

Critical Condition: Weak Immunity

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1 KINGS 11:14-43

This Week's Core Competency:

Stewardship- I believe that everything I am or own belongs to God.

Instruct those who are rich in the present age not to be arrogant or to set their hope on the uncertainty of wealth, but on God, who richly provides us with all things to enjoy. 18 [Instruct them] to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous, willing to share, 19 storing up for themselves a good foundation for the age to come, so that they may take hold of life that is real. (1 Tim 6:17-19 (HCSB))

Using This Study

❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.

Introduction

Recently, a man named Michael Cohen was mauled by a shark and survived. Apparently, local shark spotters in Cape Town, South Africa sighted a great white shark in the area. They quickly issued the highest level warning, closed the beach, set off the warning siren, and hoisted the white flag prohibiting swimming in the area. Cohen, who regularly swam in the area, ignored the warnings. Reportedly, he was fascinated by sharks.

On this fateful day, Cohen swam out about 50 meters from shore. A great white shark attacked. He lost his right leg above the knee, and suffered traumatic bites to his left leg resulting in amputation of the left leg below the knee. This man is currently in critical condition.

Local beach authorities reported that Cohen regularly disregarded shark warnings. Perhaps the fact that he frequently ignored warnings without any negative consequences served to lull him into a false sense of security. Maybe he thought that his skill as a swimmer meant that he could somehow elude an attack. Perhaps his critical error was that he elevated his fascination with sharks above caution.

Solomon received multiple warnings from God both before and after his grievous plunge into sin. Yet, like Cohen, he ignored them. As God stirred up his enemies, Solomon seemed oddly unmoved. How sad that King Solomon, whose name means peace, traded away

This Week

As you study this passage, consider what sin in your life you may be allowing or even justifying. Sin hardens your heart, obscures your view of God, and steals away your thirst for a relationship with Him. Do not, as Solomon did, ignore the warnings that God graciously places in your life. Confess your sins and ask God to bring you cleansing and renewal.

🕒 EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the passage.

Read 1 Kings 11: 14-34

14 So the Lord raised up Hadad the Edomite as an enemy against Solomon. He was of the royal family in Edom.

15 Earlier, when David was in Edom, Joab, the commander of the army, had gone to bury the dead and had struck down every male in Edom.

16 For Joab and all Israel had remained there six months, until he had killed every male in Edom.

17 Hadad fled to Egypt, along with some Edomites from his father's servants. At the time Hadad was a small boy.

18 Hadad and his men set out from Midian and went to Paran. They took men with them from Paran and went to Egypt, to Pharaoh King of Egypt, who gave Hadad a house, ordered that he [be given] food, and gave him land.

19 Pharaoh liked Hadad so much that he gave him a wife, the sister of his own wife, Queen Tahpenes.

20 Tahpenes' sister gave birth to Hadad's son Genubath. Tahpenes [herself] weaned him in Pharaoh's palace, and Genubath [lived] there along with Pharaoh's sons.

21 When Hadad heard in Egypt that David rested with his fathers and that Joab, the commander of the army, was dead, Hadad said to Pharaoh, "Let me leave, so I can go to my own country."

22 But Pharaoh asked him, "What do you lack here with me for you to want to go back to your own country?"

"Nothing," he replied, "but please let me leave."

23 God rose up Rezon son of Eliada as an enemy against Solomon. Rezon had fled from his master Hadadezer king of Zobah

24 and gathered men to himself. He became captain of a raiding party when David killed the Zobaites. He went to Damascus, lived there, and became king in Damascus.

25 Rezon was Israel's enemy throughout Solomon's reign, adding to the trouble Hadad [had caused]. He ruled over Aram, but he loathed Israel.

26 Now Solomon's servant, Jeroboam son of Nebat, was an Ephraimite from Zeredah. His widowed mother's name was Zeruah. Jeroboam rebelled against Solomon,

27 and this is the reason he rebelled against the king: Solomon had built the supporting terraces [and] repaired the opening in the wall of the city of his father David.

28 Now the man Jeroboam was capable, and Solomon noticed the young man because he was getting things done. So he appointed him over the entire labor force of the house of Joseph.

29 During that time, the prophet Ahijah the Shilonite met Jeroboam on the road as Jeroboam came out of Jerusalem. Now Ahijah had wrapped himself with a new cloak, and the two of them were alone in the open field.

30 Then Ahijah took hold of the new cloak he had on, tore it into 12 pieces,

31 and said to Jeroboam, "Take 10 pieces for yourself, for this is what the Lord God of Israel says: 'I am about to tear the kingdom out of Solomon's hand. I will give you 10 tribes,

32 but one tribe will remain his because of my servant David and because of Jerusalem, the city I chose out of all the tribes of Israel.

33 For they have abandoned Me; they have bowed the knee to Ashtoreth, the goddess of the Sidonians, to Chemosh, the god of Moab, and to Milcom, the god of the Ammonites. They have not walked in My ways to do right in My eyes and to carry out My statutes and My judgments as his father David did.

34 " 'However, I will not take the whole kingdom from his hand but will let him be ruler all the days of his life because of My servant David, whom I chose and who kept My commandments and My statutes.

35 I will take 10 tribes of the kingdom from his son's hand and give them to you.

36 I will give one tribe to his son, so that My servant David will always have a lamp before Me in Jerusalem, the city I chose for Myself to put My name there.

