

TOMORROW
Text: Proverbs 27:1

INTRO: It has been said that there is no more dangerous word in the English language than the word tomorrow. That is largely because its danger lies hidden & unrealized, yet it has robbed multitudes of success, & slammed the door of heaven in the face of untold numbers of individuals who fully intended to obey God, tomorrow.

We sometimes need to be cautious, go slowly, & be patient in dealing with those we try to teach & advise & encourage. Most of us did not embrace the truth & obey it the first time it was presented to us, & most folks we try to teach won't either.

But I have been known to delay unpleasant & stressful tasks, while allowing myself to credit it as patience. I am trying to do better. Pray for me.

And, for the next few minutes, let us try to learn together how much danger lurks in the innocent word, tomorrow.

I. SOME TASKS ARE NOT POSSIBLE TO COMPLETE IN A DAY BUT SHOULD BE BEGUN TODAY.

- A. Tomorrow, you may lose your desire. Brownlow tells of a Texas farmer, a poor man, who, when he heard sermons about giving, got upset because he did not have the means to give as he would like. He struck oil & became very rich, but he would still get upset when he heard sermons about giving because now he has lost his desire.

Felix heard Paul's sermon & trembled, but he postponed any positive result. Acts 24:25-27.

- B. Tomorrow will take away the opportunities of today.
Sickness, job transfers, other events that may sever us from chances to influence some friend, neighbor, or coworker
- C. Death will come to us someday. It will come to those we had intended to talk with.
1. It has been said that there are at least 18 figures of speech in the Bible to underscore the brevity of

life: a shadow that flees, a flower that is cut down, a weaver's shuttle, water spilled on the ground, a swift ship, a vapor, etc.

2. Hymn: "You Never Mentioned Him to Me."

D. Some tomorrow will bring the final judgment.

II. THE GREAT WORD IN THE BIBLE IS TODAY.

READ HEBREWS 3:7-8, 13-15.

I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work. (John 9:4).

READ 2 CORINTHIANS 6:1-2.

CONCLUSION: Some things can & perhaps should wait till some far off, vague tomorrow. But there are some things far too important to be pushed aside: to obey the gospel; to be restored to fellowship & oneness with God; to walk in newness of life; to bring up your children in the training & admonition of the Lord. (This can't be accomplished in a day, but it should begin immediately if it has not already begun.)

He was going to be all that a mortal should be, Tomorrow.

No one on earth would be better than he, Tomorrow.

Each morning he stacked up the letters he'd write, Tomorrow.

Ah, the vict'ries he'd win & the battles he'd fight, Tomorrow.

But the fact is, he died and he faded from view

And all that was left when his living was through

Was a mountain of things he intended to do, Tomorrow.

Exton, PA, March 25, 1990

Shiloh, Mexia, TX, October 31, 1993

Susquehanna, Marietta, PA, July 23, 2000