
SG020114

The Whole Counsel of God – Genesis 25-27

Got questions? Email Pastor Jason at jasonduff7@gmail.com

(You can download this message as a pod cast by searching Jason Duff on I-Tunes)

Introduction & Overview of the Section

Introduction

This week we continue our look at the Life of Isaac and we will notice that his life is full of contrasts. There is much to learn from each of these contrasts in his life.

Genesis Chapter 25-27 - Contrasts

#1 – Two Deaths – Genesis 25:1-18

The contrast between the death Isaac's father Abraham and the death of his half brother Ishmael were stark. The choices we make in our lives effect what happens when we die and after we die.

#2 – Two Nations – Genesis 25:19-28

Isaac and Rebekah have two sons, and God lets them know they will become two very different nations, with two very different sets of values and futures.

#3 – Two Brothers – Genesis 25:29-34

The two nations of Israel and Edom start out as two brothers. You can see the different directions these nations take start in the different directions the two boys take in their lives.

#4 – Two Kingdoms – Genesis 26:1-35

Isaac needs to decide whether he is going to live for God's Kingdom or for the world. All of us have the same choice. There are trials in God's Kingdom but living for Him is always works out.

#5 – Two Parents – Genesis 27:1-46

The two boys who become two nations obviously have two parents, Isaac and Rebekah. These two parents deal with the promises of God differently and it radically affects them and their boys

Key Issues or Words

“the children struggled together within her” (25:22) – The Hebrew literally says, “the children smashed themselves against one another inside her”. Now that sounds fun and comfortable doesn't it? Most of us can relate to Rebekah in some ways because the desire for the things of God and the desire for the things of the world that these two boys typify are constantly at war in our hearts as well. The choice we have to make is which one we will allow to dominate our lives. Which nature will we cater to and feed and which one will we allow to die?

Going Deeper

(think it over yourself or discuss with the family)

Questions for the all of us...

- #1 – Who are your people? Is it the people of the world, or the people of the body of Christ?
- #2 – What are willing to trade for the riches we have in Christ? Is it ever worth it?
- #3 – Do you have areas of compromise in your life? Talk to the Lord about them now.
- #4 – Are there areas where you are ignoring or not trusting the Word of God in your life? Repent

Homework 4 Next Week – Read Genesis 28-30

As you read think about how “what goes around comes around” affects Jacob. What things in Jacob's life do you want to emulate and what in his life do you want to run from?

Introduction

- Tonight we are going to continue our study in the foundational book of the Old Testament and really all of the Bible
 - Remember the content is not hard to remember, because the title says it all

The word Genesis means “beginnings”

- And truly so many things in scripture have their beginning in the book of Genesis
 - The universe
 - Life in general
 - Man, marriage
 - Sin and evil
 - Language, government, nations
 - Specifically we will see the nation of Israel
- In fact understanding that this book means and is about beginnings really is a good way to divide up our look at this book as you can see in your book intro sheet

Outline for the Book of Genesis

Chapters 1-11 – The Beginning of all nations

- Chapters 1-2 – The Creation
- Chapter 3 - 5 – The Fall
- Chapter 6-9 – The Flood
- Chapters 10-11 – The Tables of Nations

Chapters 12-50 – The Beginning of the Jewish nation

- Chapters 12-23 – Abraham
- Chapters 24-27 – Isaac
- Chapters 28-36 – Jacob
- Chapters 37-50 – Joseph

Today we are going to see a series of contrasts between people and the directions to take in life

- It is amazing how one choice will effect another

It was my mom going to Pastor Rob for some counsel, during my time at Bible College. And she asked me if I would have time to meet with him, if not she totally understood. It was the meeting where Pastor Rob and I became friends, and lead to me coming here, meeting Christy and everything else ministry wise.

I have often wondered how different my life would have been, if I didn't go in to talk to Rob

- Clearly not as wonderful.

With situations of life we need to trust God that He is leading us as we are following Him, and He will amaze you guys.

