

October 3, 2021

Scott's Thoughts



How wrong is wrong? The problem is we tend to forgive ourselves more freely than we do others, and we often use the wrong standard to judge one another. Before we begin to answer this question,

we must ask ourselves another question and how we answer this question, will help define the answer to all other questions. Is God Sovereign?

The Bible tells us that God is indeed sovereign. 1 Timothy 6:15 (ESV) ¹⁵ which he will display at the proper time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. So, the question becomes, do we believe he is? In our Wednesday evening class, we have spent fourteen weeks in a wonderful study of the sovereignty of God. This study has shown that part of His sovereignty is that whatever He says is, without question, correct and His limits are sure.

However, we are often tempted to move the limits by saying, “Well He didn’t say...” It’s like the excuses we made when we were growing up. As children we tried to move the limits. “Mom, can we go over to Billy’s house to play?” Mom said no so, we went to play at Bobby’s house instead. When we got caught, we said, “You said we couldn’t go to Billy’s house.” How well did that work? Let’s just say we didn’t want to sit down for a while.

God sets the limits. Yet, we adults use all kinds of excuses to move those limits. It seems to us that after allowing wrongs to go unpunished for years, God doesn’t really care if

we do it. Many times, God does not punish wrong as soon as it is committed but allows a person, or nation to reach a height of wickedness before taking action, as he did with Eli’s sons and as he did with Sodom. Do not be fooled by false security. God always cares! Because He cares, he gives each person or nation a chance to change and return to him before it is too late. Which brings up an additional problem, when is it too late? We do not know.

There are examples in the Bible of those who pushed the limits that God has decreed and were punished immediately. Think about Numbers 3:4 (ESV) “But Nadab and Abihu died before the Lord when they offered unauthorized fire before the Lord in the wilderness of Sinai, and they had no children.” They knew that it was not what God had described to use in the Priestly service. Another example is found in the New Testament. Acts 5:1 (ESV) “A man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property.” The only thing they did wrong was to take credit for something they didn’t do. They brought some of the proceeds from the sale of their property to the Apostles and said they brought all the proceeds from the property. One little lie cost both their lives.

So, how wrong is wrong? When God says it’s wrong, it’s wrong. That settles it. The sovereign God has spoken!

Revelation 6:10 (ESV) “They cried out with a loud voice, “O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth and avenge our blood?”

Thanks for listening and keep on shining.

—Scott