

Pastor Ron Case
10/17/21

“Con-Job” (2)

“Putting confidence in an unreliable person in times of trouble is like chewing with a broken tooth or walking on a lame foot.” (Proverbs 25:19 NLT)

“The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?” (Jeremiah 17:9)

Hezekiah’s Pride

2 Kings 20:12-19 – (12) “At that time Merodach-baladan the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent envoys with letters and a present to Hezekiah, for he heard that Hezekiah had been sick. (13) And Hezekiah welcomed them, and he showed them all his treasure house, the silver, the gold, the spices, the precious oil, his armory, all that was found in his storehouses. There was nothing in his house or in all his realm that Hezekiah did not show them. (14) Then Isaiah the prophet came to King Hezekiah, and said to him, ‘What did these men say? And from where did they come to you?’ And Hezekiah said, ‘They have come from a far country, from Babylon.’ (15) He said, ‘What have they seen in your house?’ And Hezekiah answered, ‘They have seen all that is in my house; there is nothing in my storehouses that I did not show them.’ (16) Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, ‘Hear the word of the LORD: (17) Behold, the days are coming, when all that is in your house, and that which your fathers have stored up till this day, shall be carried to Babylon. Nothing shall be left, says the LORD. (18) And some of your own sons, who shall be born to you, shall be taken away, and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.’ (19) Then Hezekiah said to Isaiah, ‘The word of the LORD that you have spoken is good.’ For he thought, ‘Why not, if there will be peace and security in my days?’”

James 4:13-16 – (13) “Come now, you who say, ‘Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit’— (14) yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. (15) Instead you ought to say, ‘If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.’ (16) As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil.”

1 Corinthians 10:12 – “Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall.”

Sin's Subtlety

Genesis 4:6-7 – (6) “The LORD said to Cain, ‘Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? (7) If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is for you, but you must rule over it.”

Hebrews 3:12-13 – (12) “Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. (13) But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called ‘today,’ that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.”

Con-Job Prevention

(1) Come to the Lord Often

“Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.” (Hebrews 4:16)

(2) Humble Yourself through Confession

“Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy. Blessed is the one who fears the LORD always, but whoever hardens his heart will fall into calamity.”

(Proverbs 28:13-14)

(3) Ask God for Wisdom

“So that Satan will not outsmart us. For we are familiar with his evil schemes.” (2 Corinthians 2:11 NLT)

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)

(This message is available for review and sharing at alivein.me)