

Proverbs 4

Sunday 2/9/2014

If you have your Bibles today, we want to go back to Proverbs 4. As you know, we are coming through the book of Proverbs, but when we got into Proverbs 4, we got into a great passage that deals with an issue that we wanted to take a little time and talk about.

I have told you before that I am not just interested in you as members of my church here. I think it is important not only that you know what you believe—and you find a lot of Christians today that know what they believe—but it goes farther than that. I think that every Christian not only needs to know what you believe, but I think it is vital that you understand why you believe what you believe.

You can go to church all your life and you hear the same old stuff over and over again, and after a while, you just become someone who can recite it back. You have heard it all, but you do not really know why you believe what you believe. If you are ever going to be effective for the Lord, if this church is ever going to be effective for the Lord, then you are going to have to not only know what you believe, but you are going to have to know why you believe it.

Now, look at Proverbs 4:1-4. It says:

Proverbs 4:1-4

Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding.

For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law.

For I was my father's son, tender and only beloved in the sight of my mother.

He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live.

Now, Father, help us today as we finish up this study. We have been in it for a couple of weeks now, and Lord, I think it has been a very vital study for the people in this church that want to really understand not just what they believe, but why they believe it. Help us today as we finish up and we look through these things to put it all together, and we will give You the honor and the glory and the praise. In Jesus' name, we ask it. Amen.

I. The Nature and Purpose of Good Doctrine

The last couple of weeks I have been talking about the concept of good doctrine. Over the last couple of weeks, you can better understand, I hope now, why we take the stand here at the church that we take. We live in a day and age where doctrine is gone. Pretty much you can believe whatever you want to believe. The Bible is of no relevance anymore. If it feels good, do it. This is the situation ethics concept. We have talked about the fact that we stand on the Bible here. When I say that, everybody says, "Well, we stand on the Bible too." Well, they are standing on the Bible and then they are standing on the Bible, and there is a difference.

But we have an uncompromising stand on the Word of God and the clear doctrine that it teaches as God's final and forward to us. So far, as we have come through this, and you should have this down now, here is what we have learned. We have learned that the word doctrine means to teach, but not just teach any general thing. In the Bible context, the word doctrine means a specific teaching, that God is showing us what His opinion is on something. There are hundreds and hundreds of doctrines in the Bible.

I talked about the fact that when you get disciplined—many of you have been disciplined, some of you are being disciplined right now, some of you will be disciplined in the near future—that is what discipleship does. It begins to lay down the fundamental teachings or doctrines that we stand on as Christians. You start with that and the rest of your life you will add to that. There are a number of books that we have in our bookstore back there that actually go through and lay out the different doctrines that you can record in your Bible or learn or study them. It is so important that you understand that.

The book of Proverbs says in Proverbs 4 that out of the heart of man come the issues of life. We all have things we have to deal with. Nobody here is going to have a problem-free life. Nobody here is going to have a life that you do not have some struggles in. You are going to have to make choices. You are going to have to make decisions. You are going to be faced with opportunities. Or you are going to be faced with situations that you have to decide how you are going to deal with. The answer to all of that is Bible doctrine.

That is why he says here in Proverbs 4:4 that "he taught me also and said, Let thine heart retain my words and keep my commandments and live." The Bible says, "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee." This means taking the Bible doctrine, the absolute teachings of the Word of God, and putting them into your heart and into your life.

Then we also saw the real issue of the day. We saw that the problem that we all face is that we stand on a book that is unchanging. We stand on a book that divides. That is what doctrine does. Doctrine divides truth from error. It shows you what is right. When you see what is right, it then exposes what is wrong. This is the fundamental thing that we are up against as Christians. We live in a world, we are faced with a Christianity in many, many cases, that wants to get everybody together. We live in a world and stand on a book that wants to divide and wants to keep us to the point where it shows us what is wrong. It changes; it shows us truth from error.

We also saw from Matthew 7 that doctrine is defined in the Bible as final authority. Jesus, when He preached, the Bible says they were astonished at His doctrine, not as the scribes and the Pharisees. They did not have any doctrine. They had teaching, but it was bad teaching. When they are trying to get all the nation of Israel together, Christ is coming down and He makes no bones about it. He says, "I have not come to bring peace. I have come to bring division." He goes through the list of things that He divides.

We saw in 1 Timothy 3:16 that the Bible's number one function, what doctrine does for us, is it shows us what is right. When you know what is right, it helps you make the right choices. I showed you how the devil's plan is to eliminate all doctrine. I showed you how in all the new Bibles, in your King James Bible, the word doctrine in the New Testament is found 47 times.

You go pick up any other Bible you want to find, I do not care what it is, 39 of those times it will be gone. It will not be in that Bible or it will be changed. This is because the devil's job is to eliminate from Christianity all doctrine so we can get everybody together.

II. The Decline of Bible Doctrine: Historical Context

Last week I took it to another level and I showed you the four things that started around 1900 that brought about the death of Bible doctrine and the end of the greatest church period in history. If you ever have some time in your life, go back to the book of Revelation and study two churches. One of them is found in Revelation 2:7. The other one is found in Revelation 3:20. Revelation 3:7 and Revelation 3:20. One of them is called the church of the open door. The other one is called the church of the closed door.

What I am trying to show you in this study is how that we went from the church of the open door. He tells you in Revelation 3:7, "Nobody is going to stand before you. I will open the door and no man shut it." In history, this is the greatest period of time in church history where the Holy Spirit of God literally went around the world and three-quarters of the world had come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. It was the greatest period in church history. But the key was that you keep My Word because the Word of God is so crucial to us having good doctrine. When you lose your Bible, you lose your doctrine. When you lose your doctrine, then anything goes when the whistle blows, so to speak, and you wind up in a mess. You wind up in the church of the closed door.

That is where we are at today. We are in a situation where I showed you the four things.

1. The getting rid of the Word of God, the removal of doctrine.
2. The Neo-Orthodox movement that started around the turn of the century, 1900, uniting the church with the world.
3. The Neo-Evangelical crowd around the same time that takes the common Bible from the common man and puts it back into scholarship.
4. The Charismatic movement: total confusion and the death knell to anything that has to do with Bible doctrine.

I showed you the great parable out of Matthew 13 how the devil sowed leaven in the lump. That leaven is a picture of bad doctrine in the book of Galatians. That lump is the picture of Bible Christianity that the devil sowed into it and it destroyed it all. That is why we get the little phrase, "a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump," because that is exactly what it did.

