

Jonathan Edwards, July 8, 1741

“A Sinner in the Hands of an Angry God”

Deuteronomy 32:4-6, 18-21a, 32-35, 39-41; Psalm 7:11; Hebrews 10:30-31 (NLT)

- 1) Without Christ, you are on slippery ground.
- 2) Without Christ you are exposed to sudden, unexpected destruction.
- 3) Your impending destruction is of your own doing. You are not the victim; you are the perpetrator.
- 4) The only reason that your destruction has not already arrived is because of. . .
  - a loving, gracious God. He has delayed the consequence of your sin.
  - His longing is that you would turn to Him in repentance and faith.
  - But if you continue, you will certainly spend eternity in torment.

Transition: A holy, righteous God is the only thing that stands between you and your eternal demise.

Consider . . .

- A. God does not lack the authority or power to send you, who have not turned to Him, to hell at any time.
  - B. We all deserve hell, only God’s hand of mercy holds it back.
  - C. John 3:18 teaches that your condemnation is not a future potentiality, but a present reality.
  - D. God’s willingness to be patient is not Him ignoring your wickedness. You are already condemned, but in love He gives you this chance to repent.
- 5) The Devil stands eager to receive you.
    - Without Christ you are already his. (John 8:23)
    - He has your soul, he controls you, you are his property.
    - Think about it, of course you will go to him, you have chosen him. It’s only because of God’s restraining hand, that you are not with him now.
  - 6) Be clear, this is because of you and the choices that you have made.
    - This is not God’s will for you. But you must turn from your sin.
    - Our sin is as huge and boundless as the sky. This is no small matter.
    - You are not mostly good with just a little bit of sin. You are totally destructive and unrestrained without God.
  - 7) Just because you are young and healthy, or you do not see impending death, does not mean that your next step could be into eternity.
  - 8) And that step is unavoidable. We all die, we will all go into eternity.
  - 9) Just because you don’t believe this, doesn’t keep it from happening. Will you escape hell simply because you cannot comprehend it, or see it happening to you? (1 Thessalonians 5:3)
  - 10) God is under no obligation to extend His mercy to you another year, month, week, day, hour, minute, or second. If you want a guarantee from God, here it is,
    - “Whoever calls upon the Name of the Lord will be saved.” (Romans 10:13)
    - If you confess your sins, He is faithful and just to forgive you.” (1 John 1:9)