

GOSPEL SIGNALS

By Keith Greer

Today, we want to examine some "**gospel signals**" found in the Scriptures:

"Flee from the wrath to come" - Danger. "But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance." (Matthew 3:7,8)

Why would one seek to flee from God's wrath? Who needs to fear God's wrath? Both questions have the same answer - those who disobey God. "In flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power." {2 Thessalonians 1:8,9} On Judgment Day, the unprepared will feel the force of God's wrath.

"Boast not... of tomorrow" - Caution. "Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring forth." {Proverbs 27:1}

Life is full of uncertainty. Death is promised to all, but none of us know when. (Hebrews 9:27) Christ promised to return to earth, but the time of His reappearance is also unknown to man. {Matthew 24:36; 2 Peter 3:10} One day, we might be in excellent health, and the next we could be in a hospital bed gasping for air. Time is on the Lord's side, not on man's. We can do nothing but use our time wisely in preparation for our departure or the Lord's return.

"Salvation is of the Lord." - Safety. "But I will sacrifice to You With the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay what I have vowed. Salvation is of the LORD." (Jonah 2:9)

Jonah tried to hide from God. He spent three days in the belly of a great fish fully understanding the foolish choice he had made. Today, many still try to hide from God. They seek safety in their own lives, drugs, alcohol, or worldly pleasures. Yet, for one to be truly safe and at peace with himself, he must turn to the Lord. He is the key. (John 14:6)

God in His infinite wisdom has given many "signals" of warning to mankind. Still, man has volition and can choose to ignore the warning, sadly, to his own doom and destruction! ***