I showed you your doctrinal roots. I showed you how the reason why you have the truth today is because of one man. Because of one man in our own history that we talked about last week that had the courage to take a stand when the whole Christian world was going into apostasy. When the whole Christian world was dumping the Word of God and bringing in evolution and bringing in all the heresy that we find today. We laid it out last week about churches embracing social drinking and gambling and all the things that they allow in today. This man took a stand.

In fact, if you want to have another study sometime, there are four men in the history of the New Testament that took a stand that got you what you have today. Each one is a great study. We just talked about one last week. In all of this, we saw our doctrinal roots. We saw where we come from. How God has used men to preserve the Word of God, that you and I today have the truth. I showed you how my own roots go back through these men. That the pastors and the old boys that taught me the Bible were from this guy out of Texas, J. Frank Norris, and were out of his school and out of his church. He put pastors all over this country when he broke from the apostasy of the Southern Baptist Convention.

But then we saw two great doctrines go by the wayside today. The doctrine of sanctification, which is the doctrine of separation. You ask the average person today what is the doctrine of sanctification? They could not even tell you. They have no clue. Their lives show it. The doctrine of sanctification simply means that when you got saved, you were sanctified. Sanctified. What does that mean? It means that God sets you apart from the world. We are not supposed to be like the world. We are not supposed to talk like the world. We are not supposed to do the things that the world does. We are supposed to be a separate people, holy unto God. We are supposed to be a people who have separated ourselves from the things of this world. Yet we saw last week the church and the world now has married together, so to speak, and the death of Bible doctrine as its final result.

After the last two weeks, this should be much clearer for you now why we have the ridiculous issues that we find in Christianity today. Most people look at Christianity and they think they do not see it any different than from the world. It has lost its power. It has lost its influence. It is much a joke today with most people. We saw all of that.

Now you hear me say this all the time, and I mean this with all the sincerity that I have. You hear me talk about it all the time. This church is not for everybody. There are many churches that they want to keep everybody. I love people, and this church, you are obviously welcome to come here as much as you want or you can stand it, however we want to put it. But the bottom line is I understand that concept. I grew up in a concept where it was biblical down the line as close as it could be. I realize that when you preach the truth of the Word of God, you are not going to make everybody happy because some people do not want the truth. I get that. I understand it.

We think the Apostle Paul hung the moon when it comes to the Bible that he wrote and all the things that, or the books in the Bible that he wrote and all the things that he did. But if you go back and do a detailed study of his life, you will find there were a lot of people who did not like Paul. There were a lot of people who did not care for the truth that Paul was putting out. He was not getting it 1,800 years like I am after the fact. He got it straight from God, and there were still people that did not like what he said. It is just the way life is. Paul's ministry was not for everybody. He says, "Demas has forsaken me." Paul's ministry was not for everybody. John Mark left him in the middle of a missionary trip and ran home to mama. His ministry was not for everybody. His style of ministry was not for everybody. I understand that.

But you know what Paul did? Paul was always looking for a certain kind of guy. He was always looking for a certain kind of individual. When you study his life and look at his life, I can

honestly tell you, I understand this ministry will not be for everybody. It will not be simply because I am looking for a certain kind of individual. I am looking for a certain kind of person. I am looking for that quality in somebody that they really want to understand and learn the Bible and do something with it. Let it do what the Bible says it does best: that has changed our lives.

We will take our stand on the Bible. We will take our stand on holy living and separation from the world based on Bible doctrine and what it teaches. I know we all are sinners and we all make mistakes. I am certainly not talking about sinless perfection. I am talking about a process in your life that you grow every day to become more like the Lord Jesus Christ. As the song says, "The farther you get away from the world, the closer you get to God."

Now some people like that. Some people do not like that. Some people only like doctrine when it fits what they want to do. When they want to do something else that goes up against the clear teaching of the Bible, then they have a problem with it. You see it all the time. But there are some people who, to the best of their ability, will live their whole life based on a principled life. They will take the principles of the Word of God. They will see the value in it. They will see what it has done in somebody else's life. The greatest witness you have is not what you tell somebody God will do for them. The greatest witness we have is people looking at your life and seeing what God has done for you. But in most cases, God is not doing anything.

You are going to find some people who, to the best of their ability, will live their whole lives based on a principled life, built around Bible doctrine. It shows. It shows in their families. It shows in their kids. It shows in their marriage. It shows in their ministry. It shows in the blessings of God in their lives that they have. It shows in the fact that they are totally complete with who they are in Christ. It shows that they are totally content with what they have with the Lord Jesus Christ. I am telling you, you cannot beat having the blessings of God that come from good doctrine in your life that God gives you and following it. It is just that simple.

III. The Consequences of Losing the Bible

Now today I want to show you, we talked about this last week. We have been talking about how the devil wants to get away from doctrine. We have been talking about how crazy churches have gotten and getting away from some of the clear teachings. I showed you last week that there were four major aspects that I was going to talk about this week. Now I am not going to have time to go into all these in detail. But if you want to learn, this is where we bleed over into Thursday night. These are great Thursday night questions that I could take. But I cannot do it this morning because I have to move through here. We have to be out of here by four o'clock this afternoon. So you cannot keep all of the time, do all that I want to do. But I want to give you an overview of them. I at least want you to see and understand it.

Many of you who have been around for a while, you will understand these. But we have got a lot of new people that have come into our church in the last year. So I want you to see this. We will talk about this. But we can pick it up on Thursday night or you can come over to my house anytime if you want to go down, sit down and help me go through it with you. But I want to show you the four major key doctrines that they departed from that has destroyed Christianity in

its basis. In some cases, they added some things to it. But 120 years ago, these three things that I am going to talk about—four, three of them they changed, one of them they added—but these three things that they changed 120 years ago, they were the absolute fundamental basics that the Bible and Christianity and every true Bible believer was built on. It is just that simple.

Now when you lose your Bible, we are going to start with that for just a second. When your Bible ceases to be your final authority in your life, when you lose your Bible, when somebody takes that Bible from you and they start teaching you things that are not in the Bible and you get so caught up in the music and all of the stuff that goes on and all the grandeur and all of that stuff that you just lose sight of, "Is what the guy is saying, is it really found in the Bible?" Hey, there are a lot of things that sound good. But that does not mean they are in the Bible. The Bible says, "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." You are going to find a lot today that many people go to churches and they have lost their aspect of their Bible being their final authority.

