

Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow

Odds are your lives have not been a bed of roses. Most of us have felt our share of the thorns and have many scars to show for it. Dwelling on these things may have an adverse affect, many people live and wallow in the past. Others spend significant time dreaming of the future, so much so they neglect the things that should be done today. Finally, there is the group of people who spend every moment for today, living their lives to pleasure themselves and find immediate gratification. There is a mix between these three, and although living in one area is detrimental...living in all three is essential. Consider this solution.

Remember your Past...

Although there are things in my past that I prefer not to remember, it is still extremely beneficial. God has given us the ability to remember as a means to better our character, strengthen our spiritual lives, and enable us to smile. Satan will use our memories to stir our anger, stimulate the passions for wrongdoing and to cause us to become complacent. The memories of our past should never be used as a breeding ground for ill will. So many of the memories of which we choose to cling should be long forgotten, and so many of the thoughts buried deep within us should be a daily focal point. Even the regrets and fears of days gone awry can bring a soothing and healing effect into our lives. Paul said it this way:

"remember that you were at that time separate from Christ, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. 13But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ." Eph 2:12-13 NAS

Hope In the Future...

Imagine yourself in the lap of luxury, dining on fine cuisine while tracking your portfolio as it soars....well, maybe not. Dreaming for the future shouldn't include aspiring to be a wealthy mogul living in extravagance...but it should focus on a wealth beyond comparison. A time when there is no war, hatred, anger, no sadness, sorrow or tears; a time when all of God's children know the hope that has been promised. Far too many are willing to trade an eternity of bliss for a moment of satisfaction. Some experience great difficulty looking forward, when all around us our society deteriorates so rapidly. The pain of this life should be a springboard for positive thinking, a reminder of things to come.

"For I know the plans that I have for you,' declares the LORD,' plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope." Jer 29:11 NAS

Live in the Here and Now...

Granted, the here and now might not be as glamorous as we desire, but the way we live in the here and now affects both are past and our future. Our thoughts, actions, and trials for today become our past in the blink of an eye. How we respond today will become soon becomes our past and reflects our state of mind. Likewise, our future is contingent upon the very same principles. A carefree life today yields a tumultuous eternity, while a spiritually sound life bestows a wealth of heavenly stock. Living for today does not mean living for myself, it means living life to it's fullest....it means living for the Father. Think about it.

"But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called "Today," lest any one of you be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. For we have become partakers of Christ, if we hold fast the beginning of our assurance firm until the end; while it is said, "Today if you hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts, as when they provoked Me." Heb 3:13-15 NAS

This is the day which the LORD has made; Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalms 118:24

In Him,
Byron