

Voice in the Wilderness (podcast)

Episode Four (4) outline

- Intro
 - Welcome & reason for the podcast
 - The days are short.
 - Need for repentance within the Ada church.
 - Unflinching exploration of how the Ada church does ministry.
 - Adopting intentional, one-on-one discipleship
 - Start seasons of disciple and disciple-maker faith building.
 - Rinse and repeat as the disciple becomes a disciple-maker.
 - This is the model Christ gave us.
- Today's subject – Storing up Wrath (Romans 2)
 - Before we go to the scripture, let me ask, “What were you saved from your sins for?”
 - Is it to judge other people?
 - **Romans 2:3, “So when you, a mere human being, pass judgment on them and yet do the same things, do you think you will escape God’s judgment?”**
 - This verse is to Christians, informing them, they are likely exposing themselves to hypocrisy because of fooling themselves that “playing church” is covering over their sinful heart.
 - Is it to just have a good life?
 - **Romans 2:4, “Do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, forbearance and patience, not realizing that God’s kindness is intended to lead you to repentance?”**
 - Ouch, it looks like there is still some “repentance” work to do, even after receiving Jesus!
 - Here is some truth many forget...your works are being recorded in heaven.
 - **1 Cor. 5:10 - “For we must all appear before the judgment (Bema) seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.”**
 - Also, realize your actions are also seen by unbelievers.
 - You are always proselytizing, even when you aren’t saying anything.
 - Are you showing righteousness or unrighteousness?
 - Go big or go home!
 - Are you a “reservoir” or a “conduit” of God’s blessings?
 - The spiritual bank account
 - **Romans 2:6 - “God will repay each person according to what they have done.”**
 - Aren’t you fearful of God’s judgement (good or bad, as it applies to you)?
 - It starts first with those who live under his commands, ALL who are declared His people!

- There are two groups of those, the “hearers” and the “doers”
 - **Romans 2:13** - “For it is not those who hear the law who are righteous in God’s sight, but it is those who obey the law who will be declared righteous.”
 - Again, this happens before Jesus. **Romans 2:16** - “This will take place on the day when God judges people’s secrets through Jesus Christ, as my gospel declares.”
- Arrogantly, we live in a day where we have set ourselves as the judge and God’s character is on trial.
 - “How can hell be just?” “Why would God command the Israelites to destroy the Canaanites?” “Why does God always seem so angry?”
- Don’t think you are immune to this judgement, as if everything you do is exempt because you name yourself a Christian.
 - Are you choosing to not be a “doer of God’s word” because there are more important things going on?
- What are you not gaining into your account because of inaction? **Romans 2:7** – “To those who by persistence (endurance) in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life.”
 - God keeps you in the game, providing the endurance.
 - He renews your strength, like wings of eagles.
 - Billy Graham struggled with health afflictions throughout much of his career. On many occasions during a crusade or other ministry and media events, he would lose his voice or become physically weak or ill, having nothing humanly left to give. But when it came time to preach the Gospel, the evangelist would become imbued with a supernatural energy in the pulpit — a strength that could only have come from God — often collapsing again at the conclusion of his sermon.
 - Glory (Greek: doxa; dox'-ah) – this is the invisible presence of God manifesting within you, being made evident through your actions.
 - You are closing the door to God, choosing to only ever experience your own selfish existence.
 - Honor (Greek: timé, tee-may') – this is your value being seen by the beholder, in this case, Jesus.
 - For disciples, your worth as a “talent of gold” is stamped on you by Jesus.
 - You are the currency of the Kingdom of God.
 - Immortality (Greek: aphtharsia, af-thar-see'-ah) – This is gaining your transformed body.
 - You are unable to experience deterioration, lacking the very capacity to decay or constitutionally break down.

- ** It would seem you will not get this body because of the inaction? I'll throw that question out to the group for more understanding... **

- You are marked by each of these things for eternity!
- Do you see the importance of striving for this?
- By doing nothing with the faith given you, focusing ONLY on your own earthly desires, what (and how much) are you storing into your spiritual bank account?
 - **Romans 2: 8-9, “But for those who are self-seeking and who reject (disobey) the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger. There will be trouble and distress for every human being who does evil: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile”**
 - God’s Truth is Absolute (objective; the Natural Law), not the false “my truth” opinion-lie so fashionable today.
 - By not having that intentional connection to God, gained by obeying Him in all you do, you are, by default, “following evil” when going after the selfish desires of your fallen flesh.
 - At least one of the seven deadly sins are always involved, usually arrogant Pride.
 - God’s wrath & anger looks like on his chosen people?
 - Physical Affliction
 - Paul was not under personal wrath, but this is what he went through. How much more for those who are disobedient?
 - **2 Corinthians 11:23-27, “I have worked much harder, been in prison more frequently, been flogged more severely, and been exposed to death again and again. Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was pelted with stones, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my fellow Jews, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false believers. I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked.”**
 - Emotional Distress
 - (Greek: stenochória (sten-okh-o-ree'-ah)), An anguished & claustrophobic feeling, of being trapped within your body, aware of your own sinfulness but no relief.

- Indignation/Persecution
 - How bad can it get? **Deut. 28: 53-57**, “**Because of the suffering your enemy will inflict on you during the siege, you will eat the fruit of the womb, the flesh of the sons and daughters the Lord your God has given you. Even the most gentle and sensitive man among you will have no compassion on his own brother or the wife he loves or his surviving children, and he will not give to one of them any of the flesh of his children that he is eating. It will be all he has left because of the suffering your enemy will inflict on you during the siege of all your cities. The most gentle and sensitive woman among you—so sensitive and gentle that she would not venture to touch the ground with the sole of her foot—will begrudge the husband she loves and her own son or daughter the afterbirth from her womb and the children she bears. For in her dire need she intends to eat them secretly because of the suffering your enemy will inflict on you during the siege of your cities.**
 - Before you think this is too harsh, answer this: What good is a judge that does not judge correctly?
 - Are you choosing through disobedience to not be firmly under Jesus’ grace which satisfies God’s wrath? Then don’t be surprised if the full severity of God’s wrath is upon you!
- Ending
 - Christians, stop tempting the Wrath of God!
 - Prayer for the Ada Church to be intentional with Repentance, Salvation, & Sanctification.
 - Thanks for listening...and responding to this call of action.
 - Say “**Matthew 9:38**”