

Be Earnest

D. L. Moody

I read some years ago of a vessel that was wrecked. The life boats were not enough to take all the passengers.

A man, who was swimming in the water, swam up to one of the life boats that was full and seized it with his hand. They tried to prevent him, but the man was earnest about saving his life. One of the men in the boat drew a sword and cut off his hand. The man did not give up. He reached out the other hand. He was desperate. He wanted to save his life. However, the man in the boat took the sword and cut off his

other hand.

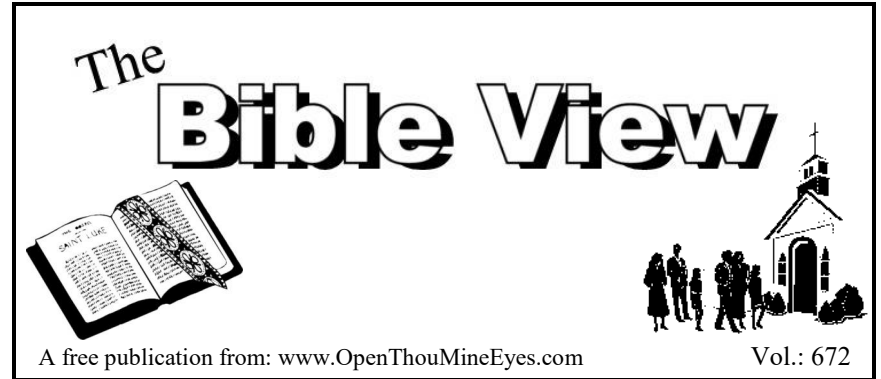
Still, the man did not give up. He swam up to the boat and seized it with his teeth. Some of them said, "Let us not cut his head off," and they drew him in. That man was saved because he was earnest.

My friends, if you want to live the Christian life be as earnest. It may be difficult to live the life. There may be obstacles and oppositions, similar to what the struggling swimmer faced, but no matter what, hang on to the truths from the Word of God. They will save and sustain you!

GOD CHANGED THEIR LIVES

Words to Find:

Abraham
Andrew
Apollos
Bartimaeus
Centurion
Cornelius
David
DyingThief
Jacob
Jailer
Leper
Magdalene
Maniac
Philip
Publican
Rahab
Ruth
Samuel
Saul
Zacchaeus



Unrelenting Conviction

D. L. Moody

I went to an exhibit of a chamber of horrors. There were wax figures of all kinds of murderers in one room. There was Booth who killed Abraham Lincoln and many guilty of terrible deeds.

There was one figure that interested me. It was of a man who killed his wife because he loved another woman, and the law never caught him.



He married the woman and had a family of seven children. Twenty years passed and his conscience began to trouble him. He had no rest. He would hear his murdered wife pleading continually for her life.

His friends began to think that he was going out of his mind. He became haggard, and his conscience haunted him till, at last, he went to the officers of the law and told them that he was guilty of the murder. He wanted

to die. Life was agony to him. His conscience constantly reminded him of his horrendous deed.

My friends if you have done wrong, may your conscience be obeyed. May you testify against yourself. It is a great deal better to judge our acts and confess them than go through life without peace.

Don't Flee the Warning Shot

Guthrie, 1877

I have read of a sailing ship that rode the waters and was armed with cannon enough to sink any common craft. When attacking another vessel, she pointed her guns to send the shot crashing through the other's rigging.

Her purpose was not to sink the flying sail but to "wing" her, compel her to surrender, and be their captive. The heavily armed vessel might have sunk the enemy, but with the cannon's thunders and threatenings she

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“Do you have a reminding, almost nagging concern that does not seem to let you have any peace? Does the guilt of sin continue to haunt you? It may be the convicting Holy Spirit attempting to turn you from sin and toward righteousness.” — B. B.

Don't Flee the ...

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sought to save her, and make a prize of her.

So does a long-suffering God to those that madly flee from Him. The Bible proclaims his threats and thunderings for a purpose. That purpose is to warn an escaping soul before more damage is done to it. The warnings should not be ignored.

Why flee? Vain is the flight when God pursues! He is willing to forgive, but His divine patience can be exhausted. He may cease to follow! What then? His “shot,” be it the soft voice of conviction, may soon be directed at a more damaging target as a tragedy, ailment, or other means to get one’s attention and change one’s life. Surrender to Him now before it is regrettably too late.

“A sleeping pill will never take the place of a clear conscience.”

— Cantor

True to His Conscience

C. H. Spurgeon

I know a man whose master had tried to make him go against his conscience. However, the servant said, “No, sir.”

The employer thought, “Well, he is a very valuable servant, but I will not let him get away with disobedience.” He threatened that if the servant did not do as was asked of him, he would be fired.

The man was dependent on his master, and he knew not what he should do for his daily bread. He said to his master, “Sir, I should be very sorry to leave you, for I have been very comfortable, but if it comes to that, sir, I would sooner starve than submit my conscience to anyone.”

The man left, and the master had to go after him to bring him back again. It may not always be like that, but a Christian must always stand his ground on righteousness and his convictions.

If the Heart Is Right

Author Unknown

It doesn't so much matter
 What path our feet may tread,
 Or, whether the cheering hopes
 we knew
 In youth are vanished — dead.
 We shall find a gleam in the
 darkness
 To guide in the dreary night,
 And a joyful song as we journey
 along,

If we go with a heart that's right.

We sip from the cup of
 sweetness
 And then the bitter gall;
 Blossoms and friends are swept
 away,
 Dreams are forgotten — all.
 And you have known the tugging
 That comes to the heart strings
 tight,
 Know of the balm, the peace and
 calm
 That comes from a heat that's
 right.

The thorns that beset the
 causeway
 May fester and wound the feet;
 The cup you drink may end with
 gall,
 Drowning the cherished sweet;
 But the nectar for which you
 hunger,
 The roses that suffered blight,
 Will be yours to taste and smell
 again
 If you go with a heart that's
 right.

Steadfast in Duty

C. H. Spurgeon

I should like you to act as the American Colonel Davenport did upon a certain occasion. One day, many years back, a thick darkness came over the United States.

Now and then in London, we have dreadfully dark days, for which we can scarcely account, but this was quite a new experience for the New Englanders and caused a terrible sensation. So exceedingly black was it that the chickens went to roost in the middle of the day. The darkness grew worse, and people trembled in their houses declaring that the end of the world was coming. They were all excited and alarmed.

One of the houses of legislature adjourned under the belief that the Day of Judgment was come. The other house was sitting, and the blackness was so intense that everybody was awed. A motion was made that they should break up, as the end of the world had certainly arrived.

Colonel Davenport objected, saying, “The judgment is either approaching or it is not. If it is not, there is no cause for adjourning, and if it is, I choose to be found doing my duty. I wish, therefore, that candles may be brought. Brethren, it is dark, but whatever is going to happen or whatever is not going to happen let us be found girded, sober, and hopeful. In these dark political times and these dark religious times, I call for candles for we mean to go on working.”

“Our grand business is not to see what lies dimly at a distance, but to do what lies close at hand.”

— Carlyle