

## THE GATHERING STORM

**Text: Hebrews 10:26-31**

**Key Word:** Responding

**Key Thought:** Once We Discern What God Is Saying, We must Respond Properly or Face the Consequences

Canada along with the nations of the world is clearly seeing a number of critical events taking place. There seems to be a build up over the past few years. We are hoping that we are now over the COVID viruses.

Add to all these the economic instability of the nations of the world. The nations of the world are facing massive inflation costs. And then there is the present war in the Ukraine. There are constant uprisings between Israel and Syria. Statistics have proved that severe weather patterns are on the rise in intensity and numerically (tornadoes, hurricanes, volcanoes, floods and earthquakes).

**Have you ever asked the question - Where Is God in All this Chaos/Confusion?**

**I. GOD BEGINS BY DECLARING HIS DISPLEASURE (Hebrews 10:26)**

**II. GOD CONTINUES BY DECLARING HIS WARNING (Hebrews 10:28-29)**

**III. GOD ENDS BY DECLARING HIS JUDGEMENT (Hebrews 10:26, 27, 30-31)**

### **I. GOD BEGINS BY DECLARING HIS DISPLEASURE (Hebrews 10:26)**

I am convinced that when a nation turns its back on God and despises His known will that there will be consequences. It will not happen overnight, but it will be progressive and build with intensity. I agree with the words of Jesus when He said, *“Watch out . . .” (Matthew 24:4).*

Too often we are only hearing one side of the nature of God. We so much want to stress the goodness, love, compassion, kindness and gentleness of God. This is very important and must continue to be taught and preached. But we must also proclaim the other side of God and that is His anger, wrath, judgement and punishment for those who choose to disobey His Word.

I am concerned that Canada has lost the voice of the prophet in the midst of Church Growth. Perhaps we have even chosen to remove them in order to get people into our churches. Words like “sinner, hell, the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ etc.” are quickly disappearing as well. We are seeing a very complacent church rising up in Canada. If it continues, both the nation and the Church will die from within. We complain about prayer being removed from our schools and yet many don’t pray at home. We want Bible studies in our schools and yet many churches never encourage their people to open their Bibles at home.

## I. GOD BEGINS BY DECLARING HIS DISPLEASURE (Hebrews 10:26) (Contd.)

I have heard prophecies declaring that God is pleased with His Church. How can this be? Prayer rooms have become a thing of the past. Our homes are dividing. Our children are rebellious. Our work ethics are not ethical. We often dress like the world. We go where we shouldn't go. We say what we shouldn't say. We see what we shouldn't see. We do what we shouldn't do.

We must come to grips with the fact that God is displeased when His people do not live what they believe. **Displeasure is the beginning of God's discipline procedure.** We should be thankful that God attempts to turn us back in the right direction BEFORE advancing.

*"If you are not disciplined (and everyone goes under discipline), then you are illegitimate children and not true sons."*

*Hebrews 12:8*

Some people's actions seem to prove that they don't feel God will do anything to show His displeasure toward us. They think they can continue doing what they know is wrong and yet not face the consequences of their actions. **They couldn't be more wrong.** Just because God is longsuffering doesn't mean that He will always bear with our sinfulness.

*"The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."*

*10. **But** the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed with fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare."*

*II Peter 3:9,10 (Read from vs 1)*

*"How long, LORD, will the wicked, how long will the wicked be jubilant?  
4. They pour out arrogant words; all the evildoers are full of boasting."*

*Psalms 94:3,4*

## II. GOD CONTINUES BY DECLARING HIS WARNING (Hebrews 10:28-29)

God warns against drunkenness (Galatians 5:21); violence (Genesis 6:11); disrespect for life (abortions/euthanasia/infanticide); drug culture (Revelation 21:8); stealing (Matthew 19:18); homosexuality (Romans 1:26-27); disrespect for parents (Romans 1:30); lying (Proverbs 6:17), adultery/fornication/idolatry/witchcraft (Galatians 5:19,20). This list is NOT even close to being exhaustive.

God moves from displeasure to warning signs. I can only say that when these warnings come, we had better listen much more than we are today. When I say “we” I don’t just mean the Church, I also mean the nation. Unfortunately, even good people face certain effects that sinfulness has brought to their nation. Samuel was told to warn the people not to seek a king to rule over them when they had God as their king. They didn’t listen to Samuel!

*“But warn them solemnly and let them know what the king who will reign over them will do.”*

*I Samuel 8:9*

*“I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.”*

*Galatians 5:20*

King Jehoshaphat appointed Levites and priests to serve the people. They were given strict orders to warn the people who disobeyed God.

*“. . . you are to **warn** them not to sin against the LORD; otherwise his wrath will come on you and your brothers. Do this, and you will not sin.”*

*II Chronicles 19:10*

The prophet Ezekiel was told to warn the people. He was called as a watchman over the house of Israel in order to warn the people with the words that God gave him (Ezekiel 3:17). Ezekiel was first to tell the people what God expected of them, but he was not to stop there. He had to add a warning if they chose not to obey.

*“When I say to a wicked man, ‘You will surely die,’ and you do not warn him or speak out to dissuade him from his evil ways in order to save his life, that wicked man will die for his sin, and I will hold you responsible for his blood.”*

*Ezekiel 3:18*

## II. GOD CONTINUES BY DECLARING HIS WARNING (Hebrews 10:28-29) (Contd.)

He goes on to say that we are also to warn a righteous man who turns to do evil. If we don't, we will be responsible for his blood (Ezekiel 3:20-21). **A simple warning could be the key needed to save both the hearer and the one declaring it BEFORE the hearts and minds of people become too hardened**

\*\*\* Many residents of Washington remember exactly where they were and what they were doing on the morning Mount St. Helen's blew wide-open. The shock wave rattled windows for hundreds of miles around.

Prior to the eruption, scientists monitoring the peak didn't know when it would go off or how big the blast would be. But all the signs of a live volcano were evident. It was just a matter of time.

Local media issued warnings and faithfully reported St. Helen's vital signs. But as time elapsed and the big eruption did not occur, people became less wary and more bold. Campers, photographers, and others moved in to get a closer look.

Then on May 18, 1980, the mountain that had been dormant since 1857 spewed ash skyward and killed at least thirty people. **They had failed to heed warnings, and they died needlessly.**\*\*\*

Christine Dallman  
"The Quiet Hour"  
December, 1997, February, 1998, p. 77

A caution sign in a laser in a physics laboratory: *"Don't look into laser beam with your remaining eye."*

An Arkansas farmer discourages trespassers with this admonition: *"Please do not trample the poison ivy or feed the bull."*

## II. GOD CONTINUES BY DECLARING HIS WARNING (Hebrews 10:28-29) (Contd.)

\*\*\* The Winter 1991 issue of the *University of Pacific Review* gave a chilling description of the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear disaster:

There were two electrical engineers in the control room that night, and the best thing that could be said for what they were doing is they were “playing around” with the machine. They were performing what the Soviets later described as an unauthorized experiment. They were trying to see how long a turbine would “free wheel” when they took the power off it.

Now, taking the power off that kind of a nuclear reactor is a difficult, dangerous thing to do, because these reactors are very unstable in their lower ranges. In order to get the reactor down to that kind of power, where they could perform the test they were interested in performing, **they had to override manually six separate computer-driven alarm systems.**

One by one the computers would come up and say, “***Stop! Dangerous! Go no further!***” And one by one, rather than shutting off the experiment, **they shut off the alarms and kept going.** You know the results: nuclear fallout that was recorded all around the world, from the largest industrial accident ever to occur in the world.

The instructions and warnings in Scripture are just as clear. We ignore them at our own peril, and tragically, at the peril of innocent others. \*\*\*

Tom Tripp

Colusa, California, quoted in “*Leadership, Fall Quarter,*” 1993, p. 56

## III. GOD ENDS BY DECLARING HIS JUDGEMENT (Hebrews 10:26, 27, 30-31)

If our world does not soon heed the warnings that are taking place worldwide then they will have to face the wrath of God as their final judgement.

