

Where's the Love ?

And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.” Matthew 24:12

Mankind is becoming colder and colder by the day. As we see the “Day of the Lord” approaching and the imminent return of Jesus Christ for His true church at the Rapture, it seems that most of humanities compassion and love for each other has dwindled almost to the point of non-existence.

One example of how cold our society is becoming was the story told in our local newspaper about a woman who lived in Seattle, Washington who became so distraught that she thought about committing suicide. One weekday morning during rush hour, she drove onto a bridge, which is much higher than our Peace Bridge here in Buffalo, NY, pulled her car over, hopped over the guardrail and was looking down over the railing, and thinking about jumping into the water below. Someone who saw her, called the police, who, when they arrived, stopped the traffic on the bridge and attempted to talk her out of jumping. After a while, when their attempt failed, the people in their cars began to get impatient and then angry because they were going to be late for work. They then began to yell at her and say, “If you’re going jump “B*****”, jump - we gotta get to work!” Well, she jumped! But, the Lord miraculously did not allow her to die because she had not reached the boundary of her life which is appointed by God before any of us are even born (Job 14:5).

The Bible says in II Timothy 3:1-2a, *“This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves...”*. A perfect example of this self-love was a sad story my dad told me a few years back when he was in a nursing home recuperating from an affliction. He told me that he had met a man at dinner one night who was really down and depressed. This man told my dad that his son and daughter-in-law had made arrangements to have him stay at this nursing home. Once they dropped him off, they said they were going out for some ice cream and would be right back. But, they never came back! He never saw them again! They just left him there to rot. My dad also told us the man never had any visitors – family or friends, so we tried to talk to him and give him some company whenever we were there.

The Bible says in Psalm 28:4 *“Give them according to their deeds, and according to the wickedness of their endeavours: give them after the work of their hands; render to them their desert.”* Someday, if not already, the Lord is going to recompense to this selfish man and his wife exactly what they did to his dad.

Another example of how cold our society has become was a story which broke on the internet recently about a man who was killed by 2 teenage girls, ages 13 and 15, while attempting to steal his car in Washington, D.C. The man worked for UBER and was delivering some groceries to an address when he turned around and saw the 2 girls get into his car. In footage captured by a bystander, Mohammed Anwar was seen standing next to the driver’s door arguing with the 2 girls inside the car. “They’re thieves, this is my car,” he was heard shouting! It was then that they tazered him, according to the police, and attempted to drive away while he was still hanging on to the driver’s door window. As the car accelerated, dragging him along side, Mr. Anwar was crushed against a fence. The car then sped down the street with Mr. Anwar still hanging on before flipping over when they tried to turn too fast, throwing Mr. Anwar onto a nearby sidewalk. The footage shows him lying face down, and not moving. He died in the hospital from severe head trauma and numerous broken bones. Following the crash, the footage shows one of the girls climbing out of the car, but then going back to the car to retrieve her cell phone, which was all she cared about. Fortunately, some National Guardsmen saw what happened and apprehended the girls until the police arrived. Mr. Anwar left a wife and children behind to fend for themselves because of the cold, cruel, and heartless act of these two teenage girls.

Jesus told a story in Luke 10:30-37, about a good Samaritan, *“A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him, And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee. Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves? And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise.”*

We are living in a cold and cruel world and it’s getting worse all the time. That is why, any chance you have in life to show someone love or kindness, show it! Most people will never forget that, and maybe they will pass that

loving kindness onto someone else. God is love (I John 4:7) and when we show God's love to someone, we are acting as the Lord's ambassadors (II Corinthians 5:20) here on this planet. And why should we do this? Because God loves us and we should love others as we are loved by God.

Jesus likened the days that we are living in unto the days of Noah. And what was the world like in those days? *"And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually"* (Genesis 6:5). That is why the world is becoming colder and crueler by the day, and it's only going to get worse and worse, finally culminating in the Great Tribulation (Matthew 24:21) where the Christians will be killed by the super church, or the one world religion (Revelation 6:9-11), in the first half of the Great Tribulation, and beheaded by the antichrist's followers when they refuse to take his mark in their foreheads or in their right hands (Revelation 20:4), in the second half of the Great Tribulation.

As we mentioned earlier in this study, the Rapture of the true church (I Thessalonians 4:16-18) is rapidly approaching. And once again, the Lord is going to show His love and mercy towards His people by removing us from off the earth and sparing us from death and destruction as He did to both Noah and Lot in their days (Luke 17:26-30) before the Great Tribulation even starts (Revelation 3:10). The mystery of iniquity is already at work in the world, but the Holy Spirit which indwells all of the Lord's true believers is restraining, or hindering, the antichrist from coming on the scene (2 Thessalonians 2:7-8). The Bible explains the mystery of iniquity perfectly in Romans 1:26-32: *"For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Without understanding, covenant breakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them."* Doesn't this perfectly describe today's society? Once the Rapture hits, then the antichrist will be revealed and all hell will break loose on this planet as the unholy trinity reigns supreme for the next seven years (Revelation 16:13-14).

The Bible says we are all created in the image of God (Genesis 1:26), but we sure don't act like our Creator because of the sin nature we all inherited from our earthly parents, Adam and Eve (Romans 5:12). God loves us so much that before any of us are even born, all of our members, or body parts, are written into His book (Psalm 139:13-16). How's that for a scrap book? The Bible also says that, "He puts all of our tears into a bottle, and that they also are in His book" (Psalm 56:8). Jesus himself said in Matthew 10:20, *"But the very hairs of your head are all numbered."* That's how much the Father loves us. And the ultimate act of love was when the Father sent His only begotten Son to die for us (John 3:16) so that we might attain eternal life through the sinless, spotless blood of Jesus Christ (I Peter 1:18-19) that He shed for us on the cross of Calvary. Jesus became the ultimate sacrificial lamb of God (John 1:29) so as to *"redeem us from all iniquity"* (Titus 2:14). Jesus said in John 15:13-*"Greater love hath no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friends."* And that's exactly what He did, the just dying for the unjust (1Peter 3:18), *"For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit."* Jesus made the way for us to be reconciled back to God (John 14:6). Salvation is a free gift (Romans 6:23), so you need to take that gift right now (2 Corinthians 6:2), by repenting of your sins (Acts 17:30) and asking Jesus to come into your heart to be the Lord and Saviour of your life (John 1:12). And why should you do this? Because things are only going to get worse and worse on this planet from here on in, and you don't want to be here for what's coming.

AMEN!

(All scripture references taken from the King James Bible)

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