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DO NOT ENTER

There is something about the unknown that intrigues all of us. We don't want to be "in the dark." We want to be "in the know."

I have often seen a "Do not enter" sign and immediately there is curiosity as to what I am not supposed to see or go in. Perhaps it is in a building and your curiosity bids you to go through the door anyway. When our ministry had a thrift shop there was a room where things were sorted and another room that we kept tools in. Invariably people would go through the doorway to see what was there even though there was a "do not enter" sign. We put a chain up, but it didn't keep people out.

When Adam and Eve were in the garden, they were given instructions as to how to take care of everything and a specific instruction about one tree. It was the tree of knowledge of good and evil. They were told not to eat the fruit of that tree because if they did, they would die. You could say that God put up a "do not enter" sign on it. Knowing that the natural inclination for man was to want more than he had, Satan tempted Eve into eating the fruit. He lied to her. He told her she would be like God when she already was made in his image, after his likeness. He caused her to think that God was holding back something from her. She gave into that temptation, and the fall of all mankind resulted because of it.

When God establishes boundaries for us it is always for our own protection. He gives each of us free will to make the choice to stay under his protection, or to abandon that "do not enter" sign and sin. He isn't keeping anything back from us that would be good. It is always God's motive in having boundaries to protect us from the end result of sin which is death. It isn't just physical death; it is spiritual death – eternal separation from God.

The next time you see a "do not enter" sign, perhaps it is God reminding you that there are some things that need to be dealt with. Perhaps you "entered" when you should have resisted the temptation. Regardless, God made a way back to Him through repentance and the shed blood of Jesus Christ. It is always best to not "enter" into things of sin than to have to live with the results.

Adam lived 930 years. Can you imagine the conversations he had with Eve over their sin? I would imagine that there were plenty of days that the blame game was played. Let's not do the same my friends. Let's be honest and admit our sin is our own choice and repent. Life will be so much better if we "do not enter."