

God Is Not Safe, But He Is Good

(Psalm 89:7)

- Introduction:
1. Ills. Of C.S. Lewis' "The Lion Witch & Wardrobe."
 - a. Mr. Beaver: "...Aslan is a lion, the Lion, the great Lion.
Lucy: Ooh, I thought he was a man. Is is quite safe? I shall feel rather nervous about meeting a lion.
Mrs. Beaver: That you will dearie, and no mistake. If there's anyone who can appear before Aslan without their knees knocking, they're either braver than most or else just silly.
Lucy: Then he isn't safe?
Mr. Beaver: Don't you hear what Mrs. Beaver tells you? Who said anything about safe? Of course he isn't safe. But he's good. He's the King, I tell you."
 2. Have we forgotten (Hebrews 12:28-29)?
 3. Donald McCullough, in his book, "The Trivialization of God" said that "we prefer the illusion of a safer Deity."
 4. However, in this lesson I just want to remind you that God is not safe, but he is good!

I. King Saul - 1 Samuel 13

- A. Israel and the Philistines are squared off for battle.
- B. Samuel is supposed to meet Saul, but doesn't show up.
- C. Saul then felt compelled (v. 12) to offer a sacrifice to the Lord.
- D. Samuel arrives as soon as Saul and offered the sacrifice and told him that he had sinned and that God had taken his kingdom from him.

II. King Uzziah - 2 Chronicles 26

- A. Uzziah was a good King, who reigned for 52 years.
- B. Then because of pride, he attempted to offer incense to God in the temple.
- C. He was warned not to do so, but he wouldn't listen until God struck him with leprosy.
- D. He then died as an exile, because of his sin.

III. Then There's Our Story

- A. Have we allowed our familiarity of sonship with God to breed contempt?
- B. Have we mistaken his longsuffering with acceptance, apathy, or even non-existence?
 1. Ills. Of Atheist daring God to strike him dead at Marshall University.
- C. Is the God we serve a God of our own making?... a safe God who has been tamed?
- D. Has our gasps of awe given way to yawns of boredom?
- E. Have we forgotten that he is a consuming fire (Deuteronomy 4:24); and that it is a fearful thing to fall into his hands (Hebrews 10:31).

- Conclusion:
1. Friends, don't forget who God is and who we are.
 2. As we have come into his presence today, I want to remind you that God is not safe, but he is good.
 3. Worship and serve him with reverence and obedience!