RESTRAIN OR PAIN

PROBLEM & POWER OF PAIN • BRAD SAAB • NOVEMBER 15, 2026

BIG IDEA: AUTHORITY THAT WON'T RESTRAIN EVIL MULTIPLIES PAIN.

Ecclesiastes 8:11 *– Because the sentence against an evil deed is not executed speedily, the heart of the children of man is fully set to do evil.*

FAMILY GOVERNMENT

Refusing to discipline and instruct your kids sets them on a pathway to pain.

Ephesians 6:4 *– Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.*

Proverbs 22:15 *– Folly is bound up in the heart of a child, but the rod of discipline drives it far from him.*

Proverbs 13:24 *– Whoever spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is diligent to discipline him.*

APPLICATION: Stop rewarding & start opposing your kids' sin and folly.

CHURCH GOVERNMENT

A church that's more "compassionate" than God harms the sinner, the saints, and the seeker.

Galatians 6:1 *– Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted.*

1 Corinthians 5:1–2, 5, 11–13 *– It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and of a kind that is not tolerated even among pagans, for a man has his father's wife. [2] And you are arrogant! Ought you not rather to mourn? Let him who has done this be removed from among you. … [5] you are to deliver this man to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord. [11] But now I am writing to you not to associate with anyone who bears the name of brother if he is guilty of sexual immorality or greed, or is an idolater, reviler, drunkard, or swindler—not even to eat with such a one. [12] For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Is it not those inside the*

church whom you are to judge? [13] God judges those outside. "Purge the evil person from among you."

APPLICATION: Restore the repentant. Refuse to pretend.

CIVIL GOVERNMENT

Governments that delay justice multiply victims.

Proverbs 21:15 *– When justice is done, it is a joy to the righteous but terror to evildoers.*

Romans 12:19; 13:3–4 *– Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." … [3] For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, [4] for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer.*

APPLICATION: Protect victims, not villains.

NEXT WEEK: God's Patience Behind the Pain