But when you lose that Bible, most people do not know this, you lose seven things. You do not just lose your Bible. You lose seven things. When you start to lose these seven things, I mean, you are in trouble. If you want to do a little study, I do not have time to go through all of these. We have talked about it on Thursday night, sometime I am sure, over the last couple of years.

Here are the seven things you lose when you lose your Bible:

5. No doctrine. You will find what happens when you lose your doctrine in 2 Timothy 3:16-17. Do a little study on your own. Got questions? Bring it Thursday night.
6. No spiritual growth. You immediately stop growing spiritually because you have no good doctrine. That will be 1 Thessalonians 2:13.
7. No ability to love God biblically. Oh, you may love God, but there is a difference in loving God and loving biblically. There are some things that go along in the Bible, I am sorry, with truly loving God the right way. Most people love God like they love their dogs, or they love their cats, or they love this, or they love that. Most people fall in love with God. You know what happens? You fall in love with God, you fall out of love with God. No, no. Real biblical love is not falling in love with God. Real biblical love is learning biblically how to love God. That is a process. You lose that.
8. No ability to worship God biblically. That will be John 4:29.
9. No prayer life biblically. That is John 15:7. I am not saying you do not pray, but in all these things, it is like the army. There is the right way, the wrong way, and the army way. Well, with God, there is the right way, the wrong way, and then there is the Bible way. The Bible way is always the exact way. You will lose your prayer life, John 15:7, biblically.
10. No power in preaching. Jeremiah 1:8-10. So it all shifts, like we have already talked about, to teaching.
11. You lose your millennial inheritance. That is Joshua 1:6-9.

Now, when you lose these seven things, you are done. Because these seven things will sweep out of your life anything that is relative to you having a relationship with God. You will be just like the nation of Israel in 606 B.C. They had religious services. They had the Old Testament. They

had a knowledge of God. They had all the stuff that God gave them in the law, but it was all an empty shell. There was no power. You know what the key word is with Israel around 606 B.C.? It is one name. Anybody know what the name is? They are told to put this name over the threshold. What is the name? Anybody know? It is Ichabod. You know what Ichabod means? It means God has departed. Boy, I will tell you what, you lose these seven things and you can put over your house number the name Ichabod because you are not going anywhere. You will still play at it. You will still play the church, play all the games, but there will be nothing there.

IV. Major Doctrinal Departures: The Kingdom of God and Heaven

Now, these four major doctrines that we are going to look at here that brought in the leaven, that in time leavened the whole lump and put the church and Christians in the mess that it is in. Here is the first one. Like I said, I do not have time to get into the depth of all of these. I am showing you historically, based on my church and me as a pastor wanting you to understand why we stand on the things we stand, where Christianity once was, where it is at now, and why we are here and not over there. We understand our doctrinal roots.

➤ The Doctrine of the Kingdom of God and the Kingdom of Heaven

Now, number one, and this seems like a very insignificant thing. It really does, but it is major. The number one thing that happened was they started to get rid of the concept of the doctrine of the kingdom of God and the kingdom of heaven. I agree. Sounds like no big deal. Somebody looks at that and they say, "What is his problem? What is the deal?" Well, let me tell you what my deal is.

In Proverbs 9:1, probably a verse you have not read for a while, it says that "Wisdom hath builded her house, she hath hewn out her seven pillars." Now, the Bible is likened unto a rock. That verse tells us that out of that rock, the Bible, God has hewn, chiseled out, cut out, seven pillars. What He is saying is this, that the Bible you hold in your hand, when God put it out and God got it to us, He built that Bible on seven pillars. There are seven absolute major Bible doctrines that your Bible sits on, that are built into your Bible, that when you lose them, you do not figure out your Bible.

Number one, without a doubt, number one without any question about it, is the concept of the kingdom of God and the kingdom of heaven. Every Baptist church, 99% of them, without question, every Evangelical and every Neo-Orthodox, like we talked about last week, everybody teaches they are the same. Now, do not take my word for it. You all know Christians or pastors someplace out there, just ask them. Get a little courage, be nice about it and just say, "You know what, I was studying the Bible the other day and I came up with the two phrases in the New Testament, the kingdom of God and the kingdom of heaven. What are they?" If he tells you they are the same, I guarantee you he will because they are taught today, starting all the way back when he destroyed that fundamental Bible doctrine, the number one pillar that all the Bible is built on. They are not the same. They are absolutely not the same.

Now, I know it would be a lot funner today if I just tickled your ear with Psalms 23 or something like that, and I understand that, but you know what, if you are going to stand and understand what you believe, if you are going to be strong and stand on the truth and know why you believe it, then doctrine has to be in the equation. It is just that simple. This is a very long study. It is a great Thursday night study, but I just give you a brief overview of the thing.

I have told you this before, 1 Corinthians 10:32 tells you the Bible is built around three people groups. If you want to fundamentally begin to learn the Bible, that is where you start. The Bible is written to the nation of Israel, the Bible is written to Gentiles, the Bible is written to the church. Your whole Bible, all 66 books, breaks down to those three. Those are the three main character groups in the Bible. Two of them, the nation of Israel and the church, are key players. In the Old Testament, you have the Gentiles, they will either go to the nation of Israel. In the New Testament, they will go to the church. But the two major characters in the Old Testament are the nation of Israel and the body of Christ, the church. You get these two messed up after the doctrine surrounding them and you are going to teach bad doctrine. You are not going to have the truth of the Word of God.

Now very quickly, the kingdom of heaven is given to the nation of Israel in the Old Testament. It is different than the kingdom of God. You read the book of Matthew, you will find coming through Matthew 52 times where he references the kingdom of heaven in Matthew. You know what the book of Matthew is about? It is about the king coming to Israel and bringing in a kingdom. The kingdom of heaven will be the literal visible kingdom in Jerusalem that the nation of Israel gets when Christ comes back. That is that one.

The kingdom of God is the spiritual kingdom. It is defined for you in Romans 14:17, Luke 17:21. It is the spiritual kingdom when you get born again. Everybody here that got saved at some point in your life, when you got saved, you were spiritually born into this spiritual kingdom. Romans 14:17 says it is "peace and righteousness in the Holy Ghost." The Bible says that the kingdom of God is inside you. It is not literal, it is spiritual. So you have to understand and now you begin to see how the Bible is built around that. If the Bible is built around two people groups and the two kingdoms represent the two people groups, then you have the nation of Israel over here with the Jew, literal, and then you have the kingdom of God over here with the church, which is spiritual.

