



Let's Go Fishing



Daily Wisdom

We are called with a holy calling
The light of the world to be,
To lift up the lamp of the Savior
That others His light may see.

{Anonymous}

Romans 1:16-22

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. 17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "But the righteous man shall live by faith."

18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, 19 because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. 20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse. 21 For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God, or give thanks; but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

Romans 1:28-29

28 And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper, 29 being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice;

[New American Standard Bible]

In Paul's letter to the Romans he emphasizes the necessity for the believer to remain true and faithful to God. He talks about the penalties of turning away, and when we do, how our decaying mind takes us deeper and deeper in to the evil and corrupt world of darkness. But says Paul, the righteous man will live and be saved by faith. What a marvelous summary lesson of the Gospel we find here in Romans. And what a message of encouragement for the Christian, not only in today's world, but throughout history. It was in Romans that Martin Luther was finally able to find assurance of his own salvation as he taught at Wittenberg.

Over the many years since Christ has walked this earth, man's society has time and time again turned away from God and embraced an evil and decadent culture, preferring the lusts of the flesh to the peace of the Gospel. Persecution of the Godly has been an excepted form of recreation in the world since Jesus time. Even more amazing, is that today, where we are supposed to be enlightened, we still live in a world where it is becoming more and more difficult to speak of our faith in public. It is not just that people don't know God, they just don't want him in their lives. It is common for people to deny his existence on one hand, and to hate Him for what he has done on the other. They certainly know of Him, and fear that somehow they will forced to live according to a moral code not of their own choosing. There are even those who are doing everything in their power to have His name removed from our history books and even from our culture. Yet, in spite of all this, Christians have been able remain faithful to their God over the years and to find strength and hope in the wonderful verses of Paul's Letter to the Romans. We also find that uplifting message in his letter to the Ephesians;

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God;

Ephesians 2:8 (New American Standard Bible}

Imagine how lucky we are to have a God of forgiveness, a God of grace given freely through the cross. Yet, there are many around us, that do not know that God, nor do they understand Him. How many times have we heard people comment that if they were to walk into a church that the roof would fall in? It is sad indeed, that most people consider God to be a God of anger, a God of wrath, and looking around, He well has reason to be. Yet, our God does not want to destroy us, He wants to forgive us, and to love us, and to bring us into fellowship with Him in this world and in the next. That is why he has sent us out into this world, to tell others what a marvelous God we have. We are not to be the judges of the world, that is His job, instead we are to share with those around us what he has first given us. We may not be able to preach a great sermon, or win millions for Christ like our dear brother Billy Graham, but we can talk to those around us about what God has done in our own lives. How he has stayed with us through good times and bad, how he has given us peace and strength when all seems lost. That, we can do! In the late 1970's Hal Lindsey wrote, "God did not tell us to clean up the pond, but rather to go fish in it". In that light, we encourage you to spend time each day talking to God and asking him how you can serve Him today, and then go out and tell those that he sends to you, how much He has blessed you in your life and helped you through your struggles. Jesus said that all we have to do is follow Him, and He will make us fishers of men.

Wake up sleepy head, its time to go fishing!