

JOURNEYING HOMEWARD

“For here we have no continuing city, but we seek one to come. Heb. 13:14 “

Life on earth passes so quickly and we, as mortals, are propelled by time on a journey toward our eternal destiny. The reality of life here is that it is temporal. God has planned it to be this way from the beginning because He has prepared a beautiful home in heaven to be the permanent and eternal abiding place for all His children. Satan, our arch enemy, desires to distract us from these truths and in his subtle and deceptive way allures us with the things of this natural life that appear so desirable and pleasing to our human nature. ***“Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.” Luke 21:36*** If man follows the guidance of God’s Word to the end of life’s brief earthly journey he will receive eternal life in heaven through the merits of Jesus. However, should he live in the fulfillment of his fleshly desires, contrary to God’s Word, he will be banished to hell for all eternity. We have a heaven to gain and a hell to shun. It is my hope that you, dear reader, would not grow weary of finding these same reminders so frequently written and preached. Because the inclination of our human nature is such that it would simply dismiss words of caution and be enticed to the things that appear so appealing we must earnestly pray for God’s help to remain faithful and vigilant.

This journey through time, can be likened unto a natural journey in that there is a point of beginning and there is an end or a final destination. Our journey through life begins when we are born into this world. For most, the desired destination is heaven, the eternal city. How we journey will ultimately determine our safe arrival.

Our enemy, the devil, also knows our travel plans, hopes, and aspirations. He too, has plans for us with one goal and that is to prevent us from reaching our eternal home in heaven. To accomplish his purpose he places many obstacles before us. These obstacles come in many and subtle forms and do hinder our progress and often cause us to become discouraged. They may come in the form of doubts that our faith is sufficient or acceptable to God, or fears that we may lose our worldly friends by walking as His child and fleeing worldly ungodly activities. The devil may also attempt to trap us in our own pride by convincing us that we are good and righteous in ourselves and thereby acceptable to God. Whether lost in the wilderness of sin with our worldly friends or on the pinnacle of self righteousness with our vain pride, we fall victim to the enemy of our souls.

God’s Word teaches us, ***“Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.” Heb. 10:38*** And again we read, ***“But without faith it is impossible to please Him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is the rewarder of them that diligently seek him. Heb. 11:6*** Recognizing then, dear child of God, the perilous days in which we live, let us journey by faith as did Abraham, ***“For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God. Heb. 11:10*** How beautiful is that city of which John bears witness, ***“And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. Rev. 21:2-5***

Dear Christian friend, we are journeying homeward to that beautiful, eternal city. Let nothing impede us upon the way, but let us keep faith and a good conscience before God, who through the blood of Jesus has washed and cleansed us from sin.

Ken Storm - pastor

Sunday School begins September 13th at 10am.

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