Now, I am no Bible theologian, but if I was reading down through the Bible and I found that Matthew, which is the book of the king of the Jews, talks about the kingdom of heaven 52 times, and then I read Paul's writings and his books and all the things that Paul writes. He writes to seven churches. He writes to three Christians. Not at one time in anything that he writes does he ever mention, and he is writing to the church. His books are doctrine to the church. Not one time, not one time in any of his writings does he ever mention the kingdom of heaven. Now, you would think somebody would catch that. You would think that somebody would read a Jewish book about the nation of Israel, the king of the Jews, find it 52 times, and then read the book that Paul writes about the church and never finding it one time. I would think you would catch that.

Now, I list this one number one for one reason. If you do not get this one right, you are absolutely done when it comes to learning and understanding of the teaching of the Bible. Now,

there are a lot of things that we could do with this. If we do not have time this morning, I would be glad to do it some Thursday night or come over to my house and do it. But the bottom line is this: they are not the same. Back in our bookstore back there, we have a book called *The Sure Word of Prophecy*. I checked it this morning. There are only three or four copies back there, but we can order some more if you want one. In my humble opinion, the greatest book ever been written outside the Word of God. It is the book, it used to be called *The Kingdom of God and the Kingdom of Heaven*. They changed the name a while back 30 years ago, but I read it when I was just starting in the Bible. I have got to be honest with you. I had to read it because I am pretty stupid. I had to read it four or five times before it made sense. But brother, as I grew in the Lord and I saw that and that thing brought it all together. In my mind, it is the greatest book ever written outside the Word of God. That is why I have that bookstore back there. There are books you can trust because everybody needs to build a library of material that is based on sound doctrine. It is just that simple. So that is your first one.

V. Major Doctrinal Departures: Dispensationalism

➤ Losing Sight of the Dispensations in the Bible

Second one followed right on the heels of the first one. The second one was losing sight of the dispensations in the Bible. Now I know this is over some of your head, but I am going to bring it down to where you can grasp it because that is what I have to do for me. So do not get worried about some of these big terms. I am going to explain it to you because you need to learn them.

When you lose your first pillar to the Kingdom of God and the Kingdom of Heaven that the Bible is built upon, then it all goes downhill from there. Dispensations in the Bible are completely ignored today. Back in our bookstore back there, you can see it, that big white book back there. It is called *Dispensational Truth* by Clarence Larkin. You know when that was written? That was written in 1900. There has never been before that, nor will there ever be a book again that lays out the dispensations of the Bible better than Clarence Larkin did in 1900. You know why? Because in 1900, everybody believed it. Nobody believes it today. See how progressive we become? When you lose Bible, when you lose truth, then you start to go float all over the page.

Now in 1900, that was a standard teaching for every Baptist church in this country. Everybody believed it. Larkin believed it. C. I. Scofield believed it. Darby believed it. Robert Dick Wilson believed it. Dwight Pentecost believed it. Vance Havner believed it. Everybody believed it. Today, nobody believes it. Yet that book stands as a testament. You go into your average Christian junk shop where they have all the Christian paraphernalia, you could not find that book on their shelf anywhere in this country. You know why? Because there is Bible doctrine. You know why it does not sell? Nobody wants Bible doctrine today.

Some of you have wide margin Bibles. You try to go to a Christian bookstore and buy a wide margin Bible. They will look at you like you are a three-headed monster. You cannot get them anywhere. The great companies that used to make them do not make them anymore. If they do, they are very hard to find. You know why? Because nobody wants them anymore. We have to go through a local church, which we should, who keeps that Bible alive because they believe what

we believe. They print that Bible themselves to keep it in production, called a wide margin study Bible, because I have told you many, many times, the greatest study Bible you ever have is your own with your own notes in it.

You know why nobody wants a wide margin Bible except you weird people? Because nobody studies the Bible anymore. Why can you when you can get this guy's study Bible or this guy's study Bible or get the one with the pictures in it? Those are the ones I always like. Why would you put your own notes in it now when you can just, you can get a Bible that somebody else will tell you what it means? Nobody studies, nobody labors in the Word of God anymore. You guys do.

I remember one time when somebody was in the hospital, was that Jamie or Kelly that talked to the Catholic priest that she had her Bible there? Kelly, was it you? Who was in the hospital? Oh, Mom was in the hospital. Oh, it was, oh, okay. Mom was in the hospital. That is right. You had brought your Bible, wide margin Bible, and she is sitting there studying it. The chaplain comes in. Nice guy, very nice guy. He could not believe, he was taken by her wide margin Bible. He could not believe that anybody would get a wide margin Bible and want to write notes in it. He was taken back. Nicest guy on the planet. But he was taken back by the fact that anybody would get a Bible with big columns around it that you could actually put notes in it. You know why? Because nobody he is associated with ever studies the Bible. That is why. It is incredible. Nobody today, nobody studies the Word of God anymore. Nobody labors over it. Nobody prays over it.

When you come to the place, when you find a dispensation, a dispensation in the Bible is always taught as a period of time. That is true. But it is more than that. In the Bible, it is not just a period of time. In the Bible, a dispensation is a period of time when God changes the way He deals with man. You want to remember that. Your greatest example of that would be the Old Testament from the New Testament. God had them under the law in the Old Testament, then did away with the law in the New Testament. That is your first, easiest, understandable dispensation. But a dispensation in the Bible will be not just a period of time, but when God in a period of time changes the direction by which He is dealing with man and how the Bible rightly divides itself around dispensationalism.

I am telling you, please, take my word for it. You could not find five preachers in this city who understand dispensation or could lay them out for you. There are 11 dispensations in the Bible. Some guys count them nine, ten. They have all the material in the right place. They just may cut it up a little differently. But there are 11 fundamental dispensations in the Bible. They will tell you that there is no such thing as dispensation. They will tell you that there is this, there is that, and God is dealing with the same way all the way down through the Bible. That is called covenant theology. No, no, there are 11 dispensations. Four times in the Bible, God uses the word dispensation. But who cares when you do not have the Bible? See, who cares?

