

29.1 No Loopholes

Galatians 6:7-10 (NKJV)

⁷ Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. ⁸ For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. ⁹ And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. ¹⁰ Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.

Have you ever felt like a rule or a law didn't apply to you? There are some obscure and silly laws on the books in some of our states. For instance, did you know it is against the law to open your umbrella on the street in Alabama? Likewise, in Alabama, you can't play dominoes on Sunday. You might quickly say, "Those laws are silly and I will do as I please." Technically you could get arrested or fined for violating the law.

Even in regard to serious matters we might say, "No, that's not for me, I am the exception to the rule." I know of people who, in spite of scientific evidence (you know, "Follow the science"), have decided to smoke or abuse their bodies in other ways. I remember hearing some laugh about "those cancer sticks" called cigarettes. Yet, over time, they weren't the exception to the rule, it affected them just like the scientific evidence said it would. Then, with cancer or heart disease, the question was, "Why me?"

The same scenario plays out in the spiritual realm. We can sow to the flesh and reap corruption. Then we are surprised and wonder, "Why me?" We can sow to the Spirit and reap blessings and might still say, "Why me?"

Why ARE we surprised when we neglect the way of God and receive the effects of destructive behavior? Maybe Adam and Eve had a look of surprise on their faces when they realized their nakedness. That nakedness was not only with each other, it was also before God. With that nakedness came shame and – DEATH.

You see, they believed the devil. "O, that won't happen to you. Did God really say you would die? No, not to you, He just doesn't want you to be as smart as He is." But it did happen to them. Death did enter the world because our parents chose to have their own way rather than God's way.

This principle applies to nations as well as individuals. When a nation chooses God, they are blessed. When they neglect Him they seal their fate. **Psalm 33:10-12 (NKJV):**

¹⁰ The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing;

He makes the plans of the peoples of no effect.

¹¹ The counsel of the LORD stands forever,

The plans of His heart to all generations.

¹² Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD,

The people He has chosen as His own inheritance.

It is not just the individual who is blessed by following God, nations can be blessed, too.

America is experiencing enormous turmoil right now. There is only one way out. It is a way unfamiliar to most Americans today because it is the way of God. Notice the prophet's words in **Lamentations 3:40-41 (NKJV):**

**⁴⁰ Let us search out and examine our ways,
And turn back to the LORD;
⁴¹ Let us lift our hearts and hands
To God in heaven.
⁴² We have transgressed and rebelled;
You have not pardoned.**

Even Israel, maybe ESPECIALLY Israel, had sinned in such a way as to bring the wrath of God on themselves. They were not an exception to the rule, why do we think America is?

So many people think that America is invincible, that we can do as we please and nothing will happen. Yet, from scripture we know that is not true. The price of sin will be paid, personally or nationally. It is not in ourselves to save, but God. **Psalm 33:16** (NKJV) reads:

No king is saved by the multitude of an army; A mighty man is not delivered by great strength.

Look at what happened to Manasseh when he, as king of Judah, disobeyed God in **2 Chronicles 33:6** (KJV):

⁶ And he caused his children to pass through the fire in the valley of the son of Hinnom: also he observed times, and used enchantments, and used witchcraft, and dealt with a familiar spirit, and with wizards: he wrought much evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger.

Manasseh burned his own children as sacrifices to a pagan god. He participated in occult practices. He provoked God and was not the exception to the rule. There was no loophole for him or Judah when the time came for the Babylonian captivity. There are Americans who think like Manasseh. They think they can sin without consequence. The truth is, they may appear to get away with it in this lifetime, but they won't in the next. God knows what we are doing and will treat us accordingly.

What is the hope for America? Well, it is God in America! Notice these verses. **Psalm 33:18-22** (NKJV):

**¹⁸ Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear Him,
On those who hope in His mercy,
¹⁹ To deliver their soul from death,
And to keep them alive in famine.
²⁰ Our soul waits for the LORD;
He is our help and our shield.
²¹ For our heart shall rejoice in Him,
Because we have trusted in His holy name.
²² Let Your mercy, O LORD, be upon us,
Just as we hope in You.**

America needs to repent of the evil that has been and is being done. To be honest, we do not deserve the mercy of God. However, if we will repent, God will restore. That repentance begins with each one of us so that it will ripple throughout the nation.

Let's Keep The Light of God's Consistency Burning!