

EVERY VIOLATION AND DISOBEDIENCE

“We must pay more careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away. For if the message spoken by angels was binding, and every violation and disobedience received its just punishment, how shall we escape if we ignore such a great salvation?” (Heb 2:1-3)

WOW! What a tremendous impetus this is for us to accept the Gospel and the grace of God! God not only notices “every violation and disobedience” he also assigns a “just punishment” for every violation and disobedience.

Adam and Eve didn’t get by with it, they were punished. Cain didn’t get by with it, he was punished. Sinners in the days of Noah didn’t get by with it, they were punished. Every violation and disobedience received a just punishment for “The eyes of the LORD are everywhere, keeping watch on the wicked and the good.” (Prov 15:3) Jesus warned that on the day of judgment we shall even be called upon to give an account for every careless word we have spoken (Matt. 12:36).

Perhaps no example from Scripture is more illuminating or dramatic than that of Moses. Please consider that Moses had a unique standing before God. When Miriam, his sister, dared to criticize him God smote her with leprosy. On that occasion God explained:

- “When a prophet of the LORD is among you, I reveal myself to him in visions, I speak to him in dreams. But this is not true of my servant Moses; he is faithful in all my house. With him I speak face to face, clearly and not in riddles; he sees the form of the LORD. Why then were you not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?” (Num 12:6-8)
- Note also: “Since then, no prophet has risen in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face,” (Deut 34:10)

Yet, even Moses was not immune from the having “every violation and disobedience” justly punished. The time God punished him for “striking” the rock is an interesting case in point

- Early in their wilderness wandering God commanded Moses to strike a rock so that water would come out of it for the people to drink. Moses obeyed God (Ex. 17:6).
- Thirty eight years later God gave Moses another command. This time, however, it was not to “strike” the rock, but to “speak to the rock” and it would pour out water (Nu. 20:8).
- Instead of “speaking” to the rock, however, Moses raised his arm and struck the rock twice (Nu. 20:11). PLEASE FOCUS YOUR MENTAL AND SPIRITUAL ENERGIES ON VS. 12!

“But the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, “Because you did not trust in me enough to honor me as holy in the sight of the Israelites, you will not bring this community into the land I give them.” (Num 20:12)

This same indisputable reality is repeated in Nu. 27:12 - 14; Deut. 1:37; 3:26; 32:48 - 52, etc.

Remember! Every violation and disobedience will be justly punished by God. Even “little” things that we consider so insignificant that we think God shouldn’t even notice or care. But God does notice, and God does care! This story about Moses, and the very purpose of the Law itself, is to convince us that we need a Savior. The Law was a schoolmaster to bring us to Christ that we might be justified by faith! (Gal. 3:24).

Sinner friend, you and I have one chance, and only one to escape the just punishment we deserve. This great salvation is in Christ Jesus. There is “no condemnation” to those who are in Christ Jesus (Rom. 8:1). All have sinned and come short of the glory of God, but we are justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. Remember, that as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, our blessed Savior was also lifted up that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life (John 3:15).

LOOK AND LIVE!

