

Pastors Thoughts of the Week

If it had not been the LORD... Psalms 124:1

It is a frightening yet necessary exercise to, on occasion, consider what our lives might have been "if it had not been (for) the Lord". At whatever juncture that transformative moment of conversion took place it is certain that our lives would have been much the worse had it not been for the Lord. What benign influences have gently guided our steps since we surrendered our future to the Good Shepherd. A life we once were so enamored by with its arrogance, pride, and lust would most certainly have brought us to a myriad of sorrows. The carnal mind often ruefully looks back at the missed opportunities and drowns itself in the contemplations of "If only I had done this thing or that". The believer who is led of the Spirit never has to wallow in that slough of despond; to the contrary he is confident that his destiny has been assuredly charted by the unvacillating hand of our Redeemer.

If it had not been for the Lord:

The Woman at the Well would be pleading for a drop of water
in the fires that shall never be quenched.

Zacchaeus would now be counting his ill-gotten wealth
in the realms of eternal destitution.

The Thief on the Cross would have joined his blaspheming
companion in the fires of perdition.

The Centurion would now be begging for a mercy that he
had forgotten to show toward the Son of God.

Saul of Tarsus would this moment be in the dungeon
of damnation pining over the worthlessness of his self righteousness.

We might rightly add our names to this list because, if it had not been for the Lord, who can tell what depths of misery and depravity we may have plumbed by now. Have we not all encountered those "friends", coevals of our past lives, who now we find are bond to inveterate dissipations or have suffered through bad marriages or felt the pangs of severe disappointments owed to sons and daughters who have taken the satanic bait. For a moment we muse "this could have so easily happened to me"...if it had not been for the Lord.

Believers are not immune to troubles. But the steadying leadership of the Holy Spirit encourages us to trust the only One who can work all things together for good. Innumerable benefits have accompanied our brief journey here. Walking with the Lord was the best decision we have ever made. We have wisely chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away.

Have a blessed day .

Pastor

Faith cometh by hearing: and hearing by the word of God Romans 10:17