- But in a spiritual sense, we too have two ways of life before us.
 - And the end result, unlike the unpredictable things of life we must trust to God, the end result of either way we know from the Word

We can choose to walk after the Lord

- where Psalm one promises we will be happy, established, fruitful and lasting in our lives

We can choose to walk after the way of the World

- where we are told we will be frustrated, tossed to and fro, unfruitful and what we do will wither away

The choice is ours

- Today as we look at chapter 25, 26, and 27 we will see these two ways of life and their consequences exemplified in 5 ways – lets look one at a time

Genesis 25-27 – Contrasts

#1 – Two Deaths – Genesis 25:1-18

#2 – Two Nations – Genesis 25:19-28

#3 – Two Brothers – Genesis 25:29-34

#4 – Two Kingdom – Genesis 26:1-35

#5 – Two Parents – Genesis 27:1-46

Genesis 25-27 - Contrasts

#1 – Two Deaths – Genesis 25:1-18

First notice the difference in the two deaths

- The deaths of Abraham and Ishmael

Abraham at 140 remarries and goes on to have 6 more kids

- And the names of Abraham's other kids, plus the names of Ishmael's children are listed, not to just give me trouble in pronouncing names, but to show God's Word has once again come to pass
 - Abraham remarries and has more children

Then Abraham lives another 35 years and dies at 175

- Abraham's other son, Ishmael as God promise was the father of 12 nations

Most of which became the Arab people we know today

- Then Ishmael died and was buried at 137 years old

Both of these men we fathers of nations

Both were very wealthy when they died

- But these were two very different men

Abraham is described as the friend of God –

- oh we know that he was a sinner – but at the same time he was the one who was looking for a city whose builder and maker was God

Ishmael is described in Genesis 16 as a wild man – a man whose hand was against every man.

- In the New Testament he is pictured as a type of the flesh
 - The way they lived their lives were very different, and I want you to notice some things about their death.

Genesis 25 says of Abraham's Life

#1 - "The sum of the years" V.7 – translated in KJV days is spoken of Abraham and not Ishmael

What it speaks more than just a quick passing along of a lifetime

- But of much accomplishment day by day

You see the difference is a day off when maybe you get a chance to sleep a little more, or take some time with the family or just watch a game or a movie, compared with your normal work day

- one seems to flash by/ one last forever.
 - Abraham life was not a quick flash and gone, but a life with much lasting accomplishment

#2 - He lived – V. 7

- Now I don't want to make too much of that, But when you accompany that with the fact that it also says

#3 - that He died "full" – V.8 – italics are added around "of years" for understanding – the just says He did "full" - And that itself means satisfied

- I see again a contrast

Abraham not only lived a life that was full of accomplishment, but he truly lived, and at the end of his life he was satisfied.

➤ Life is more than just breathing it is about living and being satisfied. Dying full It is like going to the movies. It is not just about sitting in the dark and eating popcorn. It is about seeing a story and getting into the plot and the characters. Ever see a really bad movie. Not morally bad, but I just wasted 2 hours of my life on that - I remember Christy and I had been married just a few months and Godzilla 2000 came out – I thought that will be great. What a let down, that was not fun, I was not satisfied – I'm not hard to please movie wise, I understand it's a couple hours of escape, but this was really bad, really a waste of time

- I don't want that to be the story of my life. – Jason was here, not much to say, always unsatisfied with life

But the point is we don't have to be that way. We can choose the way of the righteous.

Abraham lived days of years, he died full (satisfied), even the two descriptions of the way they died are different.

- Abraham died, Ishmael – verse 18, the word is fell, or cast down – **it speaks of a violent death.**
 - And there is, make no mistake about it, a difference between the death of one following the Lord, and the death of one who has rejected him
 - One to heaven, one to hell

Many, many differences but one thing was the same. They were both gathered to their people.

- This isn't speaking of burial, because Abraham was not buried in his homeland, but in the cave containing only his wife.
 - This is speaking about life after death

And as I was thinking about this passage, the Lord laid upon my heart "we will all be gathered to our people"

- The question is, who are your people?

Do you ever feel funny at huge family gatherings? Not just mom and dad, but 2nd cousin Helga, and Uncle Randy. You are in your 30's but you are still getting - I remember when you were this big. I feel uncomfortable. I might be related to them, but they are not my people. But when I come here and worship with you guys, I feel right at home.

- Who are your people??
 - I'm not part of the church crowd, not speaking of activities but the family of believers
 - I fit in at the party – really???

You will be gathered to your people. - Which way of life will you choose ???

