
The Messenger



"... How beautiful are the feet of those who bring glad tidings of good things!" Romans 10:15

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Dedicated to the Proclamation of the Truth in the Spirit of Love (Ephesians 4:15)

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Listen to PROVE ALL THINGS on 730 AM WKRE, Sunday mornings from 8:15 to 8:30.

“Life is Not Fair!”

by David Thomley

Sitting on a grassy hillside with his long hair pulled back and tied in a ponytail, a nineteen-year-old thinker munched on his organically grown fruit and contemplated life. This same ritual had been going on for three days, a ritual initiated by the sudden departure of the girl he loved. He thought about the lower middle class family to which he had been born, putting him at a distant economic disadvantage as compared to his peers. He thought about the low grade he received in his marketing class, and he had struggled for that. The guy who sat behind him in class never passed a test, but somehow pulled a “B” in the course. At the beginning of the semester, he was fortunate enough to receive one of the more desirable student employment positions on campus. Just two days earlier, his supervisor told him that he would lose the job the next semester because “somebody’s nephew” wanted it.

On the third day, late in the afternoon, this young man finally spoke. He had arrived at his conclusion on life, and he was prepared to state his profound observation. “Life is not fair.”

Which is the greater wonder? That a nineteen-year-old would arrive at such a conclusion on life? Or that this young man had lived nineteen years without ever realizing this truth?

Life is not fair. God never said it would be. In a sin-cursed world, it cannot be. The preacher said, “There is something else meaningless that occurs on earth: righteous men who get what the wicked deserve, and wicked men who get what the righteous deserve” (Ecc. 8:14). Jesus made His own comment of life’s unfairness when he observed, “He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous” (Matt. 5:45). While living in opposition to the gospel, Saul of Tarsus had a fairly comfortable life. After he committed his life to preaching the gospel of Jesus, he suffered beatings, imprisonment, stoning, shipwreck, hunger and other severities of life. And so it has been with many other Christians through the centuries. It may not be fair – but it’s life. God’s promise is, “in the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world” (John 16:33).

Life is not fair. But keep in mind, that’s not all bad. When this life is over, and I stand before the judgment seat of Christ, I do not want what is fair, I want grace.



Lulled by Luxury

by Olen Holderby

Prosperity is not, necessarily, a token of God's blessings, nor is it any assurance that we will have plenty in the future. Wealth may be used by Satan to anesthetize a person, making him insensitive to his spiritual needs.

Some time back I read about a religious custom of the Aztecs of Mexico. They used their captives as human sacrifices to their gods. But, before offering them as sacrifices, they often permitted them to live in luxury and splendor for a whole year. At the end of that year, they would be offered as sacrifices. Wasn't much to look forward to, was it?

Many lost souls are in a similar circumstance. They are moving hopelessly toward eternity without Christ. They are lured by material possessions. Because of their great love for THINGS, they are oblivious to the great danger and destruction which is ahead. Satan has used prosperity as a means of lulling them into a fatal acquiescence to his plan. How sad!

Now turn to Luke 12:13-21, and read the story of the "rich fool". He was preparing for the future and he had much goods laid up in anticipation of a grand time. He enlarged his barns; but, alas, his good times came to an end. He had forgotten something that was very vital - he had not made any provision for eternity! How long, O, how long will it take us to learn the lessons stated in verse 15 of this text? "...a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth." The wise man holds lightly to this world's goods; and, by faith he grips heavenly treasures, while he is careful not to be lulled into spiritual disaster by the luxuries which this world offers.

News and Notes:

Remember to check the prayer list for those with ongoing spiritual weaknesses and physical illnesses.

"...Pray for one another...The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."
- James 5:16