

THE BIBLE VIEW

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Too Late!

D. L. Moody

Many years ago, a merchant lie dying. When the physician that attended him saw there was no chance for him, he thought it would be time to talk about Christ to the dying man. There are a great many Christians just like this physician. They wait until a man is just entering the other world, just when the sands of his life are about run out, and just when the death rattle is in his throat before they speak of Christ to the person.

The physician stepped up to the dying merchant and began to speak of Jesus, the beauties of Christianity, and the salvation He has offered to the world. The merchant listened quietly to him, and then asked him, "How long have you known of these things?"

"I have been a Christian since I came from the East," he replied.

"You have been a Christian so long and have known all this, and have been in my store every day. You have been in my house; have associated with me; you knew all these things, and why didn't you tell me before?"

The doctor went home and retired to rest, but could not sleep. The question of the dying man rang in his ears. He could not explain why he had not spoken before, but he saw he had neglected his duty to witness. He went back to his dying friend, intending to urge upon him the acceptance of Christ's salvation, but when he began to speak to him the merchant only replied in a sad whisper, "Oh, why didn't you tell me before?"

Oh, my friends, how many of us act like this physician? We do not make the eternity of those we meet a priority, and we let too many slip through the cracks into an eternal Hell. If we do not tell them while we have the opportunity, they will continue stumbling in a godless direction.

"The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise."

Proverb 11:30

Verses on Soul Winning

"Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins." James 5:20

"And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled." Luke 14:23

"To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some." I Cor. 9:22

"For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more." I Cor. 9:19

“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.” Mark 16:15

“If by any means I may provoke to emulation them which are my flesh, and might save some of them.” Rom. 11:14

“Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.” I Tim. 4:16

Bloody Hands

Bill Brinkworth

“If when he seeth the sword come upon the land, he [the watchman] blow the trumpet, and warn the people; 4 Then whosoever heareth the sound of the trumpet, and taketh not warning; if the sword come, and take him away, his blood shall be upon his own head. ... 6 But if the watchman see the sword come, and blow not the trumpet, and the people be not warned; if the sword come, and take any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at the watchman's hand.” Eze. 33:3-6

When God gave His words to Ezekiel, as recorded in Ezekiel 33:1, He first gave the prophet an example so he would understand the importance of the task he was to be given. The parable was about a watchman that was selected and placed in a position to observe any enemy entering the country.

If the guard saw the enemy arriving in the land, he would blow a warning trumpet (Eze. 33:3). The watchman was not responsible, if any perished for not heeding the trumpet's blast in either fleeing or facing the enemy; their

blood was not “on his hands”. He was not guilty of any deaths (Eze. 33:4), if they occurred.

However, if the lookout saw the enemy coming, and did not alert the people with the instrument’s warning sound, the deaths of any slain were on his hands. He was guilty of their demise (Eze. 33:6). His negligence made him accountable (Eze. 33:6) for their shed blood. Their blood was “on his hands”.

Ezekiel was then given the task by God to be the nation’s watchman (Eze. 33:7). It was not so much a physical enemy he was to warn his people of, nor was he to man a trumpet and perch high on an observation post. The prophet’s task was to take the warnings God gave him, and make sure God’s people heard His words. After Ezekiel delivered the message, it was then up to the people what they did with the warnings. The rest of the book’s chapters revealed that Ezekiel did fulfill his commission.

Today, according to God’s Word, there are no longer prophets (I Cor. 13:8), no matter what many claim. All God wants us to know is preserved within the pages of the King James Bible, so there is no longer a need for one to give us the message from God’s lips, as did Ezekiel.

However, since we have God’s Word it is still imperative that all hear His message. Every Christian is not only responsible to read God’s Word and to obey it, but he is responsible to make sure as many as possible hear God’s warnings. We are to be watchmen warning of a hot Hell,

telling of the one Way (Jesus) to avoid it, and telling all we can how God wants us to live. Yet, most Christians have not done what is expected of them. There is blood on many hands!

God's name is cursed, while most are silent. Our Saviour is mocked and ridiculed, yet not much is said. Many live an ungodly life, yet nary a word that would help them leaves most Christians' lips. Most around us have never trusted Christ as their Saviour and are doomed for a hellish eternity, yet not a word is offered to rescue them from their doom. Too many of today's watchmen are silent!

Their warning "trumpets" are hushed as many are never warned of God's words. There is innocent blood on too many hands. Oh, that we would have diligent, bold watchmen, that would sound the warnings God wants us to announce. Sound the "trumpet" loudly as danger is close, lives are at stake, and it up to us to sound the alarm! Keep your hands clean from the blood of others!

"Oh, how many we have encountered could have been saved or have their lives changed if we were only bold enough to share the Word of God with them!"

Love Is the Difference

D. L. Moody

In our city a few years ago there was a little boy who went to one of the mission Sunday schools. His father moved to

another part of the city about five miles away, and every Sunday that boy came past thirty or forty Sunday schools to the one he attended.

One Sunday, a lady who was out bringing children for a Sunday school met him and asked why he went so far, past so many schools. "There are plenty of others," she said, "that are just as good."

He said, "They may be as good, but they are not so good for me."

"Why not?" she asked.

"Because they love a fellow over there," he answered. Ah! Love won him.

"Because they love a fellow over there!" How easy it is to reach people through love! Sunday school teachers and Christians should show Christ's love in their life, if they wish to lead others to Christ.

He Is Pleased

C. H. Spurgeon

The Lord Jesus must take great pleasure in the attempts of his servants to seek and to lead souls to an eternal salvation; for they are learning to be shepherds like Himself.

When King Edward III heard that the Black Prince was having a hard battle with the French, he smiled to think

that his son was in a place where he could show his valor. When the king was entreated to send reinforcements, he refused because he wished his son to have the undivided honors of the day.

The Lord Jesus, the Captain of our salvation, puts some of his chosen into places of great peril, and he does not seem to send them all the help they desire in order that they may prove their faith, consecration, and thus earn their spurs. He takes pleasure in seeing the courage and faith the soul winner displays when he has a burden for the eternity of another.

Like a father delights to see his boy take recognition at the University and like a friend delights to see his friend elected to one honorable position after another, so does Jesus rejoice in the honors earned by his servants in the field of service. When we lead a soul from eternal death to eternal life, we may be sure that Jesus, the Savior, rejoices in our deed.

“No one can save anyone. It is the Holy Spirit that does the ‘winning’. We are just to be obedient delivery boys and girls and let Him do the work.”