

To our friends -- We have decided to use this area to share things with our visitors. It could be words of encouragement, revelations, prophecies, etc. If you have something you would like to share, we encourage you to submit it to us for review and editing as may be required. Any submissions will remain anonymous. All glory goes to God. We will find a place in our Storehouse to archive these for future reference. Emails may be sent to submissions@ministryofprayer.org. We pray you be blessed as you visit this website.

The Goodness and Severity of God

The goodness and severity of God. Romans 11:22

I recently heard a testimony that touched me deep in my spirit and I know the Lord was speaking to me that I should share this with the body of Christ.

It was about a pastor who was in prayer and he had a vision about his congregation. There were several members who were back-biting and gossiping, causing discord in the church. He was praying in the basement and had a vision that he was standing in the pulpit before the congregation. He saw an angel of the Lord floating in the air behind the group. He drew his sword from its sheath, pointed it and slowly began to move it across the congregation. He waved it side to side, stopping to not enter the nursery. It was though he was examining the body.

Perry Stone told this story about his father. I don't know if I have remembered or repeated the entire story correctly, but the gist of it is there. The Lord spoke to me so clearly about the need for the body to grow up - to consider the goodness and severity of God. How easy it is for us to immerse ourselves in the beauty and joy of our God and fail to remember the respect and honor due Him. He is a holy and righteous God and we must not become too familiar by our actions. Though He is father, He is God.

I was reminded about the story of Ananias and Sapphires in Acts 5 who were swiftly judged and found wanting. They held back and sought to lie about it. I believe they were holding back more than just money. They were holding back full commitment about this new movement. Maybe it was not all they hoped and perhaps they would need provisions to begin again if it failed. They were not sold out for Christ Jesus and willing to lay it all at His feet.

I fear so many of us are walking their path also. Perhaps we are hesitant or fearful to make a full commitment of our lives to Him. We know that Jesus is loving and good and so willing to forgive and wash us. We may be willing to swim in the joy and goodness of the Lord but will we be willing to bear up under persecution? Would we deny the Lord who bought us for comfort. Or lose our heritage as Esau did for a morsel of food?

All the patriarchs and saints that have gone before are waiting for us to mature into the fullness that God has planned. Knowing that God has provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us. (Heb 11:40) "Therefore strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees, and make straight paths for your feet. Lay aside all childish ways and the sin that does so easily beset us."

God has plan for this time. A plan for many Isaiah's saying "Here am I! Send me."

Hebrews 5:12-14

For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

Hebrews 10:37-38

"For yet a little while, And He who is coming will come and will not tarry. Now the just shall live by faith; But if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him."