

were dead, yet shall he live.” “Though this body be destroyed, yet shall I see God.”

So the words repeat, like the notes of a great refrain. They indicate a kind of unshakable confidence that is based on an acknowledgment of the worst that can happen. They do not guarantee that life shall be free from trouble or pain: on the contrary, they warn a man that there are slippery places on the way toward eternal life...

“More Faith Thoughts” - When photo-electric drinking fountains first came into use, they were objects of curiosity and comment. It seemed silly to expect water to come when there was no knob or button to press, but it did come. All you had to do was to have faith enough to put your mouth in front of the faucet. The photo-electric eye saw you and responded.

God is very much like that fountain. He has the water of life waiting for us in abundance. It is not visible, but it is real. He wants us to have it, but the head has to be bowed in faith and expectancy. Then the all-seeing Eye beholds us, and we receive the blessing.

Notes and reminders:

Let us be praying for our Bible study classes and all efforts to learn more of God’s word.

Also, continue prayers for those on our list, for those in authority, and for the free course of the gospel and obedient hearers.

*“Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.”
1 John 5:14*

Editor: Steve Frazier

Meeting times of the church

Sunday:

09:00 am Bible classes

10:00 am Morning Worship

5:00 pm Evening Worship

Wednesday: 7:00 pm Bible classes

Evangelist: Devin Barber

Phone: 904-210-5036

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Hebrew 10:23—25 “Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works. Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together as is the manner of some.” But, exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.”

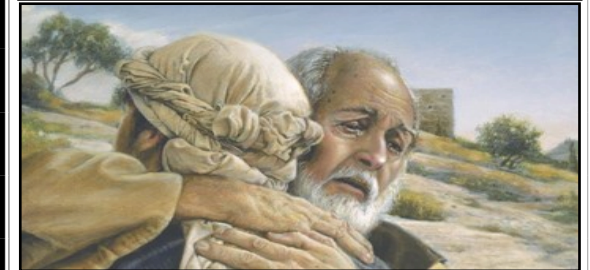
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Postage

Glad Tidings

Romans 10:15

January 23, 2022



The father didn't run after him.

I'm sure he was tempted. I'm sure he helped him before, gave him the benefit of doubts, and helped his son lean on him as he learned about life. Somewhere along the way, however, rebellion raised its ugly head and the father backed off.

There's an old saying, "It's hard to hit bottom when there's always someone to catch you." As long as we keep sympathizing, coddling, and bailing them out, nothing changes. As long as we continue enabling the prodigal, there's no motivation to change.

Perhaps the most telling line in the Jesus-story is this: "And no one was giving anything to him."

Sometimes you have to come to the end of yourself and own your stuff. He did.

“O for a faith that will not shrink, Though pressed by every foe, That will not tremble on the brink of any earthly woe. A faith that shines more bright and clear when tempests rage without; That when in danger knows no fear, in darkness feels no doubt! Lord, give us such a faith as this; and then, whate’er may come, We’ll taste e’en here the hallowed bliss of an eternal home.”

William H. Bathurst, 1831

For the first time he made himself accountable and took responsibility. With a sorrow-filled heart, he came home –without demands, excuses, or negotiations. He simply asked for forgiveness.

“Ask and you shall receive...”

If you miss the father in the story, you miss the story. The young man came home because he had a home to come home to. The father never moved. Loving and longing for his son, the father wrapped him in his arms. It was a storybook homecoming as only Jesus could tell.

It’s never too late to turn around and come home. Genuinely. Humbly. Softly. Tenderly. The story of the wayward child and the love of a father may just be the most powerful story ever told...

By Wilson Adams

A Godly Man in Wicked Surroundings

Elijah was a man who reached true greatness in the Lord’s service. He was always ready to go where God would send him (I Kings 18:1; 19:15); to pray whenever prayer was needed (I Kings 17:20, 21; 18:36, 37), and to confront evil whenever confrontation was necessary (I Kings 18:17-24; 21:17-19). He was translated without seeing death, and he, along with Moses, was chosen to appear

with the Lord on the mount of transfiguration.

The remarkable thing about Elijah is that he attained this greatness while living in a wicked and hostile environment. Had he lived in Judah during the righteous reign of Hezekiah or Josiah, we might not be surprised at Elijah’s attainments. But he lived instead in Israel during the wicked reign of Ahab. He was subjected to the cruel intents of Jezebel. He was under constant harassment and threat of death. He became so discouraged at one point that he asked to die, but he never denied his God.

In this wicked environment Elijah was able to influence others. The widow of Zarephath was blessed through Elijah (I Kings 17:8-24). The multitudes on Mount Carmel were led to cry, “The Lord, He is God!” through his courageous efforts (I Kings 18:39). Elisha, his successor, must have been greatly influenced by him. And even Ahab was brought to humility on one occasion, clothing himself in sackcloth as a result of Elijah’s rebuke (I Kings 21:27-29).



Elijah’s rebuke of king Ahab

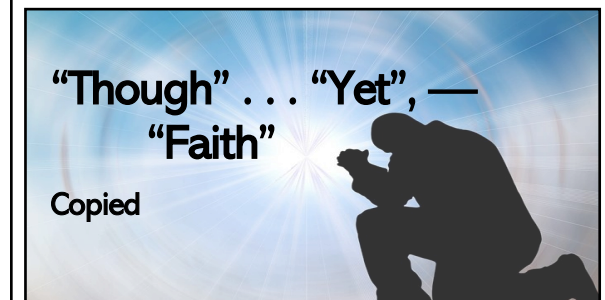
The message of Elijah is clear.

You can live a godly life and influence others for good in a wicked and hostile environment.

When one hears the excuses people make today, it is obvious that Elijah’s message is badly needed in this generation. People excuse their failure to teach others the gospel with, “People are so prejudiced around here they just won’t listen”; when the truth is, little effort has been made. If they are approached about their ungodly conduct, they explain that “You just don’t know how terrible the people are that I have to work around every day”. If their children go astray their explanation is, “Our children are faced with pressures that we didn’t have growing up”. Such statements, repeated often enough, become to many a “license” to do wrong and a salve to soothe their troubled consciences.

We must throw aside our excuses and make up our minds to do right. Elijah could serve God in wicked surroundings. And so can we.

By Bill Hall



Two small words recur again and again throughout the Bible: “though ... yet.” “Though he slay me, yet will I trust in Him.” “Though there rose up war against me, yet shall not my heart be afraid.” “Though he