

Blessings and Cursings

by John Henry Jowett

We must read and heed the whole law, including the blessings and the cursings, to develop holy love and moral stamina.

Scripture: Deuteronomy 11:26, Proverbs 1:7, 1 Corinthians 16:13, 2 Timothy 4:2, Hebrews 12:6

Topics: "Gods Judgment", "Spiritual Discipline"

Description

John Henry Jowett emphasizes the importance of not only focusing on the blessings but also acknowledging the warnings and rebukes in the Word of God. He warns against spiritual softness and the lack of moral stamina that comes from ignoring the severity of God's truth. Jowett urges believers to embrace both the gentleness and severity of God, to confront the fearfulness of sin, and to seek a love that passionately opposes all forms of evil.

Transcript

"_He read all the words of the law, the blessings and the cursings._"

--JOSHUA viii. 30-35.

We are inclined to read only what pleases us, to hug the blessings and to ignore the warnings. We bask in the light, we close our eyes to the lightning. We recount the promises, we shut our ears to the rebukes. We love the passages which speak of our Master's gentleness, we turn away from those which reveal His severity. And all this is unwise, and therefore unhealthy. We become spiritually soft and anæmic. We lack moral stamina. We are incapable of noble hatred and of holy scorn. We are invertebrate, and on the evil day we are not able to stand.

We must read "all the words of the law, the blessings and the cursings."

We must let the Lord brace us with His severities. We must gaze steadily

upon the appalling fearfulness of sin, and upon its terrific issues. At all costs we must get rid of the spurious gentleness that holds compromise with uncleanness, that effeminate affection which is destitute of holy fire. We must seek the love which burns everlastingly against all sin; we must seek the gentleness which can fiercely grip a poisonous growth and tear it out to its last hidden root. We must seek that holy love which is as a "consuming fire."

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/john-henry-jowett/blessings-and-cursings/>

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