37 I will appoint you, and you will reign as king over all you want, and you will be king over Israel.

38 “ ‘After that, if you obey all I command you, walk in My ways, and do what is right in My sight in order to keep My statutes and My commandments as My servant David did, I will be with you. I will build you a lasting dynasty just as I built for David, and I will give you Israel.

39 I will humble David's descendants, because of [their unfaithfulness] , but not forever.’ ”

40 Therefore, Solomon tried to kill Jeroboam, but he fled to Egypt, to Shishak king of Egypt, where he remained until Solomon's death.

Solomon's Death

41 The rest of the events of Solomon's [reign] , along with all his accomplishments and his wisdom, are written about in the Book of Solomon's Events.

42 The length of Solomon's reign in Jerusalem over all Israel totaled 40 years.

43 Solomon rested with his fathers and was buried in the city of his father David. His son Rehoboam became king in his place.

EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN?

1. Read 1 Kings 11:14-43

a) The Lord raised up enemies against Solomon. Who were they and why did God do this?

b) Solomon's name means “peace.” Do you think his name is significant?

c) Was the Lord responsible for the evil that resulted from these adversaries?

2. What natural qualities did Jeroboam possess?

3. a) What did Ahijah, the prophet, tell Jeroboam that God had promised to give to him?

b) What conditions did the Lord attach to His promises?

- c) What did God withhold from Jeroboam and why?
4. Consider Solomon's reaction to God's discipline. What was Solomon's response? (Verse 40)
5. a) God disciplines believers when they have sin in their lives. What is God's object or intent when He disciplines believers?

b) What do the following scripture suggest about God's discipline?

Proverbs 3:11-12

Hebrew 12:6-11

- c) How are you like Solomon, trying to eliminate trouble or the unwanted consequences without asking God to address your heart?
- d) How can you avoid becoming angry or upset and/or trying to blame others?
6. What practical steps could you take to humble yourself and truly repent? (Revelation 3:19)

③ EMBRACE His Word

Why does this MATTER to me?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage:

Write about what God wants you to KNOW...

Write about how God wants you to FEEL...

Write about what God wants you to DO...

Sermon Notes

30 CORE Competencies

10 Core Beliefs

Trinity *2 Corinthians 13:14*

I believe the God of the Bible is the only true God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Salvation by Grace *Ephesians 2:8-9* I believe a person comes into a right relationship with God by His grace, through faith in Jesus Christ.

Authority of the Bible *2 Timothy 3:16-17*

I believe the Bible is the Word of God and has the right to command my belief and action.

Personal God *Psalms 121:1-2*

I believe God is involved in and cares about my daily life.

Identity in Christ *John 1:12*

I believe I am significant because of my position as a child of God.

Church *Ephesians 4:15-16*

I believe the church is God's primary way to accomplish His purposes on earth today.

Humanity *John 3:16*

I believe all people are loved by God and need Jesus Christ as their Savior.

Compassion *Psalms 82:3-4*

I believe God calls all Christians to show compassion to those in need.

Eternity *John 14:1-4*

I believe there is a heaven and a hell and that Jesus Christ is returning to judge the earth and to establish His eternal kingdom.

Stewardship *1 Timothy 6:17-19*

I believe that everything I am or own belongs to God.

10 Core Practices

Worship *Psalms 95:1-7*

I worship God for who He is and what He has done for me.

Prayer *Psalms 66:16-20*

I pray to God to know Him, to lay my request before Him and to find direction for my daily life.

Bible Study *Hebrews 4:12*

I read the Bible to know God, the truth, and to find direction for my daily life.

Single-mindedness *Matthew 6:33* I focus on God and His priorities for my life.

Spiritual Gifts *Romans 12:4-6*

I know and use my spiritual gifts to accomplish God's purposes.

Biblical Community *Acts 2:44-47*

I live life with other Christians to accomplish God's purposes in the world.

Giving Away My Time *Colossians 3:17*

I give away my time to fulfill God's purposes.

Giving Away My Money *2 Corinthians 8:7*

I give away my money to fulfill God's purposes.

Giving Away My Faith *Ephesians 6:19-20*

I give away my faith to fulfill God's purposes.

Giving Away My Life *Romans 12:1*

I give away my life to fulfill God's purposes.

10 Core Virtues

Joy *John 15:11*

I have inner contentment and purpose in spite of my circumstances.

Peace *Philippians 4:6-7*

I am free from anxiety because things are right between God, me, and others.

Faithfulness *Proverbs 3:3-4*

I demonstrate loyalty in my relationships with others in response to God's loyalty to me.

Self-Control *Titus 2:11-13*

I have the power, through Christ, to control myself.

Humility *Philippians 2:3, 4*

I choose to esteem others above myself.

Love *1 John 4:10-12*

I sacrificially and unconditionally love and forgive others.

Patience *Proverbs 14:29*

I endure patiently under the unavoidable pressures of life.

Kindness/Goodness *1 Thess. 5:15*

I choose to do the right things in my relationships with others.

Gentleness *Philippians 4:5*

I am thoughtful, considerate and calm in dealing with others.

Hope *Hebrews 6:19-20*

I can cope with the hardships of life and with death because of the hope I have in Jesus Christ