

Scriptural Truths

E-Mail Meditations

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

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My Morning Coffee

The other morning after I got up I found my get up and go had all gone. Making breakfast seemed such a chore so I decided to go to my favourite restaurant and have a coffee. As usual, I had my wallet, cell phone, pens and a book on a Biblical subject. I always have a book with me and I sit alone and as I eat, I read and mark the data I find important. While waiting for my breakfast and reading my book, a young fellow came and sat opposite me and looked at me. I had no idea who he was. Then my breakfast came and I asked him if he would like something to eat so I bought his breakfast for him. As we sat together I said, "let's give thanks" and I prayed. The young man looked at me and said "How did you know I was a christian?" I asked him, "What is a christian?", to which he told me he was baptized and had always been a christian. Here he was, a young lad 14 years of age, knowing nothing of God's salvation. With the Spirit's help I tried to explain to him that while he could pray to Mary, she could not help him and the only way of salvation is through the work of our Lord at Calvary. He sat for a while and we talked, then he left. Just a young lad brought up in the darkness of a false religion which could never provide or give the hope of salvation.

We live in a world of 8.2 billion people, and everyone of them is travelling at the speed of time to eternity. Millions of them are under the condemnation of their sins and the rejection of Christ as Saviour. They are moving toward the fastest non return journey they will ever make.

This young lad was sincere. He was polite and thankful for the sandwich but knew nothing about God's plan of salvation. What are we not doing? He lives here in Abbotsford with multiple churches all over the city, the gospel is preached over the radio, over zoom, through the television and yet this lad knew nothing about salvation. Assemblies and good evangelical churches have been here for over 100 years yet he had never heard the gospel. When he left I thought how serious our conversation had been. That may be the only time I will see him, the only time he will hear the gospel. What if this fellow dies unsaved, or grows up to adulthood and forgets our meeting having coffee? This was no hardened criminal but a fresh faced innocent young teenager and the question is, "Could I have done more?"

What is wrong?

Some years ago I was asked by a mother and father to go to a hospital to see their son for the last time. As I looked at the young man lying in the hospital bed, I read his vitals. His oxygen was excellent, his chest was moving up and down, he was pink and warm, the only problem was, he was dead, and had been for some 36 hours. He had all the appearances of life but he was dead. Having been given the privilege of ministering in a great number of assemblies, I wonder if that is our problem. We have the Morning Meeting, Sunday School, Gospel meeting and Prayer meetings, but what about outreach? In the mercy of God He has given to us tools today that our fathers never heard about, and while some are

using them, the vast majority are not using zoom etc. If people will come into the meeting places, can we go into their homes via the internet?

I wonder, have we ever had or perhaps lost the frightening awareness of an eternal Hell? I have heard it shouted, I have seen platforms thumped, but I have never seen a preacher preaching about hell with tears. I am sure there are but after 60 plus years I have never seen it. We have received the compassion of God and the living attitude of so many is, "I'm saved you can go to Hell". Where is the love, the compassion for our children, families and friends?

For those reading this and not saved, I plead with you to seek Christ. Just as that talk with the young lad could be the last time he will be spoken to regarding eternity, you may have had your last opportunity to hear the gospel, you may have had the almost last opportunity to accept the love of God and the Saviour. Let's never forget, tomorrow is eternity just hidden from your view. God says, "O that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end!" (Deut. 32:29) and again, "Prepare to meet thy God" (Amos 4:12) and "Today is the day of salvation" (2 Cor. 6:12).

This is a God given opportunity to put your full trust, your full dependence on Christ for salvation, for as we used to sing:

No other door, no other way,
No other guild to the realms of Day,
No other Keeper when tempted to stray,
No other friend like Jesus.

It is not a matter of doing anything but switching your faith from every human endeavour to solely trusting Christ alone.

. . . Rowan Jennings

www.scripturaltruths.org

e-mail: scripturaltruths1@shaw.ca

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