Hell
  - i) I never knew you, depart from me (Matt. 7:23)
  - ii) The Great White Throne and not a recorded word from God, the frightening silence of God (Rev. 20:11-16)

6) One thing possibly more frightening that God speaking for the last time, it is the:

- a) Ignorance of not knowing when that last time is.
  - i) Ignorance is frightening
  - ii) I remember being inside a lighthouse when the foghorn suddenly started, the noise was frightening
  - iii) In the bush, pitch blackness, the darkness was frightening
  - iv) The thunders, not told what they are, so frightening because of the unknown
- b) What if this is the last time God will speak to you this side of eternity
  - i) What if . . . . .
  - ii) The wisdom in getting ready for the fastest non returning trip you will ever take

7) How can I know if God is speaking or if it is just emotion?

- a) God uses our intelligence to make us aware of dangers and to respond
- b) Am I sincere in accepting this possible last invitation?

- c) Illustration: A marriage ceremony in which the officiator speaks to the man: “Will you take Joan to be your wedded wife?” He answers I do. He asks the same question to Joan: “Will you take Bill as your husband?” Now wait. At that point they are not married, the audience and Bill wait for her response. As soon as she says “I will” they are married. God looks at Christ and asks: “Will you save Mary from all her sins?” Christ says “I will”, then turning to you God says: “Will you accept Christ as your personal Saviour, without depending on any other, and trusting Him alone for your eternal salvation?” The moment you say “I do”, at that moment you are saved.

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**May God grant us good understanding as He, by His Holy Spirit, deigns to guide us into all truth.  
John 16:13**

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