Genesis 25-27 - Contrasts

#1 – Two Deaths – Genesis 25:1-18

#2 – Two Nations – Genesis 25:19-28

Now moving on, we see the Two ways of life in the two deaths, now notice the Two nations

- God's workman Abraham dies, but the Work continues

- God blesses Isaac and Rebekah
- But the only problem is she is barren, unable to have children – but notice how they deal with this problem

They call out to the Lord – notice they don't deal with this like Abraham and Sarah did

- Maybe you remember – Sarah, Abraham's wife was also barren, but instead of just praying and trusting, Sarah says to Abraham, why don't you have relations with my handmaiden and she will provide me with a child to raise
 - And of course Abraham said, well okay Hun, it that is what you need to make this marriage work, I will follow your plan
 - But Isaac doesn't do that – Isaac prays for his wife

What a great lesson for you who are husbands – we can agonize over our wife, we can be irritated with our wives, but I think we are crazy to do either until we have prayed for our wife

- I mean listen guys if she is going through a trial – I know it is hard, there is not much worse than when the enemy attacks our families
 - I would much rather go through sickness, pain, heartache then watch my wife or my kids go through those things
 - I can't stand it – and its normal to worry
- But what does worry add to the equation? – Jesus said nothing? – Matthew 6

“Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?” – Matthew 6:27

- Worry doesn't make you taller, I would be a giant, and I'm not
 - Worry doesn't not make you live longer, in fact the opposite is true
 - So why not pray for you wife

Some of you are not worried about your wife, but frustrated with your wife

- Why does she act this way? Why does she have this attitude
 - I love it when guys tell me that about their wives, because it gives me an opportunity to flip open the Bible to I Corinthians 11 and say

“woman is the glory of man” – I Corinthians 11:7

- Yeah she is not being very glorious
 - Oh well, do you know what that word glory really means in Greek, it means reflection
 - She is your reflection
- Not physically, praise God, but often time spiritually
 - she is a reflection of you
 - So pray for her, and maybe you will grow too so she can reflect something godly

This couple prayed

- Then when she gets pregnant, and is having trouble, notice she also cries out to the Lord

Now my question is this, when thing begin to get difficult in our lives, when we are in trouble.

- Do we call on our friends, do we call on our parents, or are we learning to call upon the Lord.
 - It is the wise Christian who doesn't when trouble arises doesn't think I've got to figure this one out myself. – Don't need any help
 - Yes you do, call on the Lord.

Well the Lord tells her the problem

- You have two nations in your womb – **that would be painful.**
 - God tells her that these two kids will become two nations very different than each other
- And we see this as these kids grow up.

Esau – comes out all covered in red hair –

- we actually have an ancient baby photo of Eau
- **picture of Elmo** –
 - amazing, he was a red hairy little baby, but he would grow up to be a man's man. Goes out to hunt in the woods –

Jacob is more, well a mama's boy, - drives a Cabriolet, has the complete Mariah Carey collection, wears lots of pastels – just not a man's man

- They are also different according to priorities as we will see in a moment

The nations were different as well

- Esau would go on to be the father of the Edomite people – and they would constantly against the nation of Israel
 - Jacob would become the father of the Jewish people
 - These two very different nations have their beginning right here

But what I find interesting about this section of scripture is a picture it gives for us of our lives

- Does anyone remember who Rebekah has been a picture of in the last few chapters? – the church
 - In fact – she was a pagan before being joined to Isaac, then she was barren, but now she has this war going on inside her.

And I look at my life

- I was once a pagan, living for me, no thought for God
 - I then was joined to Christ, but still barrenness

Now praise the Lord, God is building my Spirit and my walk is deepening - But oh what is that inside me

- It seems like there is a war going on inside me

As I cry out to Lord, and look to His scriptures

- I learn that I have two nature inside me
 - The old man – wanting to rule again, working with the world and the devil to bring about my destruction
 - The new man – very different, a very different Jason that cares about the things of the Lord
- and so this battle rages, but do you know a sure way to a painful Christian walk
 - feed and talk care of both of them
 - Church on Sunday, and Wednesday
 - The world on Friday and Saturday
- Then the Spirit starts to grow, the flesh begins to grow and the war is on.

I have heard it said that a carnal Christian has it the worst. A Christian is blessed and happy, but a carnal Christian has too much of God to enjoy the world, and too much of the world to enjoy God.

- Christians I ask you which nature are you going to feed.
 - Which road are you going to take
 - One leads to countless heartache
 - One leads to true life

Elijah on Mount Carmel. How long will you falter between two positions. They can't both be God. Let the Lord be the Lord and see if He won't amaze you time and time again.

- The Bible says choose whom this day you will serve.

Genesis 25-27 - Contrasts

#1 – Two Deaths – Genesis 25:1-18

#2 – Two Nations – Genesis 25:19-28

#3 – Two Brothers – Genesis 25:29-34

Two deaths, two nations which start out as two brothers - Now this section of scripture is hard for me to believe

- I can handle the parting of the Red Sea, Joshua's long day
 - God created the world He can do what He wants
 - But every time I read this, I think how can anybody be this stupid.

