

Stop The Tragedy

#0929

Study given by W.D. Frazee—January 14, 1967

[Singing.]

Jesus climbed the lonely road up Calvary,
And He bore the heavy cross to set me free,
But He fainted 'neath the load, how can it be,
That the Savior would have borne it just for me.

I can never understand His love for me,
For to Him I was a bitter enemy,
O, forever it will be a mystery,
That my Savior would have died for only me.

O, they nailed Him to the cross by men's decree,
Yes, they crucified God's Son so shamefully,
And they gave Him gall to drink, how can it be,
That the Savior would have suffered just for me.

I can never understand His love for me,
For to Him I was a bitter enemy,
O, forever it will be a mystery,
That my Savior would have died for only me.

O, behold Him hanging there in infamy,
See the haughty priest, the scowling Pharisee,
See the crown of thorns He wears, how can it be,
That the Savior would have worn it just for me.

I can never understand His love for me,
For to Him I was a bitter enemy,
O, forever it will be a mystery,
That my Savior would have died for only me.

See the darkness that descends on Calvary,
See the lightning flash, the earth quake violently,
Hear His bitter, dying cry of agony,
And to think He would have died for only me.

I can never understand His love for me,
For to Him I was a bitter enemy,
O, forever it will be a mystery,
That my Savior would have died for only me.

“...and gave Himself for me” Galatians 2:20.

“The relations between God and each soul are as distinct and full as though there were not another soul upon the earth...” *Steps to Christ*, page 100.

My dear friends, if that isn't so, we'd just as well forget all about religion. If it *is* so, it's time to forget everything else.

“...God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified [and is become dead] unto me, and I unto the world” Galatians 6:14.

We're in a world of tragedy. There is only one answer to the problem. It lies in the sanctuary in the work that our great High Priest is doing at the mercy seat. He has entered there to put an end to sin—to put away sin, by the sacrifice of Himself, and everything on this planet calls, if we have ears to hear. The whole creation groaneth, filled with pain, longing for the redemption hour.

But right at this time, when every reasonable mind would be thinking of the only solution to earth's problems, there are hardly any reasonable minds left. The multitudes are intoxicated with the wine of Babylon, and those whose minds are tranquilized by the many, many agents that the enemy has today to dull the thinking, to interfere with the circuits in those 10 billion brain cells—those whose minds are thus affected—ah, my friends, they miss the message of warning.

When that great hurricane hit the gulf coast a few days ago, a sheriff came to a place where a group of people were gathered together. They knew—they had heard on the radio and over the TV the warnings, but they had gathered together in a big house to have a hurricane party. They were celebrating. The sheriff came in and told them this was the last warning—they'd better leave and leave now—and they laughed and went on with the party.

Lacking authority to forcibly take them away, but seeking to do his duty, he asked each one of them to give him the name and address of their next of kin, and laughingly they complied. In a few hours, my friends, that building was in ruins and every one of those 17 people perished.

I have to believe, for I wouldn't know how to believe anything else, that they must have been intoxicated. Oh, I do not know whether it was with ethyl alcohol or something else. The Devil has many ways to benumb the sensibilities and confuse the thinking of people today.

I wonder if there's anyone here tonight that fails to catch the import of the messages of warning that God is sending in this solemn hour. If so, ask God to help you to get off of every practice—physical or mental or spiritual—that might dull the mind. The hurricane, the final hurricane, is on its way, my friends.

But no one needs to suffer, for in Hebrews, the sixth chapter, we read some good news. Oh, I'm thankful for it tonight, my friends—thankful for the good news.

But there was only one way that there could be good news for those people down on the gulf coast the other night—that was for them to find a place of refuge. That’s the position you and I are in.

Hebrews 6:18:

“That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have...”
Hebrews 6:18.

What?

“...fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us”
Hebrews 6:18.

