

"The Danger of Rejecting Jesus Christ."

John 3:36

Introduction: Today we are going to step away from our study of the chaos in our world and we are going to look at a message of salvation. I want to make it very clear today the danger you are in if you do not know Jesus Christ as your Savior/if you are not saved. There are many people who are not saved and they do not understand just how terrifying the situation is which they are standing in. They go about their lives like everything is all good.

➤ **Death and Judgment**

The first point I want to show you is that you are headed for a judgment in which you will stand before a perfectly righteous and holy God.

Hebrews 9:27

²⁷ And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

There are two points to see here.

a. Death is appointed.

Job 14:1, 5

Man that is born of a woman is of few days and full of trouble.

⁵ Seeing his days are determined, the number of his months are with thee, thou hast appointed his bounds that he cannot pass;

The day of death will come and you cannot stop it. It is an appointment that cannot be broken and you do not know when that day will come. It could be today or it could be this coming week.

b. Judgment is appointed.

Hebrews 9:27

²⁷ And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

When will this judgment take place?

Revelation 20:11-15

¹¹ And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.

¹² And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

¹³ And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

¹⁴ And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

¹⁵ And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

Notice how detailed this judgment will be.

Romans 2:16

¹⁶ In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

➤ **Spiritually Dead - Separated from God.**

Right now, as you walk this earth you are spiritually dead which means that you are spiritually separated from God.

Ephesians 2:1-3

And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

² Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

³ Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

Isaiah 59:2

² But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

The sin in your life has created a barrier between you and God.

➤ **Under the wrath of God.**

John 3:36

*³⁶ He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; **but the wrath of God abideth on him.***

I want you to notice that if you are not saved the wrath of God is currently abiding on you. But what does this mean? This is very frightening when we look closely at what Jesus is talking about.

Romans 1:18-25

¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

¹⁹ Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.

²⁰ For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

²¹ Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

²² Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,

²³ And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.

²⁴ Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves:

²⁵ Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.

Because the wrath of God is upon you it means that you are sinking deeper and deeper into spiritual darkness. You may not think you are sinking deeper and that is because you are in a state of self-deception. It is like a pilot flying a plane into the fog and experiences spatial disorientation. He starts into a downward spiral and does not even realize. That is where you are in your life. Your heart is growing harder and colder toward God and that which used to bother you no longer does. You are in a downward spiritual spiral and you sink deeper and deeper.

➤ Without Hope.

As you pass through this life you might think you have hope but really you have none.

Ephesians 2:11-12

¹¹ Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands;

¹² That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:

The person who is saved has great hope to hold tightly to. We have hope in Christ and that means we have hope in:

- a. Seeing our loved ones who died in Christ again.
- b. A new home with the Lord.
- c. Freedom from the curse.
- d. Eternal fellowship with the Lord.
- e. Meeting all the saints of the past ages.

If you are unsaved, you have none of this hope. This life is as good as it will ever be for you. The suffering here is nothing compared to what you will face in eternity.

Mark 9:43-48

⁴³ And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched:

⁴⁴ Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.

⁴⁵ And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter halt into life, than having two feet to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched:

⁴⁶ Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.

⁴⁷ And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire:

⁴⁸ Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.

Notice that Jesus says that hell is a place where THEIR worm never dies and the fire is never quenched. Jesus here is quoting from Isaiah 66.

Isaiah 66:24

²⁴ And they shall go forth, and look upon the carcasses of the men that have transgressed against me: for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh.

"In both texts the word translated as "worm" literally means "grub" or "maggot." A maggot would have an obvious association with a dump like Gehenna where dead bodies are thrown; however, the maggot Christ speaks of "will not die"."

Jesus is making the point about how terrible hell is. It is better to cut off your hand or foot or pluck out your eye than to end up there.

➤ You are Helpless.

On your own you are completely helpless to escape the judgment and the wrath of Almighty God. You see, God requires a sinless blood sacrifice to pay your sin debt and you have nothing to offer.

Hebrews 9:22

²² And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

We have sinned against God and so it is the one Who is offended and He has decided what is required to satisfy the offence.

Illustration:

If we break the law today, we do not get to decide what the consequences are it is the judge who determines the consequences. In the same way God determines what the cost of the offence is.

Romans 6:23a

²³ For the wages of sin is death;

There is a payment that is required to satisfy the righteous demands of God. It is a sinless blood sacrifice.

Isaiah 64:6

⁶ But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

➤ God loves you and has made a way of forgiveness.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

³ For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

⁴ And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

Jesus died upon the cross as the Lamb of God that would take away the sin of the world.

1 John 2:1-2

My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

² And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

John 3:16-17

¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

¹⁷ For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

Conclusion:

The forgiveness of God is offered to you as a free gift.

Romans 6:23

²³ For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Ephesians 2:8-9

⁸ For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

⁹ Not of works, lest any man should boast.