

Negative Preaching

Many people want sermons that are positive.

They do not want any sermon that is negative.

Introduction

- Some ONLY want positive sermons and class topics
- One church warned preachers that they would fire anyone who preached a negative lesson from the pulpit
- Who could preach for that church?

Some could not preach there

- **God**
- Garden of Eden -
Positive – tend the garden and name the animals
Negative – Do not eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil
- 8 of the 10 Commandments are negative

Some could not preach there

- God
- **Moses**
- **Deuteronomy 28:1**
Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the Lord your God will set you high above all nations of the earth.

Some could not preach there

- God
- **Moses**
- **Deuteronomy 28:15-16**
15 "But it shall come to pass, if you do not obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments and His statutes which I command you today, that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you: 16 Cursed shall you be in the city, and cursed shall you be in the country.

Some could not preach there

- God
- Moses
- **Jeremiah**
- **Jeremiah 1:10** See, I have this day set you over the nations and over the kingdoms, To root out and to pull down, To destroy and to throw down, To build and to plant.

Some could not preach there

- God
- Moses
- Jeremiah
- **Jonah**
- **Jonah 3:4** And Jonah began to enter the city on the first day's walk. Then he cried out and said, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!"

Some could not preach there

- God
- Moses
- Jeremiah
- Jonah
- **Jesus**
- See Matthew 23
- **Matthew 23:33**
Serpents, brood of vipers! How can you escape the condemnation of hell?

Some could not preach there

- God
 - Moses
 - Jeremiah
 - Jonah
 - Jesus
 - **Paul / Timothy**
- **2 Timothy 4:2-3** 2 Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers

Reasons for Negative Sermons

- **Makes the hero greater – Every hero has a villain – the meaner the villain, the greater the hero**

Reasons for Negative Sermons

- Makes the hero greater – Every hero has a villain – the meaner the villain, the greater the hero
- **Shows mans great needs**

Reasons for Negative Sermons

- Makes the hero greater – Every hero has a villain – the meaner the villain, the greater the hero
- Shows mans great needs
- **Gets attention – newspapers use negative headlines**

Reasons for Negative Sermons

- Makes the hero greater – Every hero has a villain – the meaner the villain, the greater the hero
- Shows man's great needs
- Gets attention – newspapers use negative headlines
- **Warns of danger**

What do you want?

- Your child is about to walk into traffic
- Do you want others to say positive, kind, gentle, nice things to your child?
- Do you want someone to yell, STOP!
Don't go into the street.

What do you want?

- If you are headed to an eternal hell:
- Do you want nice positive lessons?
- Do you want someone to love you enough to warn you of the danger?