Understand what the birthright entailed.

- leadership of the family when dad died
- Spiritual head of your house
- Double the money
 - So it really had double blessing and double responsibility
 - And yet Esau will give this up for a bowl of beans

I used to know these two guys, Biff and Butch, from my high school. They were the stereotype athletes. Really big, really buff, and really dumb. The guys made rocks look intelligent.

- But compared to Esau, Biff and Butch were doing good.
 - Esau says I'm hungry, feed me
 - Okay, sign over the double inheritance, the spiritual leadership of the family and I will give you some bean
 - Sound good – that is literally what is happening

And as I used to read that story, I would think, here's the story about the idiot.

- But I remember a time I was reading through the book of Genesis and for that time in my life, I was being the idiot.
 - The Lord convicted me, isn't that what you are doing – selling out all the blessing that are yours in Christ for what – for a bowl of beans

We have much more than a birthright in Christ.

- All the promises of God
 - Fruits of the Spirit – love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, kindness, gentleness and self control
 - And I see those things as what I desire
- We have the promise of His presence working in our lives

But what I am afraid is so often we are willing to forfeit those things for something that is no better than a bowl of beans.

- Jesus asked, "What does a man gain if he profits the world and loses his own soul." Then He asks what would a man give in exchange for his soul.
 - And I ask us, what would we
 - 1 million dollars, probably not
- But the sad truth is many of us are missing out on the blessings of Christ because we are selling out for something much less

Here me on this.

- I don't care what it is.
 - Advancement at work – a moment of pleasure, sharing your bitterness so you feel vindicated

- What ever it is you are trading in for the richness of a close what with Jesus. – It is only a bowl of beans

And you can go down that path.

- You can choose to go your own way
- They are two roads of life
 - But when you come to the end, you will find out that all you have is a bowl of beans

Are you like Esau – given to the drives of our natural man?

- We have a drive for air, for water, for food, for sex
 - But are we driven by these drives, then we are natural men

This decision of Esau would affect the rest of his life.

- What you do with this word from the Lord, will affect yours.

Genesis 25-27 - Contrasts

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#4 – Two Kingdoms – Genesis 26:1-35

- [Read Chapter 26 1-6](#)

What Kingdom will we be a part of - Oh no – not Gerar – what are you doing Isaac?

- God say stay verse 2 stay in the Land I have for you
 - Isaac goes to Gerar
 - Now a little bit of understand on where Gerar is – Gerar is as close to Egypt as you can get while still technically in the promise land

And I bring this up, I want you to see you can say I choose the path of life, I don't want to sell out, I will obey the Lord, and then we see how close we can get to the world, and still serve the Lord

That type of life, how close can I get to sin will bring about constant failure.

- See what happens with Isaac
- [Verses 7-11](#)

If this story sounds familiar there is a reason for that – Isaac's dad, Abraham years before this did the exact same thing in the exact same place

- Abraham went down to Egypt and lied about his wife – and God had to bail him out
 - And then a few years later he went to this very same city that his son is now in Gerar, and he does the exact same thing

Now there are some important things we need to note about this, especially you who are parents

- and what I am about to say, may hurt a little bit, it may wound
 - but remember what Proverbs says

“Faith are the wounds of a friend” – Proverbs 27:6

- I say this to help you, not to hurt you
 - But who we are as parents is going to transfer in some capacity to our children – for good or for evil
- This is one of the reason it is so important to open up this book, believe what it says, and by God's grace, try to live it out

- We think, well my sin only effects me and I can take the effects – and that is dumb to think that way – you can not take the effects, Jesus had to take them for you
- But there is still sin and sin still brings death and that is something you can take?
- That is dumb
- But living in sin is double dumb because who are you and what you do is passed on to those around you, it doesn't just effect you

And some of you are thinking, well I don't have kids, so I don't have to worry about this

- oh contre
 - have you ever considered how old Isaac was when Abraham lied about Sarah being his sister
 - how old was that young man that was affected and carried on the same sins as his dear old dad?
- The answer is Isaac wasn't born yet
 - He wasn't there to see his dad do this and it still effected him
 - We see this kind of thing all through the Bible

