



Cherreguine Bible Doctrine Ministries
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WARNING 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 in question. Since all divine discipline comes from His justice it does not only fit 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 warning discipline is less severe than the believer's self-induced misery. However, self-induced misery in addition to warning divine discipline adds up to a significant shock.

The believer who refuses to live in the divine sphere receives warning divine discipline, added to the misery has already created for himself under the law of volitional responsibility. He has isolated himself from the fellowship with God and shut 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 (Revelation 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 the next stage of punitive suffering). 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. Take note, that the issue of Revelation 3:20 is not salvation but restoration of fellowship with God. You do not restore to fellowship someone who has no personal relationship with God.

Both the spiritually mature and immature and ignorant believer may receive warning discipline depending on their spiritual sensitivity and receptivity of Bible doctrine. In like manner, both the immature and mature believer may receive intensive divine discipline depending on their spiritual stubbornness and arrogance.

Warning divine discipline is exclusive domain of the spiritually sensitive and receptive believers, regardless of their spiritual standing (mature or immature), 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.

Such believers are already suffering from their self-induced misery (the by product of their bad decisions or sins), and already making self-evaluation as to what causes those miseries. God will never execute warning discipline to stubborn and callous believers because they are arrogantly blinded with their spiritual standing.

Warning discipline comes in various "forms and colors". It could be slight physical illness, loss of property, loss or cancellation of privileges, physical injury or unnecessary expenses. It is a trumpet call to wake up and dress for action; the believer is just "sleepy" but not yet snoozing, unlike those under intensive divine discipline.