You find in 1 Corinthians 9:17. You find Ephesians 1:10. That one is a dispensation of the fullness of times. 1 Corinthians 9:17, "the dispensation of the gospel committed to Paul." Ephesians 3:2 is "the dispensation of the grace of God." Colossians 1:25 is "the dispensation of

God." Four different times that you use it. Now, why somebody would say that there are no such thing as dispensation when God puts it four times in His Bible? I do not understand people sometimes. Why would you, if you had a brain tumor, would you go to a brain surgeon that never operated on a brain before? Do you go in there and he starts looking at, he says, "Well, we are going to have to take that tumor out. Let us think of the x-rays." And he puts an x-ray up of your lungs. Would you get a little concerned? Nobody on this planet would go get your brain operated on by somebody who does not understand brain surgery. But why in the world would you spend your life in a spiritual place where the guy teaches and does not know anything about the Bible? To me, it is the same thing. Maybe it is just me. I do not know.

Now, there are 11 dispensations in the Bible. They rightly divide. Remember that verse? They rightly divide the Bible up for you. Eleven different times when God changes the way He does things with man. We do not have time to go through them all today, but I will tell you this. Most of you want to learn the Bible. I am toying with the idea sometime in March of taking a whole month on Bible study night and bringing you through God's systematic theology of how to lay the Bible out. We need to do it for all the new people. It is all a great refresher. There are always things that you learned that you did not know last time. But there is a systematic theology coming through the Bible, a basic plan to learn the Bible.

Now, the first thing if I were you, here is what I would do. I would get the seven pillars in Proverbs 9 that the Bible is built on. I would identify each one of those seven pillars and I would understand each one of them, how they relate to the Bible, because you are going to find in a broad sense the Bible breaks itself down around those seven pillars. Those seven pillars will lead you as you study it and break down around the eleven dispensations. Now at this particular point, once you understand it, now the Jew, the Gentile and the church get in the right context. They will break down for you the Bible around the three major events in the Bible: creation, first coming of Christ and the second coming of Christ. Now fundamentally, very simplistically, that is how you do it. You start with the fundamental, systematic way the Bible lays itself out. Those eleven dispensations are the natural outline of the whole Bible from Genesis to Revelation. The whole Bible weaves its way around those eleven dispensations. When you understand that and you get into the Bible and you are reading a book, now you have a context because you understand where to put it in. Now you are on your way. Fundamentally, this is the reason why I said a guy like A.J. over here and so many other kids in our church, I would put them up against any pastor in this city when it comes to knowing the Bible. You know why? Because they have been raised and trained on Bible doctrine. You should have heard him last night laying that thing out. Or he did a thing on the Gospel and the stars and a witness of the stars, incredible.

VI. Major Doctrinal Departures: The Heresy of Calvinism

➤ The Heresy of Calvinism (Predestination)

Now the third one. This one is not a changing of a doctrine. This one is a reinstatement of a heresy that started around 1500 and I will explain this one to you. This one is the aspect of the heresy of Calvinism, commonly called predestination. Now the third doctrinal heresy that the church and the pastors and Christians embrace is the regurgitation of this heresy that started

called Calvinism that is actually today sweeping across Baptist churches. It is incredible. Some of the great preachers that you listen to on the radio like John MacArthur, who was a good Bible teacher, many of them now have went the way of Calvinism. They have changed the name now, repackaged it and put it out today because Calvinism has such a bad connotation with people. Everybody knew it was a heresy. So now they brought it up and repackaged it and now they call it Reformation theology. They changed the name a little bit. They know people are stupid that they will buy it without ever looking at it.

Now I have never, I have got to be honest with you, and I do not mean this to be cruel. I really not. You know me, you know I am the nicest guy in the world. But in a minute of time I get baffled by things. Now I am not talking, I am not somebody who does not know what he is talking about. I have been in this business 40 years. I have talked to more Calvinists than I can ever remember. I have three, no four, Calvinist friends right now in my life. They are good friends of mine. They are heretics, but they are good friends of mine. I have told this, I have told them, so what I am saying right now I have told them face to face and they just laugh about it and it is okay. I tell them to be a Calvinist you have to be an imbecile. I do not want to say you have to be without a spiritual IQ that is below sub plant life. I do not understand how anybody with any common sense could be and embrace this heresy called Calvinism.

Now I have never met a Calvinist, and I will tell you why they do. I have never met a Calvinist that ever understood his Bible. I have got three or four of them who follow our website. They will be on, they will hear this tomorrow probably or whatever Jenny gets it on and I will get a call from them this week. They call me all the time and they will call me up and they will be asking me, a couple of them teach Bible studies and they get asked questions. They do not understand deep doctrinal questions. So they will call me on the phone and they will say, "Hey, you know, I had this question last week. You know, how would you handle this? What does the Bible say about it?" I am cool with it. I mean, I answered the questions. I mean, they are teaching best. I do not, you know, but I asked them one time because they go off and on and on about this thing when I did talk to them about how that, you know, Calvinism is the deepest thing and you have got to understand the great doctrinal truths of a predestination to go back before the foundation of the world and they have got it down. They have got all the truth. So I asked them one time, "How is it that a guy that has all the truth and is in deep and all the eternal destiny that you have a predestination does not know the basic simple things about doctrine in the Bible? How come you have got to call a Baptist when you are a Calvinist to get your answer if you have got all this stuff down?" Yeah, it is just that quiet too on the phone. I do not care.

Now let me explain to you what Calvinism is. Give you a quick overview. Nothing will kill your zeal as a Christian faster than predestination or Calvinism, Reformation theology. Here is the concept of Calvinism in a nutshell, and I use that because he was a nut for sure. Here is Calvinism. Way back when, once upon a time before Genesis 1:1, God looked down through eternity and God picked some people to go to heaven and some people to go to hell. Now if you are one of the ones that He picked to go to heaven, you are in. If you are one of the ones He picked to go to hell, you are out. Now there is nothing he can do to keep from going to heaven. He was predestined before the foundation of the world to be one of the chosen ones. So he is in.

There is nothing she can do to get saved. She can come to church all her life. She can get on her knees and cry and ask God to save her a thousand times, but because she was not chosen, she can never be saved. That is Calvinism in a nutshell.

