

WHICH HIGHWAY?

I would venture to say that surely the majority of communities are located on or very near some state highway. Here in Reynoldsburg, our main street is US 40, and our town is at the junction of I-70 and I-270.

There are two highways that cross in the spiritual realm as well. One of them is a "state" highway. It is called an apostate highway. It is at cross purposes with the only other highway at mankind's disposal upon which to travel. As in all things spiritual, there are only **two** ways one can go. We are either with or against the Lord (Matthew 12.30). There are only **two** roads (paths, Jeremiah 6.16) on which we can travel: a straight and narrow or a wide and broad way (Matthew 7:13,14).

Here is the point of this article: one either travels upon an "apostate" highway, leading to destruction, or on that highway prophesied in Isaiah 35:8. Note what God says through the prophet: "And a highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for the redeemed: the wayfaring men, yea fools, shall not err therein." It does not take much in depth Bible study to learn that Isaiah was speaking of the church of our Lord Jesus Christ.

There is a way of holiness, a way of living a holy life. It is not based upon what we "feel" but upon what God has said. As Jesus said, "But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). If the Bible does not teach it, we ought to avoid it! There are many "things" and "ways" of living, but never forget: "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man; But the end thereof are the ways of death" (Proverbs 14:12).

Friend, upon which highway do you travel at present? Are you on that state highway which will only lead to destruction and ruin, the loss of your soul; or do you walk the highway of holiness, that straight and narrow path that leads to life eternal?

TRYING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

A statement is made within the Book Divine that speaks volumes to us regarding our service rendered to the Master: "*She hath done what she could; she hath anointed my body beforehand for the burying*" (Mark 14:8). Note that the Lord did not say "she did what was expected" or "what she pleased" but "what she **could**" . . . what she was able and that which she could accomplish.

Does your car ever get dirty? My Harley does, just before it rains. (Strange how that works, is it not it?) Anyway, we like to keep our vehicles clean. But, let us say we want to wash the car, so we gather all we need to do so: soap, water hose, rags, the kids (optional, of course). Now, rub that fender with a rag. What happens? Nothing, save for a few new scratches. Your rag gets dirty, but the car seems no cleaner. Sprinkle some soap powder on that rag. Now what? You are now scraping paint off the car. Oh yes . . . we forgot the water! Wet the rag . . . what a smeary mess. Oh yes, we forgot the hose for rinsing.

Now, how can we get that car clean? Put them together, of course. Each, by itself does what it can, but the result may not be the desired one. Surely by now you can see my application. **Together** God expects us to accomplish His will. When one person tries to make a difference, and does what he/she can, God blesses them! But just imagine what could be accomplished if we each try our best, each doing what we can to live a pure life, worship in spirit and truth, fellowship the brethren, encourage one another, