

Let The Bible Speak Series

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No Remedy

Today we are going to discuss the implications of a verse of scripture found in 2Chronicles 36:16 which reads "But they mocked the messengers of God, despised His words, and scoffed at His prophets, until the wrath of the Lord arose against His people, till there was no remedy." In other words the situation was hopeless. The saddest and most frightening words one can hear from a Dr. are: "I'm sorry, there is just no cure or remedy for the disease that you have. One is left with a feeling of helplessness, when such a message is given. Zedekiah ruled 11 years in Judah. His reign was marked with evil and rebellion. He was proud and unmindful of his obligations to the king of Babylon. He did evil in the sight of the Lord, which is what really counts. Jeremiah told him to submit to Nebuchadnezzar, but he refused. In rebelling against the king, he not only was disobeying the word of God, as spoken by the prophet, but broke his own word of oath to the Babylonian king. He stiffened his neck, i.e. he was stubborn and unyielding to the law. Although the Babylonians had put the king and his country under their rule, they had been lenient enough to leave the temple for their use. They could have continued in a partial observance of the services at least, in the holy building. But instead of doing so, this wicked king had even encouraged the priests and people in their heathen practices. They even polluted the temple itself. God is ever compassionate, and desirous of sparing his people all the sorrow possible. He continued to warn and admonish the people to repent and do what was right, through his chosen messengers. They mocked the messengers, i.e. they derided or ridiculed them. They despised the works of God sent by these messengers, an indication that they belittled them. They continue in this until the wrath of God was aroused against them, to the extent that the nation got beyond remedy. This simple yet sobering statement indicates that God had reached his limit. No longer would pity be shown. What a shame. Israel had great privileges: They had the law, a good land, the prophets of God and a true knowledge of God. Yet she spurned all this. She could have obeyed the voice of God, heard his prophets and heeded their words, at which point she could have experienced and enjoyed the grace, goodness and love of God. But that was not to be. Psalms 81:10 "I am the Lord your God, Who brought you out of the land of Egypt: Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it. But my people would not heed my voice, and Israel would have none of Me. So I gave them over to their own stubborn heart, to walk in their own councils. The scriptures give us a number of situations where people reach the point of no return, the point where no remedy exists.

I. There Is No Remedy For People Who Fail To Retain God In Their Knowledge.

Romans 1:28 "And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting." A knowledge of God is absolutely necessary for anyone to acceptably serve Him, and implies not only an admission of His existence, but also a willingness to obey Him. God does not capriciously give up on anyone. When he does, his actions are founded upon the righteous

were free to be married to another. Col.2:14 "having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us, And He has taken it out of the way having nailed it to the cross." Heb.10:9-10 "Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God, He taketh away the first that he may establish the second By which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." It now becomes clear why Paul would say to the Galatians "if you seek justification by the law, ye are fallen from grace." In other words you are WITHOUT REMEDY. Further proof of this is given in Heb.6:4-6 "For as touching those who were once enlightened and tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Spirit, and tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the age to come, and then fell away, it is impossible to renew them again unto repentance seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame." False teachers appeared among these Hebrew Christians telling them that Jesus was an impostor. That Messiah was yet to come. To accept such teaching was to turn away from the only Savior who could deliver them, thus their case became hopeless. These Christians had shared all the blessings the Christ and the new covenant provided them. Rejecting all this, and seeking salvation in the law or any other means, left them entirely without hope. The situation was hopeless. Thus we can see the horrible fate that awaits all those who die out of Christ. 2Cor.5:17

The sinner, who rejects Christ, is WITHOUT REMEDY

III. Christians Who Fail To Faithfully Serve The Lord, Are also in a hopeless situation.

In Matt.25 we have two parables related to the final judgment. The first concerns the wise and foolish virgins: A parable stressing the importance of preparation.

Ten Virgins--took lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five wise, and five foolish. The foolish took lamps, but no oil, the wise took oil with their lamps. At Midnight a cry "the bridegroom cometh" They all trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise "give us of your oil, our lamps are gone out." Not so, lest there be not enough for us. While the foolish went out to buy, the bridegroom came. The door was shut. The foolish later came and cried "Lord open unto us" The Lord said "I know you not," a hopeless situation. The call to judgment is coming. Those who are not prepared, will stand without hope. The second parable taught by the Lord, concerns the talents, a parable stressing the necessity of faithful service. We need to notice that the allocating of goods was according to each man's several ability. five---had the ability to manage five two---had the ability to manage two one---had the ability to manage one The man with five went and made five more, the man with two made two more. But the man with one, went and buried his Lord's money. Application: God expects of each of us only that which we have the ability to achieve.

Often we expect the same of every person. If I have a certain ability, I think everyone has that ability. Not so. God only expects of us, what we can do. Nothing more, but always that much. The question should be: am I using all my talents for the cause of Christ.

Whether five, two or one. What do these talents represent? Time, strength, mental and physical abilities, opportunities, and money, or anything we might possess which could be used to the glory of God. The lesson of the one talent man is simply that all who so deal with their opportunities and abilities as he did will reap the same reward. There will be NO REMEDY.