I have never been to one of their services. I do not know what they must sing. A couple of weeks ago, you said, when you were leading it, you sang "Jesus Loves Me." I love that song. "Jesus Loves Me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so." They must sing, "Jesus Loves Me, sorry about you. You are not one of the chosen few." I do not know what they sing. I do not get it. But that is absolutely ludicrous. The Bible teaches over and over and over again that God died for everybody.

Now you want to go one step further what they teach? Now you will have to pin them down on this one because they do not want to make this public. If you believe in Calvinism predestination, if you believe that God actually chose some people to go to heaven and some people go to hell, you see, they do not think they have no Bible doctrine because we know that there are doctrines that go along with salvation. Twelve individual ones we know. No Calvinist ever understood those. But I will tell you another doctrine. It is a doctrine of Romans 7. What about when a baby dies? Now we teach based on Bible doctrine that a baby is under grace, that no sin is imputed to him because he has no knowledge of sin. So if you have a baby and he lives to be two or three years old and he dies or three or four, we believe there is an age where he has to be saved. But certainly a baby two or three, four years old, he dies. We know he goes to heaven. I do not know how many funerals I have done where the mom and dad have rested in the fact that even though they lost their baby at two or three or four years old, they know that baby is in heaven based on the Bible doctrine.

You know what a Calvinist will tell you at their graveside? "Well maybe your kid went or maybe he did not," because they have got to take predestination all the way to the down the line. You cannot just say, "Well you were not predestined and you were under God's grace and then you hit the age of accountability and then predestination kicked in." Uh-uh. It does not work that way. They have to take it all the way down. Now when that baby is born, you have got two babies here, one is three, one is six months, one is eight months and one of them may be predestined to go to heaven and one of them may be not predestined to go to heaven. When that baby dies, could you imagine telling a grieving mother, "Well we cannot say for sure he is in heaven, that little baby might be in hell." Whoa! That is heresy, man, absolute heresy. Are not you glad in that case for Bible doctrine? Amen. Well the front row is anyhow. Are not you glad that Bible doctrine is true? Amen. I am telling you it is crazy stuff.

Now let me talk to you about this thing here. You have got to understand this. Now this heresy starts in 1500 with John Calvin. Who was John Calvin? John Calvin was one of the reformers in the Reformation. John Calvin starts the Presbyterian Church. John Calvin is the guy who first came up with the concept of predestination. Now they want to get around that today and so they put John Calvin out of it and they call it Reformation Theology. Either way it is still stupid. The Reformation took place in 1500. You know the problem they have got? They have got a teaching that did not show up for 500 years after the death of Christ. There is no Calvinism taught in the book of Acts. You do not find anybody on the planet earth who believes in Calvinism in the Bible

believing churches till John Calvin in 1500. 1500 years after Christ, after Christ has been here. It starts with him. That is why they call it, hello, Calvinism. You know why it is called Christianity? Take a guess. Anybody? Christ. You are a Christian. Got the word Christ in it. You know why Christianity is called Christianity? Because it starts with Christ. You know why Calvinism is called Calvinism? Just take a wild shot. It starts with Calvin. Crazy stuff, man. Crazy.

Now let me tell you, give you a little bio on a little Johnny boy here. Once upon a time there was a man named John Calvin. Calvin got his theology from his favorite theologian who was Augustine of Hippo, a Roman Catholic theologian who lived between 354 and 430 AD. Augustine was a Roman Catholic. He subscribed to Jerome's Latin Vulgate, the corrupt New Testament that came up from Constantine about 100 years before. He writes a book. The book that he writes is called City of God. In that book you find the first roots of what Calvin would later take and bring into Protestantism. Because Augustine writes when he writes his book, here is his concept of predestination. City of God. Now when you and I would think of City of God, we would think of where? Jerusalem. Not so with Augustine. For Augustine, Roman Catholic, the City of God was Rome. In his book City of God, he now proclaims that God has predestined Rome to take the place of the nation of Israel and the Jews. That was the concept of the book. He taught that Rome had now taken over all of Jerusalem. And that the Roman Catholic Church was now the only true church, that God was finished with the Jews and God predestined Rome in the Roman Catholicism to take over the world. That was his purpose of his book. Do not take my word for it. Read the book.

Now how would you like to base your theology of your church as a Calvinist on a guy who believed in baby sprinkling, baptismal regeneration, that God was done with the nation of Israel and that Rome was predestined by God who would kill Bible believing Christians at the drop of a hat all down through the dark ages, had their own Bible and believed in no literal of Rome in the second or first time in Christ. But Calvin did. In 1536 Calvin wrote his book based on his love for Augustine. It was called The Institutes of the Christian Religion. This is the first time in 1536 ever entered into Christianity where the concept of God predestinating, looking down through history, bringing somebody, choosing you and not you comes in. It comes in with John Calvin. This is where you find his famous phrase that he hears all the time and Calvinists use it all the time, the sovereignty of God. You know you do not find a phrase, "the sovereignty of God" one time in the Bible anywhere because it is not biblical, it is not a biblical term in the sense that Calvin used it.

Now here is what Calvin believed. If Calvin believed what he wrote, I am not judging a man, I am just going by what he wrote. You can read any one of my books back there which all have sold well under a million copies. You can get one of those books back there and you can read them and when you are done you know what Bob Alexander believes about this. So I am basing off what he wrote, I figure when he wrote this, this is what he believed about what he believed. He believed in baptismal regeneration for salvation. He thought water baptism and a new birth was a mixture. He believed in baby sprinkling. He believed that Christ was a begotten God, not

the eternal Son of God. He also killed Bible believers and he also taught, as I told you a little earlier, that some babies are going to die and go to hell.

Now today all of the great one time leaders of Christianity are becoming Calvinists and you are going to run into it all the time. Many Baptist churches have went that way under the concept of reformation theology. Most Bible colleges are filled with Calvinistic teachers. Dallas Theological Seminary being the main boat today is filled with them. They buy into a heresy that started 500 years after Christ was alive by an unshaved Roman Catholic who wrote what he wrote and then Calvin takes it and then finishes it off and brings it into Protestantism. They have lost their doctrinal roots. They do not understand the true biblical line that brought the salvation that you and I enjoy and have so freely to us. You know Calvin basically wanted to set himself up as the Pope of Protestantism so he starts the Presbyterian Church and every Presbyterian Church on this planet from that point to today will be a Calvinist church. But they are the ones who also bring in the lesbians and homosexuals to be pastors and teachers and think it is a lifestyle. They are progressive like we talked about last week. See that is how it goes.

