

## Warning & Intensive Discipline

Majority of Christians' suffering arises from the believer's own thoughts, decisions and actions. One bad decision follows another until his life is unbearable. He makes his life a shamble of his present experience and destroys his future options. No one can destroy a person's life as much as himself. At some point in this self-destructive process, God intervenes with divine discipline. God will not stand by while members of the royal family sink into corruption and degeneracy.

Divine discipline is an uncompromised measure to alert the carnal believers to their extremely bad status before God and to encourage them to rebound and reenter the divine power system. All divine discipline is administered in grace. Ignorant believer under divine discipline may doubt that God is treating him in grace, but he could not imagine how much more he would hurt if God were not acting in grace. The perfect God knows exactly the most effective way to confront the carnal believer with the right discipline, and He disciplines every carnal believer for their own benefit.

Divine discipline is the sum total of corrective action taken by the justice of God in grace to correct, to discipline, to encourage, to train, to alert, and to motivate the believer's free will toward the perfect Plan of God. Divine discipline is administered exclusively to believers and occurs only in this life. There is no punishment or divine discipline after die. For whom the Lord loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives." If you endure chastening, God deals with you, as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? (Heb. 12:6-7).

Divine discipline is a warning for the believer outside the boundaries of God's plan. When a believer cuts off his fellowship with God through sin and remains in the cosmic system, God in His grace must deal with him as a child. Bible doctrine has been ignored; God must get the believer's attention through pain and misery. Divine discipline is tailored made for each individual believer (Heb. 12:5).

Discipline is neither too light nor too severe but it has the exact duration and intensity for each believer. Divine discipline from the Lord is part of parental training in the royal family of God. As there is no perfect child at home, there is no perfect Christian in the royal family of God. Every child needs training to function effectively in the society.

The individual who leaves home without authority orientation will become a social monster. To prevent this, enforced humility must come outside the home. No Christian is perfect, and as long as the believer is in the world, he will continue to commit personal sins.

As the believer matures spiritually, he will sin less frequently, but periodically he will give in to temptation and enter the cosmic system. Divine discipline is God's trumpet call for believers to re-enter the divine sphere and leave the cosmic system. If the believer remains longer in the cosmic his thinking loses touch with the reality of God's protocol plan. Under prolonged cosmic influence, his arrogance will become antagonism toward God. At this point, the carnal believer is candidate for more severe divine discipline. There are three categories of divine discipline:

- Warning discipline
- Intensive discipline
- Dying discipline

God is never arbitrary in administering discipline. His discipline is just perfect to the individual concerned. Since all divine discipline comes from His justice it does not only fits the violation but also matches the believer's receptivity. When the believer does not use rebound, these three categories of divine discipline are progressive. Mild divine discipline gives way to more and more severe discipline if the believer fails to respond. A more severe discipline than the believer's self-induced misery will shock the stubborn believers.

The believer who refuses to live in the divine sphere receives warning divine discipline, added to the misery he has already created for himself under the law of volitional responsibility.

He has isolated himself from the fellowship with God and he has shut Christ out of his thoughts. "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me (Rev. 3:20).

That knock at the door is a warning discipline. Since the believer is still sensitive to the truth and he has not yet declined into the later stages of negative volition, the believer can still profit from this degree of discipline (and God does not have to proceed to intensive discipline). The knocking is a call to re-enter the divine sphere and leave the world system at once. If the believer can hear the knocking on the door, which means that God can catch his attention with relatively mild suffering, then the believer can be easily restored back to fellowship by the privilege of rebound, but ignoring such knocking will result to discipline.

Take note that the issue of Revelation 3:20 is not salvation but restoration to fellowship with God. You do not restore to fellowship someone who has no personal relationship with God. Both the spiritually mature and immature or ignorant believer may receive warning discipline depending on their spiritual sensitivity and receptivity of Bible doctrine. In like manner, both the immature and mature believers may receive intensive divine discipline depending on their spiritual stubbornness and arrogance.

Warning divine discipline is exclusive for the spiritually sensitive and receptive believers, regardless of their spiritual standing, but determined not to stay longer in the cosmic system. When they hear the knocking on the door of their soul they instantaneously respond to open the door. Warning discipline is for sensitive, evaluating, and sinning believers but intensive discipline is for the stubborn, calloused and arrogant believers. The difference is in terms of intensity and duration.

Warning discipline comes in various forms such as physical illness, loss of property, cancellation of privileges, physical injury, unnecessary expenses or anything that produces physical and psychological pains.

If the believer continues to ignore, reject, and resist the Word of God and refuse to rebound he eventually requires intensive discipline. The Bible described intensive discipline as severe sickness (1 Cor. 11:30). The term “sick” is used as figure of speech to denote the intensity of suffering administered from the justice of God. For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep.

Intensive divine discipline is necessary when the believer’s sensitivity and receptivity has become dull, calloused and totally passive to Bible doctrine. The divine Plan of Grace for blessing such believers remained unchangeable, and the execution of intensive discipline is evidence of God’s grace. God is exceedingly patient with His children, extending every possible opportunity to fulfill His perfect plan for them. But with each rejection of God’s gracious appeal to return to the divine sphere, the carnal believer renders himself less capable of making a good decision from position of strength. The carnal believer is demolishing his only access to abundant life in Christ (John 10:10).

The carnal believer who refuses to leave the cosmic system by rebound will develop the hardening of the soul and sooner or later locks his volition in negative mental attitude (Hebrews 4:7, 6:6), and unless he rebounds he will arrive at the final stage of divine discipline, the sin unto death (1 John 5:16). God will administer the sin unto death (or dying discipline) only after prolonged rebellion and resistance in the cosmic system. The pains of intensive discipline increases as the believer’s stay in cosmos diabolicus are extended. The longer he remains carnal, the greater the pains and suffering.

God continues to support the carnal believer with logistical grace blessings, keeping him alive so that he might return to his divine palace. The divine discipline is designed to ignite the feeble flame of hope in the soul of the carnal believer even after he has insulted and blasphemed God by choosing to stay in Satan’s dungeon for a long time.

Satan treats all believers as spies or enemies, if they tried to serve him, Satan will eventually dispose of them after they have served their purpose.

Rebound is essential to enjoying the spiritual life that God has given to each one of us at the moment of salvation. We cannot enjoy this spiritual life unless we understand the principle of acknowledging our sins to God the Father. This is an emergency procedure for the believer to utilize when he falls into sin. Sinning is inevitable since we all still possess an old sin nature and volition. Sometimes we choose to sin.

So Rebound by way of definition is the function of the believer’s royal priesthood whereby he acknowledges any known sin to God the Father and because of the merits of the unique voluntary substitutionary spiritual death of the impeccable humanity of Christ in hypostatic union, the believer is restored to fellowship with God.

Rebound is the only means to recover the filling of the Spirit. The filling of the Spirit is the mental state of the believer who has is not conscious of any known sin and is applying the Word of God to his thought process.



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