My dear friends, there are times when it’s cowardice to flee, but there are times when it’s stupidity to do anything else. This is a time to flee—to flee from the wrath to come. But you and I have a strong consolation. We who have done what?

“...fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us”
Hebrews 6:18.

Where shall we flee? Where will we find this hope? The 19th verse:

“Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil; Whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec”
Hebrews 6:19-20.

Our refuge is within the veil. There is hope and certainty in nothing earthly. What men call security is transient and uncertain. This is true of everything that men are building their hopes on.

But there is one place of settled glory whence comes the voice of God. We who shall soon hear that voice echoing down through the corridors of Orion, in earth’s last war, must learn to hear that voice now as we look to the mercy seat where the One who sits upon the throne of the universe, from His great and calm eternity, is ordering that which His providence sees best for all who will let Him order their lives.

Is He running your life, my friend? Is He? Is your hope anchored there with Him within the veil? If so, do you not agree with me that this is the time to have done with lesser things and live for just one thing—to help Him finish the work there and bring an end to the tragedy of sin on this planet. What do you say?

I was thinking about it this week, and I wrote this little sentence down in my notebook—“If you are going to be different at all, you must be different in all.” We’ve come to that hour. And what do I mean by that? I mean that the world is being

rapidly sucked into a whirlpool of conformity, diverse in its manifestations but all tending to one end—the sink hole of perdition.

Concerning those who unite with the enemy of God in this last war that brings down the curtain on human history, it is written:

“These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast” Revelation 17:13.

Oh, I know there are all sorts of riots, many kinds of strife. I know that it’s difficult to find a single campus that is not infected with debate, difference, and yet, my friends, with that superficial manifestation of disunity and disharmony, there is growing more and more in this world a corrupt harmony in departing from the law of God.

This is the common denominator of the highbrow and the lowbrow. This is what ties together the man who sits in his ivory tower and thinks that he is so wise that he doesn’t need God, and the agitator on the street who takes the weapons of violence in his hands and starts to tear things to pieces.

There is a corrupt harmony based on disrespect of, disloyalty to, rebellion against, the law of God, and this not only unites all the world today. It is linked with a wicked chain to the inception of sin in the courts of heaven before this world was created.

The enemy of God and man has grown more and more fierce, yet more and more subtle, as he manifests that enmity against that holy law. He has introduced many ways of confusing the minds of men so that in one way or another they will break that law, but in this hour God is going to reveal to this universe, as they watch this planet, a group of people in whose hearts the divine law is written and in whose lives the divine law is demonstrated.

This is the purpose of our Savior’s work here in the sanctuary above. As the service of the sanctuary centers in the most holy place, our minds are directed to that holy law, written with the finger of God upon the tables of stone. Oh, I hope it’s being written in your heart. If it is, you’re finding more and more delight in doing what it says, not for fear of punishment, not from hope of reward, but for love’s sake.

Speaking prophetically through David, Christ Himself says:

“I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart” Psalm 40:8.

Ah, friends, this is all it takes to have peace in a world of confusion. This is all it takes to have hope in a world of fear and uncertainty. It is to link with Jesus in the sanctuary and have our anchor fixed within the veil, to have this law written in our hearts, and to know that our names are written on His hands.

But this means an entire separation from the world. You see, dear friends, in this great war, this great battle, there have been two great cities down through

history. One is Babylon. Historic Babylon was on the Euphrates. You remember that Nimrod, the great grandson of Noah, built a great tower in rebellion against God. His plan was a regimented kingdom in which all the world should be united in loyalty to man and disloyalty to the King of heaven.

But God scattered them abroad, as He broke down the tower and confused their language. Therefore, was the name of it called Babel—confusion—and what the Hebrew calls Babel, the Greek calls Babylon. They are one and the same.

So Babylon, confusion, has been the synonym and symbol of the kingdom of Satan all down through the history, as the Bible brings it to view, and what literal Babylon was in the Old Testament, mystic Babylon becomes in the New Testament. No longer is she situated on a river over there in Ur of the Chaldees in Mesopotamia, but she spreads herself over the entire earth and she gives the nations to drink of the wine of her wrath.

