

Ways to lose Precious Things 1 Kings 20 & 2 John 8

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1. Carelessness ~ neglect of our role in God's work (church)
reproof - Isa 32:9-10 ; 47:8-9
correction - 2 Cor 7:12
illustration : children tend to misplace/lose things
but they 'safeguard' things that are important to them
question : how much do we value our church
OT : Esau didn't value his birthright and lost it (Gen 25)
NT : Paul highly valued God's church 2 Cor 11:28
Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily,
the care of all the churches.
2. Conflict OK = good fight of faith, 1 Tim 6:12
not OK = church strife / contentions 1 Cor 1:11 ; 3:3 2 Cor 12:20
Our church is our *new* family
Our birth family has 'fights' / disagreements - but we remain family
correction - Phil 4:2 Eph 4:31-32
3. Corrosion ~ rust illustr: unused machine / motor
correction - discover & use your gift Rom 12:5-8
4. Confusion re: God's word / God-centered worship / our place in the body
other churches suffer confusion of doctrine
pract. truth - confusion leads to loss of balance and loss of direction
illustration : airline (crash) due to too many pilots in cockpit
correction - Matthew 7:7 ("What's my place / job LORD ?")
5. Contempt - due to familiarity Acts 28:23-28
from Isa 6:9-10, Mt 13:14, Mk :12, Lk 8:10, Jn 12:40, Rom 11:8
6. Compromise - e.g. 2 Chr 18:1 warning: 2 Cor 6:14 key : 2 John 10
7. Commitments - Lk 14:16-19
Sometimes too many 'church' commitments -
"if you attempt to pick up too many sticks...you may drop the whole lot"