

Scriptural Truths

E-Mail Meditations

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

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All Ye That Pass By

During our Lord's ministry, He told a parable which illustrates what is written in the book of Lamentations. In the parable, a man was badly beaten by robbers and left at the side of the road. There was no pity for the man. If he were married, the robbers did not care about his wife or children being left without a husband or father. In time, a Levite came to where the man was lying, looked at him, and, going to the other side of the road, went on his way. A priest came to where the man was and He also looked at the badly beaten man and passed by on the other side of the road (Lk. 10:30-32). That suffering man meant nothing to them. The writer of Lamentations wrote, "Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by? behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow" (Lam. 1:12). Throughout the church buildings in this world, thousands have a cross or an image of the Lord on the cross and they pass by it. Perhaps they have the sign of the cross on themselves, but God says, "Look at that man, on the cross, stop, consider why He is on the cross, what He is enduring and what He is procuring. Does it mean anything to you as you pass by?"

Stop for a moment and consider what Paul wrote to the Corinthians concerning those who crucified the Lord. "None of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory" (1 Cor. 2:8). All over the world, there are millions of unsaved individuals who want to be in Heaven when they die. The problem is, Heaven would be the most dreadful place they would ever want to be. All will be praising God and the Lord, singing songs of praise, and working for the glory of God and the Lord for all eternity. They are like the people of whom Paul wrote, not that they did not know what they were doing, but they did not understand the seriousness of the activity. Some saw Him as a man on a cross, something they had seen numerous times. Others saw Him as a criminal and blasphemer who was getting what He deserved for proclaiming God was His Father. Yet, there were those who realized this man's suffering and death is not normal for the sun was blotted out, at His death the veil in the temple was torn and there was an earthquake, then when He arose from the dead many of the graves were opened and the dead came out of the graves, real living people. The writer asks, paraphrasing, "Does that Man on the middle cross mean nothing to you as you live your life?"

There were those who, as they passed by, shook their heads in disdain. The Saviour of the world meant nothing to them. They mocked Him (Matt. 27:42) and His words of truth (Matt. 27:43).

The man on the middle cross was the Father's well-beloved Son who, of His own volition, came into this world to secure for sinful man a way back to God. It was a magnificent act of grace and love for the individuals who were not only without merit, and could never by works produce a single merit point, but righteously were deserving of eternal judgment. (Isa. 64:6).

This is a case history of an individual, and even while in this life already under the condemnation of God and moving with the speed of time to banishment from God and His blessings for all eternity. Each individual who seeks, by their

own doing to gain God's favour, are despising the salvation God has provided. The writer to the Hebrews describes such recording (Heb. 10:28), they are trampling underfoot the Son of God, crucifying Him again and despite the promptings of the Holy Spirit are determined to do as Sinatra sang, "I'll do it my way". The scriptures remind its readers twice over, "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Prov. 14:12; 16:25).

Despite all the religious rituals one can do, they are being deceived by the workers of Satan who give them the idea that all their church going, all their praying, all their good works, etc. are acceptable to God. Their thought and understanding is when the individual stands before the Lord there will be a spiritual scale with good works on one side and sins on the other, and if the good works outweigh the bad then they will enter heaven. This is blasphemy. Salvation through Jesus Christ is the only way to God (Eph. 2:8-9) and any other approach will end in the judgment of God. God asks, "Is it nothing to you who pass by?"

Our tiny concepts utterly fail when it comes to considering eternity. The mayfly is a little creature that has a life span of 24 hours. I was born on the 1st of February 1944 and today, 15th November 2026 I have lived 29,873 days. How could an individual explain to a little mayfly the duration of my life? This is a comparison between earthly durations. When speaking about eternity, one is considering not millions of days or years but a sphere where there is no time, no birthdays or date of deaths. It is a non-interrupted duration which will never end. It will last as long as God lives and God cannot die (1 Tim. 6:16). Is it nothing to you who pass by?

. . . Rowan Jennings

"Prepare To Meet Thy God"

"Careless soul, O heed the warning,
For your life will soon be gone;
O how sad to face the judgment,
Unprepared to meet thy God."

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