



Sermon Notes

Paris First Baptist Church

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North Means North- Walking in Obedience to the Word *Deut 17:14-19*

Lets pretend that we are lost in the wilderness. We are instantly transformed into a boy scout. We have our trusty canteen with water, a small amount of food, matches in case we get cold and our course our trusty compass.

We set out to get our self out of the predicament. We ration our water and food, conserve our matches and throw **North Means North- Walking in Obedience to the Word *Deut 17:14-19***

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We set out to get our self out of the predicament. We ration our water and food, conserve our matches and throw the compass away. That would be crazy would it not. We need water but the compass would have allowed us to not become disorientated and go in circles. Many times we keep a lot of things in our decision making processes of life and without thinking we throw away the compass.

When you were growing up or perhaps now as you are growing up do you think at times your parents tell you not to do something because they are mean spirited or because they don't want you to have fun.

A story is told of a little girl riding the back seat of the family car. She had a habit of playing with the door handle. Her parents had told her not to do it. One day as she was playing with it the door flew open and she was thrown from the car. Her father raced back to his dying daughter and heard her say, "I won't do it again, I promise." The father did not tell his daughter to stop playing with the door handle to be mean, but to protect her because he knew what was best for her.

There is a law in science that says for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction. Then there is the law of Biology that says you reap what you sow; Corn from corn, wheat from wheat, etc.

There is a spiritual law also that says we reap proportionally to what we sow. Notice **2 Cor 9:6** *"But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully."*

The Bible also teaches us that we need to be careful what we sow too as well. Notice **Gal 6:7-9** *"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. ⁸ For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. ⁹ And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."*



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In our text we go to the Word of God where instructions were given for the Kings of Israel before the Nation of Israel ever entered the Promised Land. God told Israel He would give them a king. *Deut 17:15 Thou shalt in any wise set him king over thee, whom the LORD thy God shall choose: one from among thy brethren shalt thou set king over thee: thou mayest not set a stranger over thee, which is not thy brother.*

However, the king should abide by certain prohibitions. God was not being mean spirited nor was He trying to restrict the king unduly. God meant what He said when He said it. Beloved north still means north.

I- Prohibitions & Requirements for the Kings:

God told the future kings there were certain things they were prohibited from doing. Let us look at our text and see these.

Deuteronomy 17:16-17 “But he shall not multiply horses to himself, nor cause the people to return to Egypt, to the end that he should multiply horses: forasmuch as the LORD hath said unto you, Ye shall henceforth return no more that way. ¹⁷ Neither shall he multiply wives to himself, that his heart turn not away: neither shall he greatly multiply to himself silver and gold.”

God told him not to multiply horses, women or precious metals. It was simple because the King would trust in these instead of God.

One of the things that God is not is simply a God who gives us a list of do not's. God told the Kings things he should do to better serve Him and the Kingdom.

Deuteronomy 17:18-19 “And it shall be, when he sitteth upon the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write him a copy of this law in a book out of that which is before the priests the Levites: ¹⁹ And it shall be with him, and he shall read therein all the days of his life...”

The reason was simple for this. God said, “...*that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them.*”

So we can see that the purpose of us falling in love with the Word of God and reading, studying and meditating on it is that it will help us in our walk. We will explore some of the consequences of failure to heed these warning in a few moments.

II- Why Does God Give Prohibitions?

First we might ask and answer the question of why does God prohibit certain things in His word. Let's look at a few truths.



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1- The first truth concerning God and the prohibitions in His Word is *He loves us and wants only what is best for us*. We He says something is harmful it is not an attempt to withhold good from us.

When we think of the story of Adam and Eve and the fall of mankind in the garden we see an illustration of this. Notice *Genesis 3:1-5* with me if you would, *“Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? ² And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: ³ But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. ⁴ And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: ⁵ For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.”*

Satan says well the reason God don't want you to have this is He is holding back on you. He knows you will be like Him if you take it. Sin is tempting because it looks so good to the flesh. Another point of this story in Genesis is the fact that Satan doesn't have our best interest at heart. Certainly this was true for Adam and Eve.