VII. Major Doctrinal Departures: The Rapture of the Church

➤ Forsaking the Doctrine of the Rapture

Now the fourth one. I never thought that I would ever be preaching on what I am going to preach on this morning from Baptist churches. But this is what happens when you lose your doctrine. You get four or five generations down the line and it all goes to pieces, man. All goes to pieces. We see the losing the aspect of the kingdom of God, the kingdom of heaven. Then you lose the aspect of the eleven dispensations. You cannot divide your Bible upright anymore. Calvinism comes in and takes completely out of everything that any doctrine ends there is absolutely no doctrine in it. It is all fluff. It is all about salvation and the eternal decrees of God of who chose and who did not.

Now we have come to the place where the Baptist churches are coming to the point where they are kicking out the rapture and telling you that the church is not going to go in any rapture because there is no rapture and the church is going through the tribulation period. Obviously, God has thought that up and married several times. He thinks he is in a tribulation period. You see the farther we get from the Bible, the more heresy comes in. A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.

Now in Baptist evangelical circles we have forsaken the greatest doctrine for the church outside of salvation and that is the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ for His people, commonly known as the rapture. Now for 1,900 years the true Bible believers had held the doctrine of the rapture of the church, Christ coming for His bride. The doctrinal passages on it are 1 Corinthians 15:1-58, the whole chapter really, and 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18. Scores of places in the Bible will show you the rapture of the church, directly and indirectly.

Now this heresy is simply based on a complete and total breakdown of truth. This is what happens after four or five generations of just losing any similarity of truth in the Bible. This is what happens when nobody defines everything from the Bible anymore. This is what happens

when somebody writes books and they come up with a new idea and instead of reading your Bible you read their book and you take the book over what the Bible says. That is exactly what happens today. I read a lot of books but every book I read I run through this book. This is my final authority.

A little guy here last year, a year before last, showed up in church when the ladies brought him. He is a nice kid. Came to Bible study a couple of times, came to church, well he actually came for probably two or three months. I think he played volleyball. He is a nice kid. He is coming to church and coming to Bible study and he asked a few little questions. So then he makes an appointment to come over to see me which is great. So he comes over one of the nights and he brings me a book that his pastor wrote and it is a book on why the church is, why there is no rapture and why the church is going through the tribulation period. It took me about 10 seconds to look at the book and it was an absolute joke. It was a book that is completely what I am talking about. It is a thing where the guy had no idea how to rightly divide the word of truth. It was totally heresy based on his inability to be able to lay out the Bible.

He said to me, "Well you believe the rapture of the church?" And I said, "Yes, I do." I am kind, I am a nice guy. I mean you come over and want to have a nice talk about it, I am good. No big deal. He said to me, he said, "Well you believe in the rapture of the church?" And I said, "Yes, I do." He says, "Well," he says, "you are wrong." I said, "Okay." He says, "And I can prove you are wrong." I said, "Okay. I have been wrong many, many times. Just ask my wife." He said, "Well I can prove that there is no rapture in the church and your teaching on it is wrong." I said, "Okay, what?" He said, "Well I will just settle it real quick." I said, "Okay." He says, "Show me the word rapture in the Bible." He has got me. Now what do I do? I said, "Whoa, that is pretty good." I said, "Let me ask you a question. You believe the Bible is the Word of God?" "Absolutely." I said, "Now let me ask you, you believe that the Bible is the absolute Word of God, the Bible?" He says, "Yeah, absolutely, that is just fine. Show me the word Bible in the Bible." I mean you will not play with me with the Bible. You are picking the wrong guy to do it with. I mean you want to come to me because the word is not in there. That means it cannot be true. Well the word Bible is not in there either and you just told me you believe the Bible. So why can you believe the Bible when the word Bible is not in there but I cannot believe the rapture if the word rapture is not in there?

That poor little deluded kid did not even know where the word rapture came from. I know where it came from. I understand where it came from. I mean what does rapture mean? The word. It is an expression of desire of love. It is the existence or expression of joy and pleasure. Did not you ever read Song of Solomon 2? Did you ever read the whole Song of Solomon in the first three chapters? If you do not see the expression of love, but you see that is the problem. When you lose the Bible and you lose the seven things about the Bible then you lose your ability to love God from a biblical standpoint then you cannot understand when you read something like that why the rapture word got put in there by the old Christian down through the history of the church. They gave it that designation because of the fact that it was their expression of the rapture of the love of the deep sentiment and the love that they had for the day God came to them. You do not get it? I will help you get it.

Give me that hymnal right there. You look all bored. Time to sing. Everybody get a hymnal. Everybody. 255. Oh yeah. This guy did not know anything about the rapture because he was involved in a rapture. Here we go. 255. Everybody got it? "Blessed Assurance." Follow it. We are going to sing it. Everybody laugh. It ain't loud enough. I am going to start. Stop. Make it start again. Here we go. I will lead you. Well, verse stands up. "Blessed assurance. Jesus is mine. Oh what a foretaste of glory divine. Heir of salvation. Purchase of God. Born in His spirit. Washed in His blood." Here we go. "This is my story. This is my song. Praising my Savior all the day long. This is my story. This is my song. Praising my Savior all the day long." All right. Second stanza. "Perfect submission. Perfect delight. Visions of what? What? Visions of what?" One more time with feeling. "Visions of what?" Well, somebody got it right. You have got more doctrine than that hymnal he had in his book. You know who wrote that song? Fanny Crosby, 1820. A blind woman could see more than a man with his eyes. "Visions of rapture." Rapture. Rapture. Rapture. Ain't a Bible. Oh boy.

Now let me help you with this. Let me show you how doctrinally you know you, if you are saved here today, are not going through the tribulation period. From the Bible doctrine. Okay? The first thing we will look at is the wrath of God. Because when you go through the tribulation period in the Bible, the Bible, you know what I am talking about. The Bible. The Bible. Revelation 6:17, Revelation 15:1, Revelation 16:1, Revelation 14:19, Revelation 14:10, Isaiah 57:17, Isaiah 64:7, Isaiah 54:18, Psalms 102:1-10. All clearly defined. The wrath of God in the tribulation period is to Israel. That is defined for you in those places. That is good doctrine. That is not this guy's opinion, my opinion, your opinion. The Bible defines the wrath of God in the tribulation period as God pouring out His wrath on the nation of Israel.

