

I. Cold Warnings

Cold – wide variety of uses

- Feeling chilled
- Indifferent (cold personality)
- Unfriendly (cold reception)
- Cold front (air mass) / cold wave
- Cold shoulder (unfriendly, slight)
- Mastered (actor had his lines down cold)
- Insensible (knocked cold)
- Inflammation of mucous membranes
- Cold-blooded (callous, cruel, ruthless)
- Cold-hearted (unfeeling, unkind)
- Cold sweat (perspiration from fear)
- Cold war (conflict in diplomacy)

Job 24:1-13, 22-23

- Count your blessings

Job 37:6-13

Job 38:22

- God is sovereign over weather

Psalm 147:17, He casts out His hail like morsels;
Who can stand before His cold?

- Eventually we want to come in from the cold

Prov.20:4 The lazy man will not plow because of winter; He will beg during harvest and have nothing.

- Don't plow when it's cold
- Aesop's ant and grasshopper
 - Prov.10:5, He who gathers in summer is a wise son; He who sleeps in harvest is a son who causes shame.
 - 2 Th.3:10, even when we were with you, we commanded you this: If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat.
 - Jn.9:4 ...night is coming when no one can work.

Prov.25:13 Like the cold of snow in time of harvest Is a faithful messenger to those who send him, For he refreshes the soul of his masters

- Mountain snow gave them cold drinks; it refreshes like a faithful messenger.
- Mt.11:10, I send My messenger before your face, who will prepare Your way before You.

Prov.25:20 Like one who takes away a garment in cold weather, And like vinegar on soda, Is one who sings songs to a heavy heart.

- Vinegar is a cleanser
- Mourning has its place
 - Jn.11, even Jesus wept

Prov.25:25 As cold water to a weary soul, So is good news from a far country

- Compassion, as Pharaoh's daughter – Ex.2
- Jesus, Mt.9:36, But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.
- 1 Pt.3:8, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another.

Kind words and deeds can make the difference for weary souls

Jer.18:14 Will a man leave the snow water of Lebanon, Which comes from the rock of the field? Will the cold flowing waters be forsaken for strange waters?

- S.Sol.4:15, a well of living waters (cistern) And streams from Lebanon.
- They had running water – cold, clean, and energizing.
- Rock of field – poetic for Lebanon, towering above the field.
- Who would abandon this valuable resource?

Nahum 3:17 Your commanders are like swarming locusts, And your generals like great grasshoppers, Which camp in the hedges on a cold day; When the sun rises they flee away, And the place where they are is not known.

- Cold deprives the locust of the power of flight
 - Spiritual cold does the same
- Assyria forgot their repentance (Jonah 3)
 - Babylon will smash them like bugs

Mt. 10⁴² And whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward.

- ‘Little’ saint (in eyes of world) gives to a ‘little one in need’: it will be rewarded.
- Cup of cold water – the smallest gift.
 - Motive: he belongs to Jesus
 - Encourages us in acts of caring, sharing, benevolence, spiritual influence

Mt.24¹² And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. ¹³ But he who endures to the end shall be saved

- Apostasy: first casualty is often love [for Lord; brothers; self; truth...].
- Great variety of biblical loves often forgotten: love of God, Word; spouse; children; neighbors; needy; lost...
- Great variety of worldly loves rush in to take their place: love of sin, lust, riches, possessions, popularity, creature comforts, etc.

Jn.18:17-19

- Coals for the cold (temperature).
 - Greater problem: Peter's cold heart.
 - When we are growing cold, lonely, scared, the fires of sin burn us.
- As Peter: we need to be poked, prodded, and stirred up to become hot again.

Ac.28:1-2

- After two weeks on stormy sea, now facing hypothermia – wet and cold.
- Paul's faith is as strong as ever.
- Heathen charity ... lost in sea of sin [worse shape than Paul].
- Sinners understand dangers of freezing...

- 2 Co.11²⁷ in weariness and toil, in sleeplessness often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness.
- Ancient travel was often draining, demanding, and dangerous.
- Fatigue, loneliness, lack of food . . . no electric blanket.
- Paul never stayed in five star hotels...

Laodicea, Rev.3:14-17

- Their Deliverer, 14
 - The Amen: Is.65:16 (*'the God of truth...'*)
 - Faithful and True witness
 - The beginning of creation of God: the cause behind it –
 - He is the Origin: not as part of creation, but moving cause behind all creation (Jn.1:3)
 - Architect, Builder, Owner, Sustainer...
 - *Beginning* includes idea of preeminence

Rev.3:14-17

- Their Deliverer, 14
- Their Disorder, 15-16a
 - Lukewarm: neither cold nor hot
 - He knows us as we truly are
 - He is the Savior
 - Laodicea: no false apostles / no Nicolaitans / no Jezebel / no heresy (too much work)

Rev.3:14-17

- Their Deliverer, 14
- Their Disorder, 15-16a
- Their Danger, 16b
 - Vomited from Lord's mouth
 - Enough religion to be deadly / dangerous

Rev.3:14-17

- Their Deliverer, 14
- Their Disorder, 15-16a
- Their Danger, 16b
- **Their Deception, 17**
 - Think they are rich, need nothing
 - They do not know their true state

Rev.3:14-17

- Their Deliverer, 14
- Their Disorder, 15-16a
- Their Danger, 16b
- Their Deception, 17
- Their Directions, 18-20
 - I counsel you . . . become truly rich, be pure, see clearly, heed the warning, be zealous, repent, let Him in...

I. Cold Warnings

II. Cool Lessons

- Gn.8²², While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, and day and night shall not cease.
- At the end, many will wish for cold... Lk.16:24
- No one can vote out the cold ... or ignore it ... or legislate it away

Job 38²⁹ From whose womb comes the ice? And the frost of heaven, who gives it birth? ³⁰ The waters harden like stone, And the surface of the deep is frozen.

Job 37¹⁰ By the breath of God ice is given...

- Reminds us of His breath that saves –

2 Tim.3:16, All Scripture is given by **inspiration** of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness

- **In-spiration** – breathed, inspired by God