

11-03-2011 SWEPT AWAY

When a formidable force gets started moving east or west, it is virtually impossible to stop. If you are in the wake of such a force, you can get SWEPT AWAY. I'm Ken Trahan & Welcome to Walking in the Word with Williams Blvd. Baptist Church.

Tidal waves come to mind. Tsunamis have incredible power. The thought of levees breaking during Hurricane Katrina comes to mind. The images are stark & sobering. We want to avoid them at all cost.

Similarly, we must avoid the wickedness of sin at all cost. It is against God's will. He has clearly detailed what He wants us to avoid & what He wants us to obey throughout Scripture & in His Ten Commandments.

To avoid being SWEPT AWAY by sin, we must keep our focus, our attention, our desire, our eyes, all that we are fixed upon the Lord. That is the only way to quell the temptation of human desire.

In 1st Samuel 12:20-25, Samuel said to the people, "do not turn aside from following the Lord, but serve the Lord with all your heart. & do not turn aside after empty things that cannot profit or deliver, for they are empty.

For the Lord will not forsake His people, for His great name's sake, because it has pleased the Lord to make you a people for Himself. Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord by ceasing to pray for you & I will instruct you in the good & the right way.

Only fear the Lord & serve him faithfully with all your heart. For consider what great things He has done for you. But if you still do wickedly, you shall be SWEPT AWAY, both you and your king."

God had chosen Israel as a special nation, a home for His chosen people. Despite being chosen by God, the people of Israel were often punished for disobeying God, just we will be punished by disobeying God.

The Scripture urges us to pray for others, indicating that a failure to do so is sinful, out of line with God's desire for us. We should pray consistently for others & we should accept the Great Commission to spread the Gospel of Christ & to instruct others in the ways of the Lord.

Samuel urges us to consider all of the blessings God bestows upon us, to take time to do so while giving thanks to the Lord. When we focus on God's gifts to us, our faith grows stronger.

If we continue forward in sin, we will surely not enjoy fellowship with God & end up destroying ourselves by separating ourselves from the Lord eternally. Sinful habits, continuous bad thinking & not letting go of anger, hatred & grudges will doom us.

Serving the Lord with all your heart is a requirement of your covenant with God. Deuteronomy 4:29 says, "if from there you seek the Lord your God, you will find Him if you look for Him with all your heart & with all your soul." That's a total commitment, thus, the use of the word "all."

Jeremiah 29:13 says, "you will seek Me & find Me when you seek Me with all your heart." Again, the key word is "all." A half-hearted commitment will garner a half-way solution. 50 percent is a failing grade. You must be all in!

Who is your king? If you are the king of your own assistance, your throne will be toppled. If your king is someone on this earth, your focus is misguided & you & your king will be SWEPT AWAY. Psalm 47:7 says, "for God is the King of all the earth; Sing praises with understanding."

The tide of sin is mounting. People are turning away from the ways of the Lord to serve themselves. The force is growing apart from God, pulling many in its wake. Will you allow yourself to be SWEPT AWAY? Heed the call of Samuel to God's chosen people. God chose you. You are child of God. He wants to be one with us. Stand firm, stand tall for Jesus to avoid permanence with the wicked, to avoid being SWEPT AWAY!

For a text copy, e-mail me @ kentrahan@aol.com & ask for SWEPT AWAY. For Pastor Tim Williams, thanks for joining us. I'm Ken Trahan. God bless you!