All right? Let us see where you and I fit into it. You want some good doctrine? I will give you some good doctrine. 1 Thessalonians 5:9. You know what it says? Right in the context of the tribulation period, it tells you that the church, the body of Christ, is not appointed unto wrath. You are not going through that wrath. Now let me get real simple, and I am going to do a little preaching here because I have not yet, but I am feeling it coming on, feeling it coming on. Now let me tell you why you are not going to go through the tribulation and suffer the wrath that God is going to pour out. Do you know why? I will tell you why, because on the cross of Calvary, God took your wrath. That is why. There is no wrath to put on you. On the cross of Christ, when He died on that cross, the Bible says in Romans 5:9 that I was saved from the wrath of God through Christ. So I am not appointed unto wrath. Now to say that the church will experience God's wrath is a complete collapse of doctrine and understanding of the crucifixion of Christ. If that is where they are all at today, they do not follow the Bible anymore. You will not experience the wrath of God if you are saved because God from the 6th to the 9th hour put the wrath of God on His Son for me and you. He paid it. Now that is how it works.

VIII. Four Biblical Warnings for Preserving Doctrine

Now today you have got a great illustration why we here at Old Paths use the Bible. We believe the Bible. We do not just carry it around as an ornament of conversation on a coffee table. We believe that every decision we make in life has to come from that book. We believe what

Proverbs says in 4:1 that God has given us good doctrine. We believe that doctrine is profitable and is profitable for to show us what is right, correction. We believe that profitable, doctrine is profitable, that it helps you rightly divide the word of truth. That shows you what is right, shows you what is wrong. God always will give you His opinion exactly holy, exactly what it should be. It is your job and my job, certainly my job as the pastor of this church to make sure that everything comes out of my mouth comes out of this book. Everything that I give you is based on the good doctrine of this Bible. Doctrine is teaching. That not just teaching about anything, teaching the specific truth of any particular subject as God lays it out in His word. That is what it is. It is just that simple and we have lost that today.

Now these are the four great doctrines that basically went first. That once they went everything started to go. Now you are seeing it where all the things that 40 years ago we in churches and pastors preached against are now welcome into the church as just part of the progressiveness. Progressive is my eye. When a pastor begins to move from that Bible and leave the great truths that were taught for the last 1,800 years by Bible believing Christians it opens a door or should I say closes the door for the next four or five generations to be able to discern heresy or get into deeper heresy and deeper apostasy.

The greatest, the great principle of degenerational generations takes place. Every generation gets worse than the last. You see it in families. You get a nominal Christian family here that really do not get into the Word of God and do not do what they want to do. I see it all the time. They do not really come to church all the time but there is no real Bible in their home. They will raise their kids and then their kids grow up less involved than the parents do. Where the kids, when the mom and dad maybe did a few things, the kids will do worse things. Their kids will grow up and maybe those kids will get saved but by the time you see it down the line someplace else two or three generations nobody is going to church anymore. Nobody is getting saved. The whole thing is falling apart. You know why? Because somebody simply did not hold the line with the truth of the Word of God.

Now in a family that father has your responsibility. In this church it is my end. And the guy that taught me it was his. And the guy that taught him it was his. And down through history there is an unbroken chain of men and women who will not deviate from the truth of that book that will stand on it that understand what doctrine is and will not compromise their stand on what the Word of God says. Your family is at stake. Your sons and your daughters are at stake.

Now I have given you the complete study on it. A lot of things here we can clean up on Bible study because obviously I did not have the time to go through it the way I wanted to. But I want to leave you with four warnings in the Bible. I want to leave you with four warnings in the Bible. Four warnings in the Bible are not losing what the Bible teaches that God has for you and the consequences when you do. Each one of these will not only affect you in your own life today big time but they will deal with you with the judgment seat of Christ.

Here are four warnings in the Bible:

12. The first one is in Proverbs 5:7-9. It says: Proverbs 5:7-9

Hear me now therefore, O ye children, and depart not from the words of my mouth.

Remove thy way far from her, and come not nigh to the door of her house:

Lest thou give thine honour unto others, and thy years unto the cruel: The first warning is that you are going to give your honor with the judgment seat of Christ to somebody else because you did not stay with the book. You did not stay true to the Word of God that God gave you.

13. I will show you the second one in Revelation 3:10-11. Revelation 3:10-11

Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown. Somebody is going to take your crown. A warning that somebody did not get your crown. Now there are five crowns listed in the Bible. We are going to get into them in a couple of weeks when we get into Proverbs 4. There are crowns in that Bible that you get for certain things that you do and here he is giving you a warning that no man takes those crowns. You get out of the book and somebody takes good doctrine from you and you get messed up in left field, somebody is going to take your crowns.

14. Third one, 2 Timothy 2:5. 2 Timothy 2:5

And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully. There is your crowns. Why is he not crowned except he strived lawfully? Now there is the warning of getting out of the Word of God and not doing it by the book. That is a great verse that shows you that if you are going to serve God or you are going to do anything for God you do it His way, not yours. I as a pastor do not have the right to make up my own doctrine and do what I want to do if it is not conducive to the Word of God, neither do you. When you run lawfully, you run your life, Christian life, by the book. It becomes your standard you go by. It becomes your absolute final authority. It becomes the handbook of who you marry. It becomes the handbook of how you raise your kids. It becomes a handbook of how you run your life. It becomes the handbook of everything you do in your life and you run lawfully and you get crowned.

15. Fourth one, Revelation 16:15. Revelation 16:15

Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame. Now the fourth warning is a warning that somebody, you are going to lose your garments. There is no question about walking naked according to 2 Corinthians 5 and Romans 14:10. That is the judgment seat of Christ.

So those four warnings, the warnings in the Bible that you stay with Bible doctrine because when you lose your Bible you lose seven things. When you lose those seven things you are going to automatically lose these four things. Now these four things are all that really matter right here. These are the things. These things will keep your family. It will keep your marriage. It will keep your home. It will keep your sanity. It will get you through the Obamacare and everybody else's care and the ones that do not care. It will get you through everything in life. The book. That is why we stand on it. That is why I will preach it. That is why I will not compromise my stand on it and that is why I am passionate about it. Next week we will be back right where we need to be, where we left off and pick it up in Proverbs 4. Every head bowed and every eye closed. Now let me ask you a question.