And it is not just for evil, consider David's mighty men

- some of you know the story, if not we will get there in few weeks, just kidding
 - really if the Lord keeps us at the current rate we will be studying the life of David by the end of next year, so it is really not that far away
 - certainly before the Hobbit part two comes out
- But in I Samuel 22 David is fleeing from King Saul in Jerusalem and he doesn't have an army but everyone who is depressed and in dept, everyone who had a problem with authority came out to serve under David
 - I bet he was saying thanks a lot – Lord
 - But over the years they became what 2 Samuel 23 calls David Mighty men

And you read through the list and you find out these men who started off so bad, became, well a lot like David

- some of them killed Giants just like who, David
 - but I was thinking about that and realized, if you consider the ages of the men in the list in 2 Samuel 23 who became Giant killers, how many of them were around to actually watch David kill a giant?
 - The answer – none of them
- It was transferred, not because they necessarily saw it, but because that is who David was
 - And that challenges me as a Father
 - I think it is important for me to model for my kids the Christian life, I think it is important for me to model devotions
 - But more importantly than putting on a show, for them to see, is who I really am, when no one is watching

I pray that you would realize that, you are passing things off to the next generation, what are you passing them

- and decide tonight
 - I am done with those things that have not only ripped me off, they will rip off the next generation, so Lord by your grace and by your Spirit, I want them gone!
 - You see I believe the Lord is gracious

- But if we just continue down the road of rebellion, thinking, well no one knows and no one is hurt
 - In love, I here to tell you, you are being a fool
 - Repent, embrace the love and forgiveness of Jesus and start modeling something else for the next generation

Isaac does just what his father had done, but this time, the bible says that Abimelech sees Isaac “showing endearment” to Rebecca

- obviously this is Bible speak for something else – for it was obviously more than
 - I show endearment to my sister and no one would bat an eye – so Isaac was really showing endearment – and Abimelech says, obviously she is your wife, right? Come on bro?
- And Abimelech just like happened between there fathers
 - Abimelech was the name of the ruler of Gerar, like Pharaoh in Egypt, this wasn't the same guy Abraham was dealing with 60 years earlier
- Well Isaac takes his rebuke and move on
 - [Verses 12-35](#)

The rest of the chapter could be entitled, “oh well” because it is just an account of some hard times that Isaac faced - starting with the servant of Abimelech stopping the wells that Abraham, Isaac's dad had built

Well names

“Esek” – “Contention”

“Sitnah” – “Hostility”

“Rehoboth” – “room”

Isaac calls one well Contention

- the next well hostility
 - and finally after some time they get tired of harassing him and he names the next well “Room” as in finally there is room for me here
- Isaac has the trial with the wells, then he has a trial with his son Esau who marries not one but two very pagan girls
 - That's Isaac's life right
- And I think something it teaches us is that trials come, even when we are trying to do the right thing
 - We made some earlier mistakes but we have repented, we are trying to live for the Lord
 - So why are there trials???
- Because we live in a fallen world where people sin
 - And at the same time, God is trying to then used those things to shape character into your life and make you a witness to the lost world around you

We see that is true as Isaac ordeals with the well opens up a door to share with Abimelech, the moral, yet pagan leader of Gerar.

- We need to remember that people are watching us in our trials, God is shaping us in our trials and they are just part of this fallen world
 - That is a normal part of the life of faith

I think one of Satan's greatest tricks is to get us to think we are the only one who is going through these kinds of things

- why am I chosen for affliction
 - hey, you are not the only one
 - this is the regular process
 - that is something we all need to be reminded of all the time

- because the way we respond to trials can either be a huge contrast for the world and lead to open doors, or it can be just like them
 - what kingdom are we apart of?

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Read Chapter 27:1-4

- We have in these verses Isaac, has God's word but ignores it.

To set the picture in your mind

- Isaac thinks that he is about to die
 - Reasonable assumptions – he was old
 - However Isaac will go on to live for another 43 years.

Now, at what he thinks is the end of his life, Isaac wants to give Esau the blessing.

- So he tells his boy to go out and get some food
 - But oh no, what had God said.

In chapter 25, before these two men were born, God had said the older (Esau) would serve the younger (Jacob)

- But Isaac loves Esau – his boy

So He sets this up to bestow the blessing not on Jacob but Isaac.

- Even though Isaac had the Word of the Lord, he chooses to ignore it and do his own thing.

What Isaac doesn't know, or what he may know, but doesn't want to see is there are two nations being formed here.