But against that city, in opposition to all that rebellion, the people of God through the ages have looked to Zion, Jerusalem, the city of peace. You remember that Abraham back there in the days when he was called from the old Euphrates region found his home in Canaan, and returning from that great battle in which he rescued Lot and his family, he was met by Melchisedec, to whom he gave tithes of all.

Melchisedec was priest of the most high God, and do you remember what Moses, writing in Genesis, says his home was? He was king of what? Salem. Yes, he was at Jerusalem. And as Babel or Babylon means confusion, Salem, Jerusalem, means the city of peace.

Which of these two is your home, my friends. Of which of these cities are you a citizen? Which claims your loyalty—Zion, Jerusalem, the city of peace, or Babel, Babylon, the city of confusion.

It isn't hard to tell where the multitudes of this world are found today, is it? Could you find a better name—confusion? That's why the book of Revelation, describing our modern day, when religion of all kinds and many kinds, is spreading through the world and yet teaching rebellion against the law of God—it calls it all Babylon.

But the Bible says Babylon is fallen—Revelation 14:8. And in Revelation 18, we hear that cry repeated with the added urgent invitation:

“...Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues” Revelation 18:4.

As Abraham was called from old Babylonia, God is calling His people out today. As the angels visited Sodom to urge Lot and his family out of the doomed city before the fire fell, God is warning us today. But, ah, so many party on, as those people at the hurricane party down on the gulf coast did the other day.

Oh, I thank God, friends, that there will be a few today, as there were in the days of Noah and in the days of Lot, who listened instead of lingering, who flee for refuge instead of tarrying to have a party and to be consumed.

Do you see what I mean, friends, when I say that what we are presenting—if it is not so, we just as well forget this whole message. If it *is* so, we must forget everything else.

Paul said, in the urgency of the preaching of the Gospel in the first century:

“For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified” 1 Corinthians 2:2.

As one of the modern translations puts it:

“I determined when among you to be utterly ignorant on every other subject” 1 Corinthians 2:2 (translation).

And yet, oh, how many of the professing citizens of Zion are drinking of the wine of Babylon. How many are seeking to become learned in so many sciences except the science of salvation.

My plea tonight, dear friends, is that we do now what we will wish we had done when the hurricane breaks in all its fury. Some of you remember that vision—you’ll find it in *Volume 9*—where large balls of fire were seen falling among some beautiful mansions, causing their instant destruction. Voices of agony were heard.

And then the Lord's messenger heard somebody say, We knew the judgments of God were coming, but we didn't know they were coming so soon. And then, other voices broke out in wailing, saying, You knew, and you didn't tell us. We didn't know. Do you see what I mean, friends? Let us do *now* what we will soon wish we had done. It's our privilege.

Just one thing to do now, friends—study this law and let it be written in our hearts, bring the sins we find in our lives to Jesus, to the sanctuary, and let the Lamb of God bear them away. Let the great High Priest sprinkle the blood for us, and then on with the message to others and still others.

We wish we could get them all, but we're thankful, friends, for every one that will listen and respond. What do you say? For every one is worth Calvary. Everyone is so precious that, if that one had been the only one, Jesus would have come.

It is almost trite today to say that life is uncertain. I was impressed anew with it this afternoon, as a long distance telephone call came to me, and four people who were on their way to this meeting—as far as I know, they've never been to this campus before—were involved in an automobile accident, skidded on the highway, the automobile hit a telephone pole, and they're in the hospital now. We thank the Lord their lives were spared.

Dear friends, every one of us who's sitting here, is here by the providence of God. Think, friend, something could have happened to keep you from being here, as those four dear people who, a few hours ago, were planning to be here in this meeting tonight and are in the hospital instead. Something could have happened.