2- The second truth of why God puts prohibitions in His Word is; *God alone knows the outcome of the situation*. I remind us that God is time infinite thus He can see the future. We are time finite and we cannot. If we could see the end we would never go down the road.

If you knew you would be in an accident and killed if you took a certain road to work then you would probably take a different road, even go out of your way and inconvenience yourself. What if you knew if you would be killed on one day but you did not know what day it would be in the next week if you took this certain road to work? Would you risk it? Probably not, however we travel down the road of sin playing, if you will, Russian roulette.

Isa 46:9-10 “Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, ¹⁰ Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure.”

God, and God alone, knows the outcome if certain things are allowed to continue.

3- Another truth concerning the Word of God and its prohibitions is that *the Word of God will never change*. Mans opinions of right and wrong change, many times someone is against something until it happen to them or their family then



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they have a new revelation it is not so bad after all. The philosophies of men change with the winds.

Notice a couple of verses concerning this. *Colossians 2:7-8* “***Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving. ⁸ Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.*”**

So when God says something is wrong and prohibits something it is out of wanting the true best, out of knowledge of the end, and out of unchanging truths.

III- Consequences of Failure to Heed:

Now go with me to the times of King Solomon as we explore warnings not heeded by the King.

Notice *1 Kings 4:26* says, “***And Solomon had forty thousand stalls of horses for his chariots, and twelve thousand horsemen.*”**

1 Kings 10:22-26 “***For the king had at sea a navy of Tharshish with the navy of Hiram: once in three years came the navy of Tharshish, bringing gold, and silver, ivory, and apes, and peacocks. ²³ So king Solomon exceeded all the kings of the earth for riches and for wisdom. ²⁴ And all the earth sought to Solomon, to hear his wisdom, which God had put in his heart. ²⁵ And they brought every man his present, vessels of silver, and vessels of gold, and garments, and armour, and spices, horses, and mules, a rate year by year. ²⁶ And Solomon gathered together chariots and horsemen: and he had a thousand and four hundred chariots, and twelve thousand horsemen, whom he bestowed in the cities for chariots, and with the king at Jerusalem”***

Kings 11:1-3 “***But king Solomon loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites; ² Of the nations concerning which the LORD said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods: Solomon clave unto these in love. ³ And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart.*”**

Beloved we know the story well of Solomon the man who was known far and wide for his wisdom and wealth. The end of Solomon was not as glorious as his beginning.

Notice, “*1 Kings 11:4-9* “***For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as was the heart of David his father. ⁵ For Solomon***



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went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. ⁶ And Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD, and went not fully after the LORD, as did David his father. ⁷ Then did Solomon build an high place for Chemosh, the abomination of Moab, in the hill that is before Jerusalem, and for Molech, the abomination of the children of Ammon. ⁸ And likewise did he for all his strange wives, which burnt incense and sacrificed unto their gods. ⁹ And the LORD was angry with Solomon, because his heart was turned from the LORD God of Israel...”

Beloved may I warn myself and you also there is a high cost of ignoring the warning in the Word of God and not walking in obedience to the Word.

IV- Thou Shalt Nots:

I feel that I would be amiss if I do not at least remind us of a couple of things.

First the Ten Commandments God gave to Moses. Notice these in *Ex 20:3-17*. Lets look at a few of these found here. “*Thou shalt have no other gods before me.* ⁴ *Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth:* ⁵ *Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;* ⁶ *And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.* ⁷ *Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain....*¹² *Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.* ¹³ *Thou shalt not kill.* ¹⁴ *Thou shalt not commit adultery.* ¹⁵ *Thou shalt not steal.* ¹⁶ *Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.* ¹⁷ *Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.”*

Second is that in order to walk in obedience to God’s Word we must begin with a relationship with Jesus Christ.

Jesus talking with some of those who were following Him after He had fed the 5000 in *John 6:28-29* “*Then said they unto him, What shall we do, that we might work the works of God?* ²⁹ *Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.”*

Are you walking in light of the revealed truth of God’s Word? Someone apply said it is not the part they didn’t understand that bothers them it is the part that they do.