

Another World

"In my Father's house are many mansions. If it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself, that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know." John 14:2-3

Regardless of how much we care, or how much money we have, or how much we love someone on this earth, we all know in our heads that this life will end, and we will mourn the loss of loved ones. If we believe in Christ as our personal Savior, we know there is a better life ahead. However, we don't fully understand it. We are here, and this we know. We sometimes fear the unknown.

When a loved one dies we mourn the loss. Knowing that the person knew Christ as their personal Saviour does not make our loss any easier. We still miss them and the many memories we have. Losing a loved one is never easy. Eugene H. Peterson puts it this way in his translation, THE MESSAGE.

"You're blessed when you feel you've lost what is most dear to you. Only then can you be embraced by the One dearest to you."

I have heard people say that they will never forget the loved one they lost. We don't want to forget that one. They were and are precious to us. We shared a love that we could understand whether it be a mate, a parent, a child, or a friend. We are comforted because we know that those who had accepted Christ are with Him now, but we miss their company and many things about them. We miss the smiles and the hugs. We have wonderful memories. We remember the caring, the discipline, the teaching, and the love.

I saw a calligraphy once that read: *"When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure."* That is so true. As I can see it, we have two choices in this. We can love those people dear to us each day and tell them that we love them, knowing that one of us may not be on this earth tomorrow. Perhaps more important we need to make sure we tell everyone we care for about the wonderful life

"I find the great thing in this world is not so much where we stand, as in what direction we are moving: To reach the port of heaven, we must sail sometimes with the wind and sometimes against it - but we must sail, and not drift, nor lie at anchor."

Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr.



that is ahead of us if we have accepted Christ as our personal Savior.

We need to contact the relative or friend that we have not taken time to visit or call. We mourn not only the loss of a loved one but the loss of a business, a neighborhood, a way of life, etc. We can't change it back to the way it was. Through Christ we can find comfort. We have a wonderful life here. I often think of the love I have on this earth, and the poet Robert Frost who wrote in one of his poems,

*"And were an epitaph to be my story
I'd have a short one ready for my
own.
I would have written of me on my
stone:
I had a lover's quarrel with the
world."*

Do we have a lover's quarrel with the world? What does that mean? I don't know what Robert Frost meant. A poet is able to throw a thought to us with a very few words, and then

Has this world been so kind to you that you should leave with regret? There are better things ahead than any we leave behind.

C. S. Lewis

others spend years telling us what it meant. I wonder if God has a “lover’s quarrel” with the world. God gave everything that anyone could possibly want. He also gave us the ability to make choices.

God gave us “free will” to do what we want. Adam and Eve weren’t satisfied with having everything they needed and wanted more. (Maybe if they hadn’t eaten from that tree and seen themselves naked, we would all be running around naked today. That is a scary thought!) But we can’t say it was always just Adam and Eve. It was true of many other people in the Old Testament. Another time things got so bad that God flooded the earth and tried to start over. But we are human and we always want more. We quarrel with what we have.

We are often not satisfied, and we will quarrel with those we love, and we will mourn over their leaving this earth, but we are promised that if we love Christ as our personal Savior, we will be blessed. The other world may not have streets of gold; it will have eternal love.

My home is in Heaven. I'm just traveling through this world.

Billy Graham

Faith
does not
make things easy
it makes them
POSSIBLE
luke 1:37

I am not sure exactly what heaven will be like, but I know that when we die and it comes time for God to judge us, he will not ask, ‘How many good things have you done in your life?’ rather he will ask, ‘How much love did you put into what you did?’

- Mother Teresa

Prayer: You came to us and loved us. You promised that You will be with us always. Help us to use what You have given to us so freely. As You went to the thief who was dying on the cross, please help us to realize Your same forgiveness is there for us today as we are also sinners. Please forgive our sins and give us hope. Amen

1. How do you have a lover’s quarrel with the world?
2. How does God’s promise make your life easier today?
3. Does your assurance of God’s salvation give you peace today?
4. Are there days when you wonder what Heaven is like and who you will see?

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*Don't ever let anyone break your soul.
You have to stand on your own
two feet and fight.
There are those who would
do anything to see you fall.
Never give them the satisfaction.
Hold your head up high.
Put a smile on you face,
and stand your ground!*