

The Lord May Come ... Perhaps Today ... Behold, I Come Quickly ... Rev. 22:7

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"And I Wondered ..."

"Is there any daysman betwixt us, that might lay his hand upon us" (Job 9:33)

It is a picture of little children that tugs at the heart's deepest emotions. Fear is written all over their faces, a haunting pleading peers from their eyes, swathed in bandages, and totally helpless through no fault of their own. A cruel taskmaster who deems to think he is untouchable lives in luxury, and with a heart that is as cold as ice in the North Atlantic.



One may ask: "Who are these little ones?" "Where is mother or dad, are they still alive?" "What do they know of love?" Is there any iota of comfort for not only they, but the hundreds of little children who have been killed and whose little bodies are marred and damaged for life?

In situations like this the words of the Saviour seem far away: "It is not the will of your Father which is in Heaven, that one of these little ones should perish" (Matt. 18:14). Why does God not step in and do something? I do not know all the answers, but there are some truths which can help us through the turmoil of our hearts when seeing these situations.

We can get comfort from the knowledge that:

When any of these little ones die they will be immediately ushered into the presence of the Lord. Such is the efficacy of the blood of our Lord that even in the Old Testament, they knew if a child died before they reached the point of accountability, they would be in Heaven. David had a little son (2 Sam. 12:14-23) (notice the "he" and "him" v.23) who died after a seven day illness. With deep sorrow David wept, but when he heard the child was physically dead, he washed and ate. His servants were amazed and asked why? David then said those words which have brought comfort to many a parent's breaking heart: "I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me". It is over thirty years ago I was asked to officiate at the funeral of a little child. The infant was born with a major medical problem and only lived for 7-8 hours. As the parents and I stood by that little white coffin, loud crying had run its course, and all that was heard was the lonesome sobbing of despondent hearts. What do you say? All I could say was: "We shall go to him", for the little one is in heaven.

We should be concerned for the many who every moment enter the caverns of the damned

This picture reminds me of a greater desolation, the horror that must be scored across the faces who know that as they lived without God in life, they are without God for eternity. To have, in a split moment of time, the clear conscious awareness that: "I am under the fierce wrath of Almighty God, and it will never end", "I who spurned his offer of

salvation, and used His name in blasphemy, am now alive, never to die in the torments of hell". At a moment of time they went from:

- a) Rejection to realization
- b) Laughing to wailing
- c) Opportunity to no hope, and that for all eternity.

In that place of blackness of darkness, of unquenchable pain, of a burning conscience and the fierceness of divine judgment, they will languish forever. Nothing will ever obscure nor dull the memories of blatant rejection of salvation and the knowledge that there is no hope. Like those who rejected the message of Noah, when the door was shut, never did another individual enter in. So it will be for those who die without Christ. Remorse will know no ease, and mercy's door that so long was opened is closed, and closed forever. I cannot imagine what the faces of those will be like.

We can find peace in the knowledge that God is still on the Throne.

Man may act and live as if God is a helpless imaginary figure who is incapable of doing anything, but the scriptures record of individuals who thought they could show contempt toward God and be void of consequences:

- a) Belshazzar thought that, but learnt differently. (Dan. 5:30)
- b) The king of Assyria thought that, but learnt differently. (Isa. 10:12)
- c) The nation of Edom thought that, but learnt differently. (Obad. 1:2, 15)
- d) Saddam thought that, but now knows differently.

Lets make no mistake, men who do such things appear to get away with their atrocities as the world looks on helplessly. However, the world is not God! The nations can do nothing, but God will. Furthermore, even death will not enable these men to escape the judgment of God. Let us ponder the words carefully: "I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God . . . and the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them" (Rev. 20:12-13). There is no escape! Cremation will not enable them to miss that court scene; having ones ashes scattered on the rolling seas will not enable one to slip away from the sentencing. All will stand before God.

There will be just retribution for their works in the measuring of Divine sentencing (Lk. 12:48)

The scriptures declare:

- a) "The dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books." (Rev. 20:12)
- b) "They were judged every man according to their works." (Rev. 20:13)

At night they can lie in their bed in comfort, but God has declared that unless there is repentance, they shall make their bed forever in hell.

Our Praver

- 1) May the Lord have mercy on these little ones, and if it please Him, release them from the land of the sorrow and dying, and take them to His home of bliss and joy.
- 2) May the Holy Spirit of God liberate we, the people of God, from the blinding box of the world's lightness and frivolity, and to live considering eternity.
- 3) May we, by God's gracious Spirit, live in the reality that it is:

Heaven or Hell for Eternity . . . Which?

... Rowan Jennings

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