

Double Yellow Lines

by Rickie Jenkins

Double yellow lines on the highway mean stay on your side. When we think about that, all that stands between the other person and us are two yellow lines. If one crosses over there can be tragic consequences. Just two yellow lines and the other person's willingness to heed the warning protect us.

Spiritually we have yellow lines as well. Yellow lines mean there is a restriction. We must stay on our side. Our side is strait and narrow (Matt. 7:13-14). We are bound by God's law and our willingness to obey that law. If we cross over the boundary we have transgressed (1 Jn. 3:4). There are serious consequences. Our eternal soul's salvation hangs in the balance.

As in driving, when someone crosses over the yellow lines there is an accident and the innocent is hurt, so it is with sin. When we choose to sin some one who is innocent is hurt. Take the person who commits adultery, their innocent mate is destroyed. When a man gets drunk and his family does without food because he spent it all on the bottle, the innocent is hurt. When a man gets drunk, comes home and beats his wife and children, the innocent are hurt. When a parent abuses a child, the innocent is hurt. The person crossing the yellow line may walk away from the accident but the innocent don't. It may take months, if not years, before the innocent are ever fully recovered. Some don't. No one escapes the hurt of sin, neither the guilty nor the innocent.

Just as the yellow lines were meant to keep us on our side of the road, therefore safe, so does God give us His law. His law is called the perfect law of liberty (James 1:25). Liberty is the freedom to act within prescribed restraint. Today's thinking that liberty means you can do what you want is false. That is license. God gave us marriage law for man's good. He who made us knows we operate best when one man is married to one woman for life. The only exception is when one crosses the yellow, that is, commits fornication. Then the innocent has the right to put away that guilty mate and thus remarry. But again, sin, crossing the yellow line, caused the crash. God said stay on your side of the road. God said drunkenness is sin. He did not make us to be drunk. Our bodies were not made that way. Happiness does not come from crossing the yellow line, only sin, misery, death and destruction. Our greatest happiness is when we are obedient to God's perfect law which gives us liberty.

Folks, we not only need to be careful with our driving, we need to be careful with our soul. Stay on your side.

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