

## Better Not to Vow

Ecclesiastes 5:1-5

## Better Not to Vow

- **What is a vow?**
- Strong (5088) *neder* – a promise to God; a thing promised.
- Strong (5087) *nadar* – to promise (to do or give something to God).
- A Vow was a promise to God, a very serious matter in scripture!

## Better Not to Vow

- Vows were authorized of God – Numbers 30
- Verses 1-2 Deal with laws concerning Vows in general
- Verses 3-16 Deal with the specifics of Vow with respect to certain relationships.
- Man had authority to bind himself in a vow, but once done he was commanded to keep it! (cf. verse 16.)

## Jephthah's Vow

- **Text - Judges 11**
- Promised to God that the first thing to come out of his house would be a burnt offering to Him (God) if He would grant Jephthah and his army victory over Ammon.
- Victory was obtained.
- Jephthah's daughter came to meet him.

## Jephthah's Vow

- **Lessons learned.**
- His vow was rash
- The consequences brought anguish upon him
- His daughter was subject to those consequences.
- "I cannot go back." He had to be committed according to law (Numbers 30).
- **Commitment before God is serious!**

## We Must Be Committed To...

- **The God of Heaven –**
- a) Commitment – 2 Timothy 1:12
- b) Life is committed – Galatians 2:20; 1 Peter 2:5, 9
- c) Consequences for not keeping – 2 Peter 2:20; Matthew 7:21-23; Luke 9:62.

FAITHFULNESS = COMMITMENT!!!

## We Must Be Committed To...

- **The Vow of Marriage – Matthew 19:1-9**
  - a) Witnessed by God – Malachi 2:14ff
  - b) Life Long – Genesis 2:24; Matthew 19:6
  - c) Strictly regulated by God – Matthew 19:1-9
  - d) Consequences – Isaiah 59:1-2; 1 Corinthians 7:10-11.

***CLEAVE = COMMITMENT***

## We Must Be Committed To...

- **Employer/Employee Relationship – Genesis 2:15; Ephesians 6:5-9; Ecclesiastes 9:10.**
- Our attitude toward work reflects our character in Christ!
- **Commitment to Christ = commitment to our work!**

## We Must Be Committed To...

- ***Our words*** – Matthew 5:33-37; 23:16-22; Proverbs 6:16ff; Ephesians 4:25; Revelation 21:8
- Failure to be people of our word is failure to be committed!
- **Keeping our word = commitment!**

## Commitment to God

- Nation Promise – Exodus 19:6
- Land Promise – Joshua 21:43-45; 23:14
- Seed Promise – Galatians 3:16
- God is committed to us. We should be committed to Him!

## Commitment to God

- **Are we committed to God?**