*“If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth no sacrifice for sin is left.*

*27. But only a fearful expectation of judgement and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God.*

*30. For we know him who said, ‘It is mine to avenge; I will repay,’ and again, ‘The Lord will judge his people.’*

*31. It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”*

*Hebrews 10:26,27,30,31*

Jonathan Edwards, the American revivalist pastor and theologian, preached to his own congregation in Northampton, Massachusetts and then again on July 8, 1741, in Enfield, Connecticut, one of the most famous sermons in Christian history. **Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God** produced heavy conviction and repentance among those present and many came to faith that day in Jesus Christ.

### III. GOD ENDS BY DECLARING HIS JUDGEMENT (Hebrews 10:26, 27, 30-31) (Contd.)

Edwards was instrumental in advancing Christianity in America during **the first Great Awakening** and this sermon was his most remembered and perhaps impactful. **We need another Great Awakening NOT a Great Reset.**

We can't escape the inevitable. Anyone who refuses to take heed at **God's Displeasure** and **His Warnings** will have to face **His Wrath**. Even though God loved Jerusalem and called it His holy city it still came to an end as the Babylonians conquered it.

*"But they mocked God's messengers, despised his words and scoffed at his prophets until the wrath of the LORD was aroused against his people and there was no remedy."*

*II Chronicles 36:16*

"People used to blush when they were ashamed. Now they are ashamed if they blush. Modesty has disappeared and a brazen generation with no fear of God before its eyes mocks at sin. We are so fond of being called tolerant and broadminded that we wink at sin when we ought to weep."

Vance Havner

*"The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness . . . 2:5 But because of your stubbornness and unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God's wrath, when his righteous judgement will be revealed."*

*Romans 1:18; 2:5*

"Christians must understand the nature of the change that has occurred in our culture. No longer do the secularists just mock Christians from afar. They are now actively campaigning to indoctrinate children in an anti-God philosophy – to teach them to be secularists and atheists."

Ken Ham

We need to be assured today that we have received Christ as our personal Saviour. We also need to be honest with God. Are we living a life that is pleasing to Him or are we simply going through the motions? God wants to spare us from His wrath!

### **III. GOD ENDS BY DECLARING HIS JUDGEMENT (Hebrews 10:26, 27, 30-31) (Contd.)**

*“Since we now have been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God’s wrath through him!”*

*Romans 5:9*

*“For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

*I Thessalonians 5:9*

#### **Where Is God in All this Confusion?**

**I. GOD HAS CLEARLY DECLARED HIS DISPLEASURE (Hebrews 10:26)**

**II. GOD IS CONTINUING TO DECLARE HIS WARNING (Hebrews 10:28-29)**

**III. GOD IS ABOUT TO DECLARE HIS JUDGEMENT (Hebrews 10:26, 27, 30-31)**

I would not leave this place today if you are not in a right place with God. It is imperative that you heed the warning that I’ve clearly presented today. God always begins with His people before addressing the world as a whole.

*“For it is time for judgement to begin with the family of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God?”*

*I Peter 4:17*

*“When the sentence for a crime is not quickly carried out, people’s hearts are filled with schemes to do wrong.”*

*Ecclesiastes 8:11*

### **Heed the call! THE STORM IS GATHERING**

C:/WPWin(2021)/Sermons.22/End Times/Hebrews10\_26.31.wpd

Date: July 17/22

Place: FCA

Time: 10:30 Pm

Song: Holy Ground (And I Know That There Are Angels) - D; See His Glory - D; When I Look into Your Holiness - D

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*God is displeased with our nation's drunkenness (Galatians 5:21); violence (Genesis 6:11); disrespect for life (abortions/euthanasia/infanticide); drug culture (Revelation 21:8); stealing (Matthew 19:18); homosexuality (Romans 1:26-27); disrespect for parents (Romans 1:30); lying (Proverbs 6:17), adultery/fornication/idolatry/witchcraft (Galatians 5:19,20), incest (Leviticus 18:6).*

**II. GOD CONTINUES BY DECLARING HIS WARNING (Hebrews 10:28-29)** - I Samuel 8:9; Galatians 5:20; II Chronicles 19:10; Ezekiel 3:18; Ezekiel 3:20-21;

**III. GOD ENDS BY DECLARING HIS JUDGEMENT (Hebrews 10:26, 27, 30-31)** - II Chronicles 36:16; Romans 1:18; Romans 2:5; Romans 5:9; I Thessalonians 5:9

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