

REMOVE NOT THE ANCIENT LANDMARK PROVERBS 22:28

Text: Proverbs 22:28

Proverbs 22:28

²⁸ Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set.

Introduction:

There is a new religion in America today. It's not the old time religion, but rather it's a lifeless, social religion. It has all the trimmings and trappings of Christianity, but without the power from days gone by.

Paul warned of these things in his letter to Timothy.

Note:

2 Timothy 3:1-5

¹This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. ²

For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, ³

Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, ⁴ Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

⁵ Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof:
from such turn away.

Churches today have adopted the slogans and idea of the fast food industry:

Some have adopted this philosophy – Have it your way.

- ❖ Just do what you want to do.
- ❖ Just commit to as much or little that you want to.
- ❖ Just give what you want to give.
- ❖ Have it your way.

Some have adopted this philosophy – Hold the pickles and hold the lettuce.

- ❖ Don't preach on issues, and sin especially my pet sin.
- ❖ I would rather feel good about myself than be convicted.
- ❖ I choose what I will hear and what I will heed from God's Word.
- ❖ Hold the pickles and hold the lettuce.

Some have adopted this philosophy – We do it all for you.

- ❖ I'd rather be served instead of serve.
- ❖ Someone else can do it.

Some have adopted this philosophy – The thirty-minute guarantee.

- ❖ Many want to fit God into our schedules.
- ❖ Many want to have a shot sweet service.

We have programs, promotions, personalities, but little or no power.

Why?

Part of the problem is that many of the ancient landmarks are being removed and replaced with things that are unstable.

Some examples are:

- Biblical correctness has been replaced with political correctness.
- Purity has been replaced with promiscuity.

- Commitment has been replaced by convenience.
- Sweet hour of prayer has been replaced with just a little talk with Jesus.
- Preaching has been replaced by teaching.
- Holiness has been replaced by entertainment.

There is one landmark that has been attacked, scrutinized, and criticized. That landmark is the Word of God.

Let's consider the results of removing the ancient landmark.

Proverbs 22:28

²⁸ Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set.

1. CHARACTERISTICS

- A. It's a singular landmark.
- B. It's a sacred landmark. (Ancient)
- C. It's a set landmark.

2. COMMAND – REMOVE NOT

Deuteronomy 19:14

¹⁴ Thou shalt not remove thy neighbour's landmark, which they of

old time have set in thine inheritance, which thou shalt inherit in the land that the LORD thy God giveth thee to possess it.

Deuteronomy 22:28

²⁸ If a man find a damsel *that is* a virgin, which is not betrothed, and lay hold on her, and lie with her, and they be found;

Deuteronomy 23:10

¹⁰ If there be among you any man, that is not clean by reason of uncleanness that chanceth him by night, then shall he go abroad out of the camp, he shall not come within the camp:

3. CAUSE

A landmark:

- A. Provides direction
- B. Provides ownership

Parents need not surrender ownership of their:

- Children and Young people
- Faith and faithfulness

Churches need not surrender ownership of their:

- Convictions
- Ministry

- Right Motive

C. Provides protection – City of refuge

D. Provides identification – Whose side you're on and what crowd you identify with.

4. CURSE

Job 24:2

² *Some* remove the landmarks; they violently take away flocks, and feed *thereof*.

Deuteronomy 27:14-26

¹⁴ And the Levites shall speak, and say unto all the men of Israel with a loud voice, ¹⁵ Cursed *be* the man that maketh *any* graven or molten image, an abomination unto the LORD, the work of the hands of the craftsman, and putteth *it* in *a* secret *place*. And all the people shall answer and say, Amen. ¹⁶ Cursed *be* he that setteth light by his father or his mother. And all the people shall say, Amen. ¹⁷ Cursed *be* he that removeth his neighbour's landmark. And all the people shall say, Amen. ¹⁸ Cursed *be* he that maketh the blind to wander out of the way. And all the people shall say, Amen. ¹⁹ Cursed *be* he that perverteth the judgment of the stranger, fatherless, and widow. And all the people shall say, Amen. ²⁰ Cursed *be* he that lieth with his father's wife; because he uncovereth his father's skirt. And all the people shall say, Amen. ²¹ Cursed *be* he that lieth with any manner of beast. And all the people shall say, Amen. ²² Cursed *be* he that lieth with his sister, the daughter of his father, or the daughter of his mother. And all the people shall say, Amen. ²³ Cursed *be* he that lieth with his mother in law. And all the people shall say, Amen. ²⁴ Cursed *be* he that smiteth his neighbour secretly. And all the people shall say, Amen. ²⁵ Cursed *be* he that taketh reward to slay an innocent person. And all the people shall say, Amen. ²⁶

Cursed *be* he that confirmeth not *all* the words of this law to do them. And all the people shall say, Amen.

There is loss (Flock and Feed) and a curse when the landmark is removed.

Close:

We need to get back to God's Word in our homes, churches, and in our country.

Some here today have neglected it, and others have ignored it. Our church needs people who will not remove the ancient landmark, or restore those that have been removed.