

The Danger of Forgetting God

Lessons From the Feast of Tabernacles

Core Message: God uses both seasons of difficulty and seasons of blessing to shape His people and draw them into deeper dependence on Him. The wilderness experience of Israel reminds us that discipline is not meaningless; God can use hardship to prepare us for the fullness of what He desires to give. Yet blessing brings its own spiritual danger, because when life becomes comfortable, we can forget the One who provided for us. Sukkot calls us to remember that everything we have comes from God and that He alone is ultimately enough. Whatever uncertainties or fears lie ahead, believers can trust that God's presence will remain with them and sustain them.

Main Bible Verses (NASB):

- **Core Memory Verse: (Deuteronomy 8:5)** So you are to know in your heart that the LORD your God was disciplining you just as a man disciplines his son.
- **(Philippians 2:13)** For it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.
- **(Deuteronomy 8:6)** Therefore, you shall keep the commandments of the LORD your God, to walk in His ways and to fear Him.
- **(Deuteronomy 8:10)** When you have eaten and are satisfied, you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land which He has given you.
- **(Deuteronomy 8:11)** Be careful that you do not forget the LORD your God by failing to keep His commandments, His ordinances, and His statutes which I am commanding you today.
- **(Lev 23:2)** Speak to the sons of Israel and say to them, 'The Lord's appointed times which you shall proclaim as holy convocations—My appointed times are these:
- **(Romans 11:17)** But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive, were grafted in among them and became partaker with them of the rich root of the olive tree,

Key Points (Fill-in-the-Blank):

- We understand God will _____ us.
- Let's ask ourselves when we're going through a hard time, what is God doing in this? And how does He want me to _____?
- The Lord was disciplining Israel to bring them into this lavish excellency of _____.
- The natural tendency is when things get easier, we _____ God.
- We warfare against the tendency by consciously making a decision to not allow ourselves to become feeling _____ or to take things for granted.
- For Sukkot, it's recognizing that all you need is _____.
- Whatever it is that you're afraid of in life, I want you to face that fear and put your hand over your heart and just confess out loud, 'God, You are going to be _____.

Notes:

(Use lines below for personal notes)

Reflection Questions:

1. How might God be using a present difficulty in your life to discipline, prepare, or strengthen you?

2. In what areas of your life are you most tempted to take God's blessings for granted or forget where they came from?

3. What people, possessions, abilities, or circumstances have you begun depending on instead of recognizing that God is your ultimate source?

4. What future situation causes you fear, and how would your perspective change if you intentionally remembered that God will be present with you in that situation?

Application Challenge of the Week:

Each day this week, identify one blessing you normally take for granted and intentionally thank God for it. Then speak aloud, **“God, You are enough for me,”** especially when you feel fear, uncertainty, or dependence on something other than Him. (Or come up with your own as the Lord leads):

Prayer Prompts:

- Thank God for His provision and for the blessings you may have taken for granted.
- Ask the Lord to reveal what He is teaching you through present difficulties.
- Declare your trust that God will be enough for you in every future circumstance.

“The Lord bless you, and keep you; the Lord cause His face to shine on you, and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His face to you, and give you peace.” Numbers 6:22-27
(NASB 95’)