Why are *you* here? I believe that God has a purpose in your being here tonight. I know He wants you to hear this message, and I'm just as certain as can be, friend, that it means some changes in your life.

Somebody says, Well, Brother Frazee, do you think everybody here needs to make some changes. Yes, friends, I do. There are two kinds of changes that need to be made here tonight. If you've been going in the wrong direction, the change is obvious. You need to turn around—turn your back to Babylon and your face to Zion, and do it now. Do you see?

But if you've been journeying heavenward, if your back is toward the world and your face toward Jesus, in the light of the urgency of the hour, would you expect me to say anything less than this—the change we need to make is a change of pace. We need to get out of low gear and get moving. We need to *run* the way of God's commandments.

Changes that used to take years in our lives should only take a very short time now. The place to find those changes is studying the law of God, with the magnifying glass of the Bible, on our knees, asking God to reveal to us His will.

"The straight-edge of the law," Phillips translates Romans 3:20:

"...indeed it is the straight-edge of the Law that shows us how crooked we are" Romans 3:20 (J.B. Phillips New Testament).

Line up your life—the best of you, line up your life with this holy law, and you will see some further changes that God wants to make in your life. How long will you put them off, my friends? Till the hurricane breaks?

Believe me, the final crisis will *reveal* character, but it will not *change* character. It will reveal character, but it will not change character. Today, thank God, this very hour, praise His name, there is still opportunity to flee for refuge, to come by faith to the sanctuary, to bring our sins and lay them on the Lamb, to leave behind everything in this world, and with alacrity, press our way into a close experience with God.

Just last night, I was telling some folks that I thank the Lord that ladder that Jacob saw, not only reached to heaven, it reached right down where Jacob was, and I want to assure you, my dear friend, wherever you are tonight, the ladder reaches right where you are.

But the purpose of the vision of the ladder is not to encourage you to lie there sleeping on the sand. Oh, no. Up and away, my friend. Let's climb the steps with Jesus. What do you say? Let's go with the angels.

But remember—and don't let the Devil confuse you on this—the ladder reaches where you are. I mean by that, that nobody is so sinful, nobody is so confused, nobody is so involved in Babylon, that there's no way out for you. The Devil would like to make you think that, but it's a lie. He's a liar and a murderer. Where you are, if you will reach out your hand to Jesus, He'll take you and lift you up. Where you are, if you'll call upon the name of the Lord, you can be delivered.

And you, who have known something of that wonderful love and want to move farther and faster, clasp His hand a little tighter and say, Lord, you have slowed your pace to my slow movements. I'm ready now to quicken my pace to match your anxiety to get this over with.

Do you see, friends? And God will hear us. Whether we're coming for the first time or the hundredth time, you and I can come to Jesus tonight and anchor within the veil and get a vision of what He's doing to end the confusion of this world, that will make it possible for us to accomplish more this coming week than any past week of our lives.

Wouldn't you like to do that? Wouldn't you? If a literal hurricane were about to devastate this whole area within the next week, aren't there some things you'd like to do to warn some souls and get them ready to meet life's record right? Aren't there?

Ah, friends, the literal hurricane that comes with rain and water may not devastate where you are living this coming week, but just over the hill, just around the corner, are judgments of all kinds that the human pen cannot describe and the human mind cannot imagine.

We're told that there have been times when people have exaggerated stories of what has happened or their expectations have been exaggerated, but we're told that this is not the case of the ordeal ahead—that the most vivid imagination cannot picture the severity of the ordeal.

So, whatever you would do, could you live through the future and come back to this hour—whatever you *would* do, do now, friends, and you'll thank God all through eternity.

But, you know, the greatest reason for gathering with Him at the sanctuary is not that we may escape tragedy. If you'll understand me right, I will tell you this. It is not even that we may be used to help somebody else. The greatest reason is this, the greatest reason is this—it's costing Jesus oh so much to hold back the floodtide of wrath a little longer so that this work can be finished.

When we realize what it is costing Him, for His dear sake, we'll want to forsake everything that would interfere in the slightest degree and press in to help Him. Do you see?

If a loved one, very dear to you, was on a hospital bed in deep pain, and you had in your hand that which would bring relief, would you go? How fast would you go? How many places would you stop on the way to visit and have a party?

Do you see what I mean, friends? Jesus, who bears the pain and sorrow of this world, has put it in our hands, through cooperation with Him, to bring this scene of misery to an end. As we give up our sins and unite with Him to save others, we not only accomplish these two wonderful things, but most of all and best of all and most important of all, we ease the pain of His heart and help to bring to an end the sorrow that has burdened Him for 6,000 years.

What message shall we send Him tonight, friends? What message shall we send Him? If it were money that would give the answer, how much would you give? If it took all, would it be worth it?

You know, when our daughter was just a little girl, one evening I was visiting with her, and I said, Daddy would like to share a little secret with you. You'll understand it might not happen, but it might. And of course, she wanted to know what the secret was, and I said, Daddy might get a new car. His car is getting rather old and Daddy might get a new car.

Oh, she said, Daddy, wouldn't that cost a lot of money? Yes, I said, it would cost quite a bit of money. And she thought a minute, and she said, Daddy, if you do that, I'll give you all my money.

A few days later, I was sitting and she came in the room where I was and she had a package all done up in brown paper she'd folded together, and she stood there while I unwrapped it. She loved to wrap things up. And I opened it, and there was a dollar bill, and of course, I thanked her.

But she said, That's not all, Daddy, and so she took the dollar and the brown paper and went back to her little room. Presently, she came back and the package was all wrapped up, and she stood there while I opened it again, and there was two dollars, and of course, I thanked her.

She said, But that's not all, Daddy, and bless her little heart, back to her room she went, and presently she appeared again, and there was the package all wrapped up. And again, she waited while I opened it, and there were the two dollars, and a quarter, and some nickels and pennies, and she waited while I counted it out—\$2.54. She said, Daddy, that's all.

Oh, my dear friends, how much will you give, not in money, but in your life blood—in the energy of your soul? How much will you give to make it possible for Jesus to finish His work as Priest and begin His reign as King? How much will you give of your life's efforts to finishing the tragedy of sin and ushering in the reign of everlasting love. How much will you give to make Jesus happy?

Do you see now what I mean when I say, If this isn't so, we'd just as well forget it all, but if this *is* so, it's time to forget everything else. Do you agree with me? Will you do it? Will you give up the ambitions that might belong to someone who

didn't know what we've learned tonight? And will you determine that your life, your property, your money, your future, everything is laid on the altar to be consumed in sacrifice or used in service, as His providence shall direct.

If you mean business, friends, it may mean a martyr's death. That's all right. If you mean business, the Devil will use you for a target, and God will let him do it. That's part of the demonstration. If you mean business, you may burn out in service for Him. That's all right. Twelve men answered the call 2,000 years ago. One died a suicide in rebellion against his Maker. Of the rest, all but one died a martyr's death in sacrifice for the Master.

I'm sure there's somebody here tonight that God is talking to and says, Yes, brother, God is talking to me. Is there somebody here tonight that has never made an honest, full, 100-percent surrender to Jesus, and tonight by His grace, you're going to do it? Will you stand up. He desires us to be absolutely and completely for Him in this world as He is for us in the presence of God.

Is there somebody that tonight says, Yes, for the first time a full surrender—for the first time, everything on the altar. Will you stand and meet that challenge. Just remain standing a moment.

I will follow Thee, my Savior,
Wheresoe're my lot may be,
Where Thou goest I will follow,
Yes, my Lord, I'll follow Thee,

I will follow Thee, my Savior,
Thou didst shed Thy blood for me,
And though all men should forsake Thee,
By Thy grace, I'll follow Thee.

I have another question to ask, while these dear ones are standing. Is there somebody sitting in these pews tonight that says, There have been times in the past when my life was on the altar fully, but something has gotten in between me and the Lord. I see tonight that it's going to take a removing of the idols, of getting the stumbling blocks out of the way, if I'm to really answer the challenge.

Is there somebody here tonight that says, Yes, dear Lord, the hand that once grasped your hand fully is going tonight to again be put there, and from this moment on nothing—nothing but a hundred percent surrender.

Now, I'm not making a general call for reconsecration. I think we all want to do better. I hope so. My call just now is to you specifically who have once known what it is to be fully surrendered—tonight you know that there's something you need to put on the altar that is standing between you and God. Will you just stand where you are, and with bowed heads, talk to Jesus about it. Be specific.

The rich young ruler lacked just one thing. It would have meant everything if he had yielded, wouldn't it. What is Jesus putting His finger on in your life tonight that has hindered the blessing, held back the work of God?

Oh, I love to see the Holy Spirit working with hearts, friends. Jesus knows you, and remember, the ladder reaches where you are. Whatever your need right now, Jesus has help for you.

If God puts His finger on something in your life that needs to come out, don't confer with flesh or blood—your own or anybody else's. Don't listen to the Devil when he tells you how good what you've been holding onto is. Nothing is good that keeps you from the Savior.

Though the road be rough and thorny,
Trackless as the foaming sea,
Thou hast trod this way before me,
And I'll gladly follow Thee,

I will follow Thee, my Savior,
Thou didst shed Thy blood for me,
And though all men should forsake Thee,
By Thy grace, I'll follow Thee.

Every one of you is precious. Remember what the girls sang—And to think He would have died for only me. That's how much you're worth. And the measure of His sorrow in His suffering to save you, is the measure of His joy as you lay your all on the altar.

Think of how happy the Savior must be over each one of you that tonight has heard the call, answered and is laying the very thing on the altar that God is talking to you about.

Now, dear ones, I'm sure all through this audience there are many others who would like to make a new consecration tonight. Shall we all kneel together as we seek the Lord.

Our heavenly Father, what a wonderful hour. The sanctuary is still open. The priest is still holding up His wounded hands. We thank Thee that we can flee for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us.

And so, we're coming tonight. Here are these to whose hearts Thou has spoken in a special way, laying Thy finger on sin in the life. Whether it's what the world calls bad sin or whether it's what some Christians call good things, Thou has pointed out some things in our lives that need to come out, and by Thy grace they're being laid down at Thy dear feet tonight.

We thank Thee for the definite specific work of the Spirit of God, and we're giving up the things that Thou hast been talking to us about tonight. We're determined to have done with lesser things and to press our way into the finishing of the work. And, oh, our Father, we thank Thee that Thou dost accept the offering.

Then, Lord, here are many that are reconsecrating their lives tonight, and oh, I pray, that this shall include every heart. If there is even one that has not yet opened the door, just now, in this sweet hour of opportunity, in this closing moment of

privilege, may the bolt be drawn, the key turned, the door opened, the heart thrown wide to the knocking One who pleads for entrance.

Dear Jesus, just now, come into every heart, we pray. Just now, fill every soul with sorrow for sin and love for righteousness. Just now, fill each soul with hatred for rebellion and love for Thy law. Just now, may we be determined to know nothing but Jesus and Him crucified.

We thank Thee for accepting us. We know Thou dost love us, and we thank Thee that, as we go from this chapel tonight, we go as those who by faith are anchored within the veil. We praise Thy glorious name, through Christ, amen.

Let us stand.

My Jesus I love Thee, I know Thou art mine,
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign,
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior, art Thou.
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

God bless you all. Go forth to share His message and His love.

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W.D. Frazee Sermons
PO Box 129, Wildwood, GA 30757
1-800-WDF-1840 / 706-820-9755
www.WDFsermons.org
support@WDFsermons.org