

A NAIL IN A SURE PLACE

ISAIAH 22:15-25

Text: Isa 22:23, 25

(Isa 22:23) "And I will fasten him as a nail in a sure place; and he shall be for a glorious throne to his father's house."

(Isa 22:25) "In that day, saith the LORD of hosts, shall the nail that is fastened in the sure place be removed, and be cut down, and fall; and the burden that was upon it shall be cut off: for the LORD hath spoken it."

Introduction:

The office occupied by Shebna under the reign of Hezekiah was going to be taken from him and Eliakim was going to be invested with it. Isaiah stated that he was going to be nail on which others would hang. The word nail is used to here to allude to the support, which Elikam would yield to all his dependent relations. Elikam was to be a nail on which others would rely upon. He was to be a nail on which his descendants would hang.

Now the nail that is referred to here is a not a nail that one would drive into the walls with a hammer or a mallet, but a spike or large peg that would be fixed into

the walls of the house when the hose was building. It would be placed into the mortar of the walls while still soft. The care with which they were fixed manifests the importance they were meant to serve. It was a peg on which reliance could be placed. On such a peg or nail armor, shields, helmets, swords, and spoils of war were hung. Sacred and precious trust would rest on these nails.

If that nail gave way (25), all that hangs upon it will fall.

As a Christian, we are all nails to someone else. Someone else is hanging on us. If you fall, all those than hang upon you fall. Sunday School teacher, you are a nail that little boys and girls are relying on. Everyone here this morning is a nail on which some one else is relying upon. Parents, you are the nail that your children are trusting on.

Grandparents, you may be the nail that your grandchildren are hanging on. Brother or sister, you may be the nail that your other brothers and sisters are hanging on. If you give way, all that hangs upon you will fall. We all are a nail that someone is depending on.

Abraham went down to Egypt, and Lot his nephew depending on him went as well. Egypt was not the place of God's leading for Abraham. But while Abraham was there Lot got his first taste for the Egypt and when

the time came to choose the land he wanted, Lot chose Sodom because it was like the land of Egypt. Where did Lot learn about Egypt? From the man on whom was his nail.

When Lot went to Sodom, his family followed. He was their nail, and when he fell, all that hung upon him fell.

When Elimelech went to Moab because there was a famine in the land, his wife Naomi and his two sons went with him because he was their nail.

When Jeroboam their first king of the divided nation of Israel fell into idolatry and began his worship of golden calves, the whole nation fell with him. He had much hanging on him and when he pulled out and fell all that hung upon him fell.

When the ten spies that brought back the evil report of the giants in the land of promise and their inability to conquer them, the whole nation fell to enter the promise land because they were hanging upon the nail of their report.

When the nail holds its place, then that which hangs upon it holds its place, but if the nail pulls out, then that which hangs upon the nail goes with it. I have seen the truth of what I am telling you repeatedly. "None of us liveth to himself."

(Rom 14:7) "For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself."

People trust you. Will you let them fall?

Oh, the importance of a little nail.

1. MUST BE ANCHORED IN THE SOVEREIGN PLACE

We must choose the Saviour's Will over Self's Will

God Has A Will For Your Life.

A. Salvation

(2 Pet 3:9) "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

B. Spirit Filled

(Eph 5:18) "And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;"

C. Sanctification

(1 Th 4:3-4) "For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication:

{4} That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour;"

(1 Th 4:7) "For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness."

D. Submissive

(1 Pet 2:13-15) "Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; {14} Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well. {15} For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men:"

E. Singing

(1 Th 5:18) "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

(Heb 13:15) "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name."

(Psa 40:2-3) "He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. {3} And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD."

F. Serving

(Rom 12:1-3) "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. {2} And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. {3} For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith."

2. MUST BE ANCHORED IN THE SURE PLACE

A. God's Word

(Psa 119:89) "For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven."

(1 Pet 1:24-25) "For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: {25} But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you."

1. Irrevocably True
2. Irreversibly Inspired

3. Irresistibly Convincing

The successfulness of the nail is entirely dependent upon the substance into which it is driven. The nail finds its strength in that which it is anchored. We need to anchor ourselves deep into the Word of God. The sheet-rock of the world will give way, but the eternal Word will hold.

3. BE ANCHORED IN A SPECIAL PLACE

The nail that we have looked at this morning was anchored in a special place. A place where people could rely on and a place that was readily available.

A. The Church

(1 Tim 3:15) "But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth."

1. To forsake the house of God is doing away with that which can give us stability and a steadfast place to anchor.

(Heb 10:23-25) "Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)" {24} And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: {25} Not

forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."

Close:

Someone is hanging on you. If you fall, they will fall. If the nail falls, it takes everything that hangs upon it down.

Dad if you fall you wife and children will fall Mom if you fall your children will certainly follow Teacher if you fall your pupils or students will fall Brother if you fall many will be affected Sister if you fall many will be effected.

May I beseech you this morning to make sure you are anchored in the sovereign, sure, special place because of those who are hanging on you.