

ADAPT OR DIE, REPENT OR PERISH

Esteeming The Light

Foundation Statement: *Despise not his word, Esteem the light – When God shows you something and gives you light is it a big deal? You got to value the light, you got to love the light, you got to esteem the light as a precious thing, for without you might have perished and been destroyed, but with it you'll prosper and have victory.*

I. **Hosea 4:6-People are destroyed because of a lack of light/knowledge, but why do they lack light/knowledge?**

- A. 1-There is a lack of light/knowledge in the land
 - 1. **Knowledge**-Perception, To perceive and see
 - 2. There are things they don't see and know, they that need to see and know
- B. 6-People *ARE* destroyed because they lack knowledge, but why do they lack knowledge?
 - 1. They didn't have knowledge because they rejected knowledge
 - a. Reject-Refuse, Despise-To care little for, regard lightly, make small account
 - b. Apparently this knowledge, the light wasn't that big of a deal to them and they cared little for it, they regarded it lightly and they made small account of it
 - 2. **If they rejected it that tells me that God was trying to give it to them and offering it to them and when He did they refused it because they didn't value it**
 - a. EX: If I offer you a new set of golf clubs, you will refuse it if you don't value it
 - 3. People lightly esteem light all the time with the Lord in services, in their personal lives, direction he gives to them by His spirit; He comes to give them light and they treat it like it's no big deal
 - a. 6-They ignored the law of God; they paid it no attention --- They don't esteem the light
 - b. 10-They neglected to pay attention to Him because what He was saying wasn't a big deal to them
 - 4. **People are destroyed because they don't see, but why don't they see? Because when God tried to show them, it was no big deal to them**
 - a. God gives everybody an opportunity to see and to know and to get light, but some people when God is giving light and truth, it's not that big of deal to them so they don't get it
- C. Is the light God gives you a big deal?
 - 1. They perish, come to ruin, are overthrown, brought to shame, do not have enough, and are not increasing because they rejected the knowledge/despised the light and when God gave them light to them it was no big deal and they didn't repent and change

- II. **Proverbs 1:20-33-A lack of esteem for the light will keep you from repenting and bring destruction (If when God gives you light it's no big deal to you, then you won't change/repent and you will perish)**
- A. 20-22-God is giving them an opportunity to get light, to get knowledge so they can change and not perish
- B. 23-A reproof, a rebuke, and correction is light and when God reproves you or gives you light it's time to make the changes you need to make (repent)
1. 23-When God gives you light and corrects it should be like a trigger, you repent; He corrects, you repent
 2. **People don't turn at his reproof because to them his reproof wasn't that big of deal to them, they don't esteem the light**
 - a. *People have this attitude of, "Well is that that big of a deal and yeah I know I should be doing that and God's been dealing with me to do it and I just haven't gotten around to it, but I have been listening to these teachings on grace and God really doesn't care either because he loves me anyway."*
- C. 24-God's talking but what he is saying isn't important to them
1. Refuse-To decline to accept what is offered (**You don't accept what is offered when you don't value what is offered**)
 2. I've stretched out my hand (to help) and nobody paid any attention to it
 - a. How did he stretch out his hand to help? Through a reproof, through correction, through light
 - b. Do they value this correction, this light, and esteem it as important? To them it's not important, to them it doesn't mean a thing
 - c. 25-They neglected and ignored what he said; they ignored the light
 - d. 25-They didn't want or desire this light, this correction and reproof because they don't value it
 3. 29-This is dishonor, this is disrespect
 4. 30-They didn't regard this correction, this word as worthy of regard and they slighted it and neglected it because to them it wasn't important
 - a. Their problem was when God came to say something to them they didn't value it enough, it wasn't important enough to them, it didn't mean enough to them to lead them to repent; to them what He was saying wasn't that big of a deal and if it's not that big of a deal then there's no need to change
- D. 26-27-Why is this judgment coming? Because they wouldn't repent and turn at his reproof and they didn't turn at his reproof because they didn't esteem it, value it, or think it was that important (V23)
1. 27-28-They didn't really repent, they just didn't want the judgment
 2. Isaiah 30:15-They are missing it; they are looking to Egypt and not to the Lord and the Lord gives them light, he gives them a word of correction and they despised and treated it as a light thing and

as a result they didn't repent and because they didn't repent they saw destruction – What was their problem? When the light came they didn't esteem the light

III. We have to esteem the light

- A. Hebrews 12:5, Job 5:17, Proverbs 3:11-Depise not the correction, the instruction, the admonishing, the teaching of the Lord, the light of the Lord
 - 1. **Despise**-to care little for, regard lightly, make small account; treat it like it's not that big of deal
 - a. If God gives you light, is that a light thing and does it really matter that much? What would be on the line if He gave you light you, but you regarded it lightly and didn't change? On some level and in some area and in some way you would perish, you would be destroyed
 - 1) **Is your preservation and protection a light thing? Then nor is his correction a light thing**
 - 2) Why would God be giving us light in the first place? Because he doesn't want you to perish
 - b. **His light should carry so much weight in your life and it should be heavy to you and you should hold it in high regard and when it comes it should be your highest priority to repent and change**
 - 2. Some people God corrects and they regard it lightly and one of the biggest ways you can tell that it doesn't mean much to them is that they don't change
 - a. If you get the light, but don't repent you regarded it lightly; to you it wasn't that big of deal so that's why you didn't change
 - b. Proverbs 13:13-If you do care little for it, regard it lightly, and make small account of it you won't heed it and repent and you will be destroyed and perish
 - 1) **Those who despise the light (regard it lightly) will see destruction**
 - 3. Proverbs 1:7-Fools despise/belittle/don't value instruction
- B. In our fleshiness we have perceived these corrections and directions as small, light things and it's caused us to not value them and give them the attention they should be getting and if we realized what was truly on the line we would value these things-Zechariah 4:10
 - 1. Proverbs 15:32-If you refuse instruction you don't esteem your life