- Jacob's named will be changed to Israel
 - His 12 sons will become the 12 tribes and the nation
- Esau, because he wanted the stew was called Edom or red, and will become the father of the Edomites.
 - Their history is one of constant killing of the Jews and in reality being used by Satan to try and destroy Christ's coming
 - From Edom came Amalikites, one of which would go on to have a hand in the killing of King Saul, also Haman from the book of Ester was also from Edom, and even Herod who killed all the little babies in Bethlehem was also a descendant of Esau

That is their history, a nation that would want to destroy the people of God

- Now, to be fair to Isaac, he didn't know that, he just liked his boy, so he was trying to do what he thought best.
 - But here is the point – Isaac didn't know what would happen, but God did, and so He gave his word
 - A Word that was ignored by Isaac.

But don't we do the same thing.

- God has given us the Word, and he tells us what is best for us

But then we reason with ourselves and we can't understand why God hasn't benefited from our wisdom

- So we have the tendency to ignore what God is telling us, and do what we want.

In I Samuel, the people want a king. God tells them all that the king would do in taking away their sons and daughters. But they say no, we will have a king.

- That amazes me, until I realize I do the same thing.

We need to understand, what Isaac seems not to.

- God knows what the future holds
- He sees the end
 - So He declares His Word

He has declared His word toward you, be it for that relationship, that circumstance that you have been praying about

- Now, are you going to believe that God knows best
 - Or are you going to ignore it.

We see in that God's word is ignored by one parent, Isaac, but it is also not trusted by another - Rebekah

- [Read verses 5-29](#)

We see her doing all these things, and yet the point is, she is not trusting in the Word of God

- Isaac was ignoring, she is not trusting.

God promised He would bless Isaac

But she looks at the circumstances, and will not trust.

- So she has Jacob go get a goat, and she makes it taste like venison, what a cook she must have been
 - She has Jacob put on Esau's smelly clothes and then she starts to glue on him animal hair because he was smoothed skin
 - And his brother – well not only do we have baby pictures, this was taken of Esau right before his wedding – **picture of a Wookiee**

So you see the problem

- That is why she is gluing all the hair on Jacob
 - It boils down she doesn't trust that God is able to keep his word
 - And this decision will cost her deeply
 - At the end of the chapter she sends Jacob away, for a few days, but it turn into 22 years, and she will never see her son again, for she would die in that time

Everything she worked for, everything she orchestrated

- gone, she would never enjoy the fruit of her plotting.

I don't know about you, but this speaks to me.

- When it comes to the plans of my life, of your life, it is time we learn to trust the Lord, and stop trying to manipulate circumstances for our benefit.
 - I won't even go into example, let the Holy Spirit make application to our hearts.
 - God has given you His word

Isaac ignored it, Rebekah didn't trust it, and now we see the consequences.

- [Verses 30-46](#)

Esau when he finds out he has been bamboozled

- to say he is mad would be an understatement
 - he wants to kill

- But what I want you to see in this, is he was told the results of living the way he did

He knew what the birthright entailed

- and he sold it for a bowl of beans
- He knew not to marry girls not of his people

- But he did it anyway, and was a burden to his mother.

He knew all these things, he had the word of the Lord

- But he failed to believe the consequences.

Now, listen to me. Those of you who in your heart would wish I would stop talking about living full on for the Lord. Those of you who half to be here, and can't wait to leave.

- God has laid down principals in His word
 - We have gone over them you know them
- You can either choose to follow them and be blessed, or rebel against them, and suffer the consequences
 - That choice is up to you

But please don't believe that the consequences won't arrive.

- God's word has been given
- It will come to pass

I was recently counseling with a man very dear to me. His marriage is horrible, and after being friendly for a time, I repeated to him the principals of scripture for marriage. He told me he disagreed with me, I tried it wasn't my rules for marriage, but he wouldn't listen. And though that man thinks his world is fine, I know his wife is right planning the divorce, and his world is about to come crashing down.

Why because I said so, no way

- Because he would not heed the word of God and not believe in the consequences.

And I plead with you this night

- you live for yourself, no thought of the Lord
 - God's word says you will loose
- You live for the Lord, in all your ways acknowledging Him
 - And you will know what life is truly about.
- Your world might be fine now, but it will soon be crashing around you

Are we going to ignore, not trust in, or believe the Word of God

- or are we going to submit ourselves to it, and become its student?

Hughes Notes

- The literal Hebrew for verse 22 is, "The children smashed themselves inside her" – doesn't sound fun

By the way – the reference to red being bad in ancient thought, picked up by early Christians who painted Judas with red hair