

WOULD THAT YOU HAD KNOWN

This is a solemn phrase of regret to those at the end the road. Facing the consequences, without a way to mend the decision made. We often regret certain decisions when facing the results of them. But the regret coming to us from God is serious and concerning, because it involves decision He is making against our actions. At the end of our Lord's life on the earth, He called the attention of Israel, exclaiming, "Would that you had known personally, even at least in this your day, the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. For a time is coming upon you when you enemies will throw up a bank about you and surround you and shut you in on every side; and they will dash you down to the ground, you [Jerusalem] and your children within you ; and then will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not come progressively to recognize and know and understand the time of your visitation [that is, when God was visiting you, the time in which God showed Himself gracious toward you and offered you salvation through Christ]. (Luke 19:42-44).

The days were getting closer for our Lord to offer Himself as the ultimate sacrifice for His people and the world. A warning was given, but not received well, for there was not belief to apply to YAHSHUA'S words. His heart was bleeding for the people, as He wept over the city (Luke 19:41). Israel was deaf and blind spiritually to the reality of YAHSHUA'S prophetic words. O how He tried to save them from the coming disaster! His love flowed audibly over the city of Jerusalem; the city of God. Destruction was eminent if they did not repent; YAHSHUA saw the stubbornness of their hearts and wept, as He saw the consequences of their hard hearts looming in the near future. Another time He warned them saying, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who continue to kill the prophets and to stone those who are sent to you! How often I have desired and yearned to gather your children together as a hen [gathers] her young under her wings, but you would not! Then He declared, Behold, your house is forsaken (abandoned, left to you destitute of God's help)! And I tell you, you will not see Me again until the time comes when you shall say, Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord!" (Luke 13:34-35).

O how great love of our Lord being expressed for His people! Imagine, God incarnate sheading liquid love for people who continuously rejected Him! The Son of God being humiliated by rejection of sinners, a speck of dust, underserving of

Him! “Who, although being essentially one with God and in the form of God, did not think this equality with God was a thing to be eagerly grasped or retained. But stripped Himself [of all privileges and rightful dignity], so to assume the guise of a servant, in that He became like men and was born a human being, and after He had appeared in human form. He abased and humbled Himself and carried his obedience to the extreme of death, even the death of the cross! Therefore, God has highly exalted Him and has freely bestowed on Him the name that is above every name, and every tongue confess and acknowledge that YAHSHUA Messiah is Lord, to the glory of God the Father” (Phil. 2:6-11).

Jerusalem was destroyed as YAHSHUA predicted. It was desolate for many years. Lives destroyed brutally just because they did not pay attention to the warnings YAHSHUA gave weeping for them. The warning continues today, “Would that you had known” for judgment is coming on those who keep rejecting YAHSHUA. He is coming to judge the earth. He comes to judge and govern the earth! “He shall judge the world with righteousness and justice and the peoples with His faithfulness and truth” (Ps. 96:13). At that time Israel will repent and acknowledge YAHSHUA as their Messiah, under severe judgment as we read in Zechariah 13: “And in the land, says the Lord, two-thirds shall be cut off and perish, but one-third shall be left alive. And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined and will test them as gold is tested, They will call on My name, and I will hear and answer them. I will hear and answer them, I will say, It is My people; and they will say, The Lord is my God.”

“Would that you had known” warning is also directed to the churches of God. YAHSHUA told a parable concerning ten virgins. Five of them were foolish and five were wise. While the bridegroom lingered and was slow in coming, they all began nodding their heads, and they fell asleep. But at midnight there was a shout, Behold, the bridegroom! Go out to meet him! Then all those virgins got up and put their own lamps in order. And the foolish said to the wise, Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out. As they went out to buy oil, the bridegroom came, and those who were prepared went in with and those who were prepared went in with him to the marriage feast and the door was shut. When the other virgins also came and said, Lord, Lord, open the door to us! But He replied, I solemnly declare to you, I do not know you! (Matt. 25).

If we do not have the Holy Spirit active in us, we are sure to be left behind. Not everyone that goes to church, sings in the choir, teaches Sunday School will be qualified to enter the door of heaven. Only those who have the Holy Spirit and follow Him in obedience. As the Lord said, "Many will say to Me on that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name and driven out demons in Your name and done many mighty works in Your name? And then I will say to them openly, I never knew you; depart from Me, you who act wickedly" (Matt. 7:22-23). You can sing beautifully, play the piano or any instrument in the orchestra, you can teach, and do many things in your church worthy of praise and given attention. However, my friend, if you are not in relationship with The Spirit of God, pay attention where you will be at that day of reckoning: Inside, or outside the door. Regrets will not change anything for you. Better to be ready. The Lord YAHSHUA gave warnings to the seven churches in Ephesus: "He who is able to hear, let him listen to and give heed to what the Spirit says to the assemblies" (Rev. 2:7). These churches represent early churches from 100 A.D to today. The Laodicean church is today's church with all its lukewarmness toward the spiritual things. While there is a collective warning for the churches, there is an individual warning for each of us to heed to.

The ready bride of Christ will be presented to Him sanctified, cleansed by the washing of water with the Word; He will present her to Himself in glorious splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing (Eph. 5:26-27). It will be a celebration that will last for eternity.

My friend, you have a chance to choose now. Either celebrate in heaven, or regret in hell.

THINK ABOUT IT!