

Letter From a Father

Today is my father's 81st birthday. I am looking at a letter written to him on April 6, 1959 by his father. I was just 6 years old when this letter was written 45 years ago.

My grandfather, Lewis Evely, was a bi-vocational preacher from the time he was a young man, and he was at some point led to the understanding that God will ultimately save all. He was a part of the Concordant fellowship in Detroit ("Community Church"), where I remember going occasionally as a child, and he studied the Scriptures faithfully.

Please indulge me as I share the greater portion of my grandfather's letter with you.

"I don't really know where all my years have gone, and just what I have done with them all. There is a saying that in the closing moments of life that we get a panoramic view of our life. Well I have already viewed most of that in the last year or two, and it is a sobering thought. What are we doing with our years?"

Since we are sinning most of the time in thought, word and deeds, or coming short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23), yet we are in good hands because the only one that has a right to condemn us died for us, and is at present at the right hand of God pleading for our sakes (Romans 8:34). So we should rejoice in that of all our shortcomings, God is for us – who then can be against us (Romans 8:31). If nothing had been done for us we would have every cause to worry in the midst of all our inability to do ideally. Yet God who spares not His own Son, but gave Him up for us all, how shall He not together with Him also be graciously granting us all.

It is also comforting to know that creation is subject to vanity not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in expectation of that which is to come (Romans 8:20). There is a time coming when history will have its fulfillment, or filling out, when all of our lives will be completed in the presence and will of God. There is so much comfort in the Scriptures and they have the answers to all our problems, and it is not until we get a sure footing in the Scriptures that we can rest assured that God has, through His Christ, our Lord, made every provision for our safety and life in the oncoming ages, to His praise and glory.

It has taken years to arrive at this wonderful understanding in the purposes of God. As in Adam all are dying, thus also through Christ will all be made alive again, yet each in his own class or order. And He the Christ will reign until every enemy will be abolished. Then the enemy to be abolished is death, and when that is done, only life can remain. Wonderful, wonderful words. We should spend many days just praising God for His goodness and for His wonderful works among the children of mankind.

Read 1 Corinthians 15 all the way through. The hours that we spend getting acquainted with God will not be in vain. If you really want to know how much God cares, read Psalm 139. Why David goes so far as to say, "If I make my bed in hell behold Thou art there." What a statement! I say if there is a bed in hell and my Lord is there I don't mind going there, I would relish it. Of course only in the King James version can you find such a statement, and it should be unseen which can be easily applied to the death of our Lord, for He is not present with us now or He would not need to come again to receive us unto Himself.

We had a wonderful day yesterday (Sunday). Taught the Bible class at the Presbyterian Church, then to Bro. Loudy's meeting. He spoke on what are our spiritual blessings (Ephesians 1-3). We have the recordings of all of his messages and when you come this way you can feast on the good things of God. In the afternoon we had a gathering here; we had invited our friends the _____. He was the teacher in Denver, Col. for many years. We suggested to them by letter that they come to Bro. Loudy's meeting and then to dinner with us, which they had done before ... So we discussed the pre-existence of Christ, how He appeared to Abraham and Moses and many others in the Old Testament days. There were 16 or 19 present and everyone took heart with the discussion and enjoyed.

We should know all we can what our Heavenly Father did, and is doing through His Christ. God is the source of all. Christ is the channel. Holy spirit the power."

My father, Paul Evely, has for many years understood the wonderful truth that God will ultimately save all of His creation, but he also feels quite comfortable in just about every Christian church that opens its doors. Despite the fact that most traditional churches today do not understand God's ultimate plan, and many teach that God will torment some of His creation for eternity, my father will tell you what my grandfather once told him about the many different brands of churches ... "There is some good in all of them."

Join me in wishing my father a happy birthday!

- Bob Evely -

New Book by Jeff Priddy

Be sure to order a copy of Jeff Priddy's new book, "Martin Zender Goes to Hell." This is a short, easy to read book, that blends Jeff's humor and gift for writing with the wonderful plan of God to ultimately save all. I think you will find this a wonderful way to introduce the true gospel to others, by giving to them this very readable book as a gift.

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