Weird Flex But Okay Part 2

I Always Do The Wrong Thing

Proverbs 14:9

Memory Verses: Proverbs 14:9

MANUSCRIPT

Introduction (Me, We, & the Struggle)

Last week we tried to let you in on some of the new lingo the kids are using these days. For instance, if you brag about something but it's not really something people usually brag about, you say, "weird flex but okay." So lets practice. If you were talking about the best steak that you'd ever eaten and someone were to say, "I only eat captain crunch." You might say, "weird flex, but okay." If you were in a conversation about this rad classic Camaro you saw at the car show and someone chimes in, "I drive a Prius." You might say, "weird flex, but okay." If someone in your circle was talking about the planned Artemis mission to the moon and someone said, "I drove to Chatham today." You might say, weird flex, but okay." Now yall are getting it! A weird flex is something that you probably shouldn't brag about but you do anyway.

It's just like fools in the book of Proverbs. Proverbs has a lot to say about how fools brag about being foolish. Just look with me at our key verse for this entire series; Proverbs 30:32 which says, "if you have been foolish, exalting yourself, or if you have been devising evil, put your hand on your mouth." That's odd. You are foolish and evil and you think that's cool? Weird flex but okay! Put your hand over your mouth!

Last week we looked at how fools brag about being dumb and dismiss wisdom and knowledge for foolish things. They don't fear God, they don't desire eternal life, and they aren't teachable, and they think that's fine. It's a weird flex to say that you don't care about wisdom.

This week we are going to be looking at another weird flex from the mouth of fools in the book of Proverbs. Proverbs 14:9 tells us that fools mock at the guilt offering, but the upright enjoy acceptance.

The guilt offering comes from Leviticus 6:1-7 where God made a way for someone to seek forgiveness for some sin that they had "gotten away with" but later felt guilty for it and wanted to repent. In essence, the guilt offering is repentance. Proverbs 14:9 tells us that fools mock at repentance, and by extension they mock sin. They are bragging about not taking sin seriously or caring much about their sinful actions. They take pride in doing the wrong thing. Kind of like this tweet.

It's interesting but we truly live in a world now where most people see what was once evil as good and what was once good as evil. We live in culture where almost everyone brags, "I always do the wrong thing." That's not just a weird flex, that's an evil flex and it needs to be

corrected. Today we want you to see that **Regardless of how you define evil, evil reveals itself in how it destroys your soul!** And it does so in three ways; it deadens your caution so that your actions are evil, it dishes out consequences when you words are evil, and it destroys your conscience so that your mind becomes evil.

Teaching (Expand on the Problem, God)

The first thing we need to see here is that... Living In Careless Sin Deadens Your Caution To Evil Actions. Deuteronomy 4:9 tells us to take caution to keep our souls alert so we don't forget what God has done and taught us. Ephesians 5:15 tells us to be careful of how we walk, not as unwise men but as wise. We must take caution of the way we live in order protect out faith. Unfortunately Psalm 119:10 tells us that our hearts are prone to wander and our souls are prone to stray from his commands.

How are we led astray and lose our caution? Proverbs 12:26 tells us that wicked men lead righteous men astray. The first way that sin deadens our caution and leads us astray from God and towards evil is through our associations with unrighteous people. Who you make your friends matters a lot. If your friends arent Christians who are following strong after God with the Word as their standard then it is very possible that they are leading you astray and you don't even know it. If you have friends who aren't Christians, you must keep up your guard, testing all of their advice against the Word of God and in prayer. Again, Proverbs 14:16 tells us that a wise person uses caution and turns away from evil but a fool is reckless and careless. It is clear that fools have no caution and it can lead them into a world of trouble.

The second way sin deadens our caution, leading us into evil is through pride. Proverbs 16:18 tells us that pride comes before the fall and Proverbs. 18:12 tells us that before destruction a man's heart is proud. When we feel confident in our abilities and in our own strength we tend to let our guard down. When we think we have arrived we stop trying to grow and get better. When you stop doing the things that got you where you are, you will inevitably decline. So fight against that temptation to merely arrive and exist. Keep striving towards greater godliness and you will remain cautious of the sin around you. 1 Corinthians 10:12 reminds us of this; let him who thinks he stands on solid ground take caution that he doesn't fall. You are never on as solid ground as you think because though you are in Christ, you still are in the flesh. Regardless of how you define evil, evil reveals itself in how it destroys your soul.

