

# The Hammer or the Nail

## Single Message

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**“Scripture quotations taken from the Amplified Bible.”**

[www.Lockman.org](http://www.Lockman.org).

In life you are either the hammer or the nail. You have to decide.

There are many ideas about the hammer and the nail.

### **Mark 10:17-27**

Amplified Bible (AMP)

**17** And as He was setting out on His journey, a man ran up and knelt before Him and asked Him, Teacher, [You are essentially and perfectly morally] good, what must I do to inherit eternal life [that is, to partake of eternal salvation in the Messiah's kingdom]?

**18** And Jesus said to him, Why do you call Me [essentially and perfectly morally] good? There is no one [essentially and perfectly morally] good--except God alone.

**19** You know the commandments: Do not kill, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not bear false witness, do not defraud, honor your father and mother.

20 And he replied to Him, Teacher, I have carefully guarded and observed all these and taken care not to violate them from my boyhood.

21 And Jesus, looking upon him, loved him, and He said to him, You lack one thing; go and sell all you have and give [the money] to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come [and] accompany Me [walking the same road that I walk].

22 At that saying the man's countenance fell and was gloomy, and he went away grieved and sorrowing, for he was holding great possessions.

23 And Jesus looked around and said to His disciples, With what difficulty will those who possess wealth and keep on holding it enter the kingdom of God!

24 And the disciples were amazed and bewildered and perplexed at His words. But Jesus said to them again, Children, how hard it is for those who trust (place their confidence, their sense of safety) in riches to enter the kingdom of God!

25 It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.

26 And they were shocked and exceedingly astonished, and said to Him and to one another, Then who can be saved?

27 Jesus glanced around at them and said, With men [it is] impossible, but not with God; for all things are possible with God.

## **CONCERNING GOD**

### **1) Is God the hammer and are you the nail?**

#### **2 Corinthians 4:8-9**

Amplified Bible (AMP)

**8** We are hedged in (pressed) on every side [troubled and oppressed in every way], but not cramped or crushed; we suffer embarrassments and are perplexed and unable to find a way out, but not driven to despair;

**9** We are pursued (persecuted and hard driven), but not deserted [to stand alone]; we are struck down to the ground, but never struck out and destroyed;

### **2) Are you the hammer and God the nail?**

#### **Proverbs 1:23-28**

Amplified Bible (AMP)

**23** If you will turn (repent) and give heed to my reproof, behold, I [Wisdom] will pour out my spirit upon you, I will make my words known to you.

**24** Because I have called and you have refused [to answer], have stretched out my hand and no man has heeded it,

**25** And you treated as nothing all my counsel and would accept none of my reproof,

**26** I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when the thing comes that shall cause you terror and panic--

27 When your panic comes as a storm and desolation and your calamity comes on as a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you.

28 Then will they call upon me [Wisdom] but I will not answer; they will seek me early and diligently but they will not find me.

## **CONCERNING THE WORLD**

**3) Are you beat down with the hammer of life, and are you the nail, depressed, broken, hurt?**

### **Isaiah 60:1**

Amplified Bible (AMP)

1 ARISE [from the depression and prostration in which circumstances have kept you--rise to a new life]! Shine (be radiant with the glory of the Lord), for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you!

### **Ephesians 5:14**

Amplified Bible (AMP)

14 Therefore He says, Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall shine (make day dawn) upon you and give you light.

**4) Are the nails of God's rules building you or are you destroying your world with the hammer of your own way?**

### **Proverbs 19:16**

Amplified Bible (AMP)

16 He who keeps the commandment [of the Lord] keeps his own life, but he who despises His ways shall die.

## **Colossians 3:12**

Amplified Bible (AMP)

**12** Clothe yourselves therefore, as God's own chosen ones (His own picked representatives), [who are] purified and holy and well-beloved [by God Himself, by putting on behavior marked by] tenderhearted pity and mercy, kind feeling, a lowly opinion of yourselves, gentle ways, [and] patience [which is tireless and long-suffering, and has the power to endure whatever comes, with good temper].

## **Hebrews 4:16**

Amplified Bible (AMP)

**16** Let us then fearlessly and confidently and boldly draw near to the throne of grace (the throne of God's unmerited favor to us sinners), that we may receive mercy [for our failures] and find grace to help in good time for every need [appropriate help and well-timed help, coming just when we need it]

## **THE DEVIL**

### **5) Is the devil a hammer in your life and are you his nail?**

## **Ephesians 2:6**

Amplified Bible (AMP)

**6** And He raised us up together with Him and made us sit down together [giving us joint seating with Him] in the heavenly sphere [by virtue of our being] in Christ Jesus (the Messiah, the Anointed One).

## **Galatians 5:1**

Amplified Bible (AMP)

**1** IN [this] freedom Christ has made us free [and completely liberated us]; stand fast then, and do not be hampered and held ensnared and submit again to a yoke of slavery [which you have once put off].

## **6) Are you a hammer to the devil making him a nail?**

### **Ephesians 6:13-14**

Amplified Bible (AMP)

**13** Therefore put on God's complete armor, that you may be able to resist and stand your ground on the evil day [of danger], and, having done all [the crisis demands], to stand [firmly in your place].

**14** Stand therefore [hold your ground], having tightened the belt of truth around your loins and having put on the breastplate of integrity and of moral rectitude and right standing with God,

### **ALTAR CALL**