Oh, the irony! Two weeks ago, I spoke negatively about the controversial evangelical pastor **Mark Driscoll.** Last week I spoke positively about conservative commentator and entrepreneur, **Jeremy Boreing.** This past week, much to my surprise, Boreing hosted Driscoll as a guest on his podcast, in what I considered to be a softball interview. This illuminated to me the fact that a correct assessment in one instance does not guarantee wisdom and discernment for every instance. It is for this reason that we, as Christ-followers, must walk in humility and dependence upon the Holy Spirit amidst rapidly changing circumstances and information exchanges. A trusted source today might miss the mark tomorrow. Our job is to inspect everything carefully and to employ critical thinking in our evaluations of truth claims.

Moving from the informational and ideological to the practical and material, it was heartbreaking to watch the film footage of the glacial lake landslide/mudslide that devastated towns along the river valley in Nepal and Tibet. With 995 reported deaths and more than 4,400 people still missing, this tragedy captured the attention of the world. When you consider that a thirty-foot-high wall of water, mud, and rock, was moving down the narrow valley at 120 m.p.h., the only solace is that many of those who were killed probably died quickly, if not instantly. What is tragic is that many, if not

most, of those who died, probably did not know Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord. This somber reality can also serve as a prophetic warning…prepare for eternity today because we never know if our next breath will be our last.

On the positive side of this horrific event are the stories of saved lives. One school principal acted quickly to evacuate his school, saving the lives of about 1,000 students; he was a true hero. I can only imagine the gratitude of those children's parents when they survey the remains of the school building while having their precious kids alive by their sides. This sudden and shocking event, including both the painful loss of lives and the joyful preservation of life and deliverance from almost certain death, puts what is important into perspective.

As guardians of the gospel message, we, as Christians, can either argue about how high the waters are rising, how fast the flood is approaching, what the source of the flood is or who is at fault for the catastrophic failure, OR we can lead people to the safety of higher ground. In the process of leading people to safety (found only in Jesus, the Rock of our Salvation) we may need to warn others NOT to stay in what may seem to be a secure, manmade structure. We might also need to warn others still, NOT to following a person taking a much easier downhill route that leads to certain death. Floods, real

and metaphorical, come quickly and can be devastating. This is a reminder and call to all Christians to sound the alarm early, frequently, and loudly… pleading and compelling through persuasion, the lost to turn to Jesus while there is still time. This is an existential urgency!

Blessings! Jeff