The second thing we need to see here is that... Living In Quarrelsome Sin Dishes Out Consequences For Evil Words. So, we know that living in careless sin deadens your caution, leading to evil actions. But that is only where the road starts. It inevitably leads to the next part, quarrelsome sin. When you live without caution you will become a

quarrelsome person. And being a quarrelsome person has its consequences. Sinful actions have its consequences and sinful words have consequences. When speaking of the type of leadership a church should have 2 Tim. 2:24 tells us that the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone. Being a **belligerent**, **combative**, person is sinful. The wise person uses caution and stops being **argumentative**.

But not only is it sin, it is foolish. We have many verses to support this. Proverbs 20:3 says It is an honor for a man to keep aloof from strife, but every fool will be quarreling. Proverbs 27:3 says a stone is heavy but a fool provoked is heavier than both. Proverbs 12:16 says a fool when insulted makes his rage known instantly while the wise try to ignore insults. Proverbs 29:9 says a fool rages and laughs at wisemen's arguments. Proverbs 14:17 says that a quick tempered man acts foolishly, commits evil, and is hated. Proverbs 19:1 says a fool has no integrity and says crooked evil things to others and, Proverbs 1:22 reminds us that fools love scoffing.

And of course, if you talk too much trash then eventually someone will call your bluff. Proverbs 18:6 says a fool's lips walk into a fight, and his mouth invites a beating. Now of course I'm not suggesting that you should beat up fools who talk trash. The Christian thing is to turn the cheek and walk away. But the verse isn't lying. People who talk a lot of junk will eventually have to put up or shut up. So where does this foolish argumentative attitude come from? James 4:1 tells us that quarrels and fighting happen when we entertain sinful thoughts and ways. So to settle this issue, simply stop letting down your guard, stop allowing sinful thoughts to enter your mind, and you will be cured from trash talking. Regardless of how you define evil, evil reveals itself in how it destroys your soul.

And finally, we need to see that Living In Casual Sin Destroys Your Conscience, Giving You An Evil Mind. Lastly, we want to end where we began. Our greatest fear is those who are so foolish they have their consciences destroyed and see nothing wrong with doing evil all the time. And again, it is part of the process. When we let down our guard, when we stop protecting our tongues, eventually our souls and our consciences will become calloused. What is a conscience? Romans 2:15 tells us that our conscience is the law of God written on our hearts which convict us of wrong. A Christian who loves God and wants to do right will have the right conscience as described in Hebrews 10:22 which says, let us come to God with a true and faithful heart which is has been cleansed from all evil.

Fools are the opposite of that. Their hearts have not been cleansed, instead they have been defiled, and put no stock in faithful

living. To them it's a joke. Titus 1:15 reminds us that the pure have pure consciences but to the defiled nothing is pure. Evil men don't care about doing good. Proverbs 10:23 tells us that doing wrong is like a joke to a fool. They think it's fun and funny. Proverbs 13:19 says that turning away from evil is absurd for a fool. You stopped doing evil? Why dude? Thats weird! It's like they live in the upside down. And of course as we saw in the opening, Proverbs 14:9 says that fools mock at repentance and conviction. They never say sorry, they never feel bad. They are becoming more sociopathic every day. So how do we get here? How does one destroy their conscience. Well as we've seen with both of the other issues: a lack of caution and argumentative attitudes, it comes from sinful influences. 1 Timothy 4:2 tells us that evil liars can sear a conscience. If you are listening to the wrong people, who are lying to you, you will weaken if not destroy your conscience. 1 Timothy 1:19 tells us that when good men reject their conscience they can shipwreck their faith. I would imagine the opposite is true as well, when you reject your faith your conscience is shipwrecked. The point is this... Stop listening to people who lie to you and turn you from your faith. Eventually they will destroy your soul. Regardless of how you define evil, evil reveals itself in how it destroys your soul.

Application

So, the application today is clear. Never let your guard down, never adopt sinful attitudes like being argumentative and quarrelsome, and never allow influences in this world to lie to you and make you walk away from your faith. If you do you may be in danger of becoming one of these fools who think evil is cool! Evil is not cool! Evil is evil and evildoers will face not just the consequences of a beatdown at the bar. Evildoers will suffer the consequence of eternity in hell!

Conclusion

Do whatever it takes to keep your conscience from being defiled. You don't have to always do the wrong thing. You don't have to be a fool. Today, confess your sin, repent of your sin, change your course, and seek after God. If you need to let go of some friends, let them go, your soul is worth it. If you need to quit drinking alcohol as to stay on guard maybe thats what God is calling you to do. The bottom line is that fools love evil, and though the world won't call it evil, the Bible makes it clear and so does your soul. Regardless of how you define evil, evil reveals itself in how it destroys your soul.