

Message



Neal Parker

Unless You Repent

■ Ecclesiastes 9:11-12

- “I returned and saw under the sun that—the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, nor bread to the wise, nor riches to men of understanding, nor favor to men of skill; but time and chance happen to them all...”

The Word of God clearly acknowledges that men, even those seemingly well-deserving, will meet with unforeseen, chance setbacks, including death!

Unless You Repent

■ Ecclesiastes 7:20

- “For there is not a just man on earth who does good and does not sin.”

■ Psalm 14:2-3

- “...No one is good (morally or inherently good) except God alone.”

The wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23), and God, as the Sovereign Ruler of His creation, has every right to execute that penalty—or allow it to occur—on anybody at any time He deems appropriate. And in so doing He is perfectly just.



Unless You Repent

- **On some occasions in the Bible, God executed the death penalty with dramatic and terrifying suddenness.**
 - ❖ **He struck down the sons of Aaron, probably with bolts of lightning, when they offered profane fire on the incense altar (Leviticus 10:1-7).**
 - ❖ **God cut Uzza down when he stretched out his hand to steady the ark which David was bringing to Jerusalem on a cart (I Chronicles 13:5-10).**
 - ❖ **In the New Testament, Ananias and Sapphira fell dead at Peter's feet after lying about their offering (Acts 5:1-11).**

Unless You Repent

■ Luke 13:1-5

- “...No I tell you, but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish...”
- The incident of the collapsed tower was in all likelihood a time and chance accident. However, Jesus alluded to those who died as being sinners, and He inferred that those in His audience were also sinners who deserved to die—and would, unless they repented.
 - He seems to have detected in their attitude that they thought that those killed by Pilate deserved to die!
 - The victims were sinners who "got what was coming to them," implying that they themselves were righteous.
 - Jesus' replies that they were just as guilty as those who died!
 - Someone's sudden and violent death is not proof that he is particularly more wicked than others.
- God can claim our lives for any un-repent sin!

Unless You Repent

- **Our human nature can often cause to rationalize ourselves into a self-deception (clouds our thoughts) and the desire with all our being for things to go "right." .**
- ❖ **Self-awareness is the ability to see yourself clearly and objectively through reflection and introspection.**
- ❖ **Self-Examination is the study of one's own behavior and motivations.**

Unless You Repent

■ Jeremiah 17:9-10

- “The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it? I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.”

■ Amos 5:14

- “Seek good and not evil, that you may live; so the LORD God of hosts will be with you, as you have spoken.”



Unless You Repent

■ Application To Our Life

There is only one way it will end, and that is to follow Jesus' advice: **"Unless you repent you will all likewise perish."**

- **When we repent and begin controlling ourselves so that we do not sin, it will not stop sin in the world. But unless WE stop sinning, sin will never be stopped within us.**
- **EACH PERSON has to come to see that they are personally responsible for stopping sin in his own life.**
- **We cannot wait for others to stop before we stop.**

