

The Danger of Doing Nothing

We all know the story of the prodigal son in Luke chapter 15. The boy asked his father for his share in the inheritance. He left home with pockets full of money but spent every cent on wild living and prostitutes. He became poor and got a job feeding pigs. He finally came to his senses and decided to go home and confess his wrong doings and sin to his father. His father was so happy, welcomed him and organized a big party. The older boy was upset that his father had never thrown a party for him while he had been so faithfully serving his father. But note the answer of his father. ***“you are always with me and all I have is yours.”*** All he had to do is get it, take it, do something, quit complaining. Go for it. God says to you I am with you always, everything I have is yours. Stop being discouraged. The older brother thought he was being deprived of the fatted calf. But his father told to change his thinking. He said don't you know that ALL I HAVE IS YOURS? So we need to change our thinking.

ASK, SEEK AND KNOCK – ALL WORDS OF ACTION

Jesus said in the Gospel of Luke 11:9, ***“So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.”*** Here the Lord Jesus is telling you. Do some thing, act, knock, seek, and ask. The danger of doing nothing results in having nothing. Here the Lord Jesus Christ is telling you to do something, Go for it! Ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find, knock and the door will be opened to you. When you do not ask you do not receive, when you do not seek you shall not find when you do not knock no door will be opened. DO SOMETHING SAYS THE LORD. **What's the danger of doing nothing? You have nothing.**

DON'T BE LIKE THE ATHENIANS

Acts 17:21, **“ All the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there spent their time doing nothing but talking about and listening to the latest ideas.”**

“LET'S DO SOMETHING” SAID FOUR LEPERS.

The city of Samaria was surrounded by a large Syrian army. The gates of the city were closed. No one could go in or out. The Syrians were planning to starve the city to death and people inside the city were even eating their own children.

2 Kings 7:3, ***“Now there were four men with leprosy at the entrance of the city gate. They said to each other, “Why stay here until we die? ⁴ If we say, ‘We'll go into the city’--the famine is there, and we will die. And if we stay here, we will die. So let's go over to the camp of the Arameans and surrender. If they spare us, we live; if they kill us, then we die.”***

The danger of doing nothing. If they stayed where they were they would die, if they went inside the city they would also die. So let's go to the camp of the enemy. Let's do something!

So they went to the camp of the enemy, no one was there. Only empty tents full of food, clothing and gold and silver. They actually ran into a gold mine when they did something!

The Lord had caused the Arameans to hear the sound of chariots and horses and a great army, so that they said to one another, ***“Look, the king of Israel has hired the Hittite and Egyptian kings***

to attack us!"⁷ So they got up and fled in the dusk and abandoned their tents and their horses and donkeys. They left the camp as it was and ran for their lives."

2 Kings 7:9, **"Then the four lepers said to each other, "We're not doing right. This is a day of good news and we are keeping it to ourselves. If we wait until daylight, punishment will overtake us. Let's go at once and report this to the royal palace."** Again they did something, Let's go, they said and tell the king. They did and the whole city was saved from Starvation. They said to each other why sit here and die?"

There is an application for us today. People all around us are living in darkness and do not know how their sins can be forgiven and how they can be guaranteed eternal life in heaven. We are not doing right if we keep the way of salvation to ourselves. Let's go and tell our friends and neighbors. The 4 lepers went and shared the good news and the entire city of Samaria was saved from starvation. We must go and share the Gospel so that people can be saved from condemnation. There is a danger in doing nothing.

This is my time. I am 73 and I don't have much time left. So I need to do something. I need to go for it. There is danger of doing nothing. People who do nothing get old quickly. I had friends called Mr. and Mrs. From. They served for 35 years in India under the Conservative Baptist Mission Society. They were retired when they were 65 years old. But Mr. and Mrs. From knew the danger of doing nothing. They started their own mission and returned to India and served another 27 years in India.

This is also your time to do something. Go and praise the Lord and read His Word. Go and pray to almighty God. Go and serve Him the King of kings. Enlist in the army of the Lord. Be a soldier of Jesus. Remember with Him nothing is impossible. Paul said in Philippians 4:13 **"I can do everything through Him who gives me strength."** Start doing something. Go for it.

WE CANNOT EVEN BE SAVED BY DOING NOTHING

God says in Romans 10:9, **"That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.**¹⁰ **For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved."** There is danger in doing nothing. The danger is that we will be lost.

DO EVERYTHING WITH ALL YOUR HEART

Colossians 3:23, **"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men,**²⁴ **since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving."** We must be enthusiastic and serve the Lord wholeheartedly.

WE ARE TOLD TO WORK HARD

Ecclesiastes 9:10, **"Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might, for in the grave, where you are going, there is neither working nor planning nor knowledge nor wisdom."**

ACCOUNTABLE FOR DOING NOTHING

The Lord has appointed the believers to share the Good News of Salvation and warn people of coming danger and judgment. There is danger in doing nothing. Let us read what happened to the watchman who did nothing. **“The Word of the Lord came to the prophet Ezekiel and God said, “Son of man, speak to your countrymen and say to them: `When I bring the sword against a land, and the people of the land choose one of their men and make him their watchman,³ and he sees the sword coming against the land and blows the trumpet to warn the people,⁴ then if anyone hears the trumpet but does not take warning and the sword comes and takes his life, his blood will be on his own head.⁵ Since he heard the sound of the trumpet but did not take warning, his blood will be on his own head. If he had taken warning, he would have saved himself.⁶ But if the watchman sees the sword coming and does not blow the trumpet to warn the people and the sword comes and takes the life of one of them, that man will be taken away because of his sin, but I will hold the watchman accountable for his blood.” Ezekiel 33:1**

If we keep quiet and do not warn people about coming judgment we will be held accountable.

In James 4:17 we read about the **sin of omission**, **“Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins.”** But if we share the Good News of forgiveness and salvation and people reject the message and reject the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior, then they themselves are responsible for their own rejection of God's plan of Salvation.