

Scriptural Truths

E-Mail Meditations

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

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Deliberate Self Blinding

Introduction

There is an advertisement on television which opens with an interesting scene, it is of an ostrich with its head buried deep in the sand. As I saw the advertisement it reminded me of humanity when it comes to preparing for life after death. Normal daily living can take so much of our time, energy and thinking that the matter of eternity just does not come into the picture. At times if there is a family or associate's death, there may be a short, perhaps only momentary piercing of the consciousness that asks, "What will happen me after I die?" Then as quickly it is gone by the call of an individual, seeing someone or something, and at that moment the thought of eternity is gone.

- a) We, like the ostrich, can live with our heads buried in the "here and now". Getting ready to meet God is put on the back burner. This neglecting of salvation is the avoiding of the question, "How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation?" (Heb. 2:3). Furthermore, it is quenching God's convicting Spirit, and while this is the maintained attitude, there is no hope of salvation. Even while alive in the body such are doomed to the Lake of Fire for all eternity. It may even be that such individuals no longer want to be reminded of the afterlife, they may even present their own thoughts such as, "God is too loving to punish sin" or they no longer want to talk, think or have anything else to do with God. They are ignoring or refusing to remember two major realities, there are consequences for ignoring, neglecting, rejecting God and His salvation, and they will stand before the Almighty.
- b) If an individual wants to keep God outside of their life, being stubbornly obstinate in obeying Him, wanting nothing of God in life, that is their decision but what are the consequences? They are horrific for they will then live in a place where God will never trouble them again. Not only will God never disturb them again but the things that gave pleasure will be no more. In Hell there is no love, no dance music, no drugs, no drink, no computers, no amusement, no television, no radio, no sex, no glamour, no prestige, no opulence but a horribleness beyond human communication.
 - i) If an individual in this life lives rejecting God's salvation, then God will reject any opportunities for it the moment they die.
 - ii) If an individual in this life stifles the convictions of the Holy Spirit, then from the moment of death the Spirit of God will never convict them again.
 - iii) If an individual denies God's truth with regard to salvation, then at the moment of death they will realize they have accepted the lie of "doing good works to get to heaven". God will make it evident He is not a liar.
 - iv) If an individual treats the Most High God with disregard and disdain, as the last breath whispers from their body, they enter eternity where God will deal with them as they have dealt with God and His salvation.
 - v) If an individual keeps God at a distance, then God will forever keep them at a distance.

- c) One truth is evident. All those who will be banished to hell and the Lake of Fire will never be able to blame God. Rejecting His salvation was their choice. No one forced them to spurn the offer of salvation, the decision was their's alone.

God's Deepest Longing

God yearns for human beings to live in fellowship with Him, to revel in the joys of His dwelling place, and makes as plain as can be His open invitation:

- a) "Come unto me, all *ye* that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." (Matt. 11:28).
- b) In the almost final word of God's exhortation of love we read, "And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely" (Rev. 22:17).
- c) "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool" (Isa. 1:18).

The promise of God could not be any clearer, "Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out" (Jn. 6:37). That promise is made to every individual, every man, woman, boy and girl, for the holy apostle Peter wrote concerning God, that He "is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (2 Pet. 3:9), and who can ignore the universal invitation of John 3:16, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life". The sacrifice of the Lord at Calvary was God's loving provision for every individual to "escape the damnation of Hell" (Matt. 23:33).

God's Advance Warning

When the children of Israel refused to obey the commands of God judgment fell. God then displayed the yearnings of His heart when He said, "O that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end!" (Deut. 32:29). No one needs to wait until final judgment to find out if they will go to Heaven or Hell. At this moment every Christ rejecter is sure that they are going to the Lake of Fire for all eternity. There is no questioning it. They can go to bed tonight and know with assurance that when they close their eyes tonight, if they die the next sight they will see will be the fierce judgment of God. In Greek mythology the courtier Damocles was forced to sit beneath a sword suspended by a single hair. God has said that the sword of divine justice for disobedience is hanging over their heads, they are "condemned already" (Jn. 3:18). Like a criminal waiting, not knowing when their death sentence will be carried out, there is no appeal, no waiting leniency, likewise they are in the prison house of sin waiting for death and the execution of divine wrath. God now commands all men everywhere to repent, that is not an option. It is not what my minister tells me about my good works being sufficient, it is a command by the righteous God.

God's Final Answer

There was at one time a program in which individuals were asked a question, then the quiz master would ask, "Is that your final answer?" When they said "Yes" it was sealed. There was no rethinking, no "give me more time," the answer was accepted. What will God's final answer be to those who reject the sacrifice of His Son and determine to do it their way? This then is God's final answer, "I never knew you; depart from me" (Matt 7:23).

We read in Revelation one of the most solemn readings in all the scriptures:

"And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire" (Rev. 20:11-15).

Christ the Judge sits on the throne and the individual stands alone, no family members, no lawyers, no character witnesses, and the books are opened. There, as plain as can be seen, is every opportunity the individual had for salvation and their rejection. The individual stands condemned and not a word will be said. The scalding conscience knows the stupidity of their rejection and then nothing but the sentence. Possibly for the individual that book is closed, the case is just about over, and then the Judge, looking at the individual solemnly states, "Then shall he say . . . unto them . . . Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels" (Matt. 25:41).

[The Decision Each Individual Must Make](#)

It is the decision Pilate had to make so long ago, “What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ?” (Matt. 27:22). Now it is the reader’s decision time, What will you do with Jesus and His sacrifice for your sins? Will you accept or reject Him? The consequences are clearly before the reader. There is a way of life and a way of death. One can be like the ostrich or the individual can with haste accept God’s only way of salvation by confessing their inability to do anything to deliver themselves from Hell, and willing of their own volition to accept the Lord Jesus as their own Saviour.

**O be saved, His grace is free!
O be saved, He died for thee!**



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