

Warning: Sharp Edges!

Scripture Reading — Hebrews 4:12-13

The word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow . . . — Hebrews 4:12

Warning notices seem to be every-where. At the bottom of the TV screen we're warned not to drive our car like the one being advertised—as if we could or would. As I read a warning not to use a toy tool to do real work, our son, a lawyer, mutters, "Lawyers!"

But there is a serious warning not found on the packaging of the Bible. Deep inside Scripture we read, "Sharper than any double-edged sword." We might rephrase this to say, "Warning: Sharp Edges!"

Jesus grabbed my "college-student" heart by surprise at a youth meeting and in a moment gave me faith in him. I'd felt no need to meet him and didn't expect to. But the focus of my life suddenly shifted from myself to the Savior and King (Colossians 3:1-3). Life changed. New friends got me into Scripture, where I learned the joy of loving God above all and others as myself (Matthew 22:37-40).

Eventually I read the warning in the book of Hebrews. God's Word cuts deeply. Reading, reflecting, studying, and meditating on Scripture exposes sin, especially to the sinner. Scripture can cut like a surgeon with a scalpel or like a warrior with a two-edged sword. The Spirit seeks to cut out sin and recreate God's image in the hearts of believers.

Will we yield to the Great Physi--cian's scalpel and accept our Savior's victory over sin?

Prayer

Thank you, God, for the gift of Scripture. Give us the courage to study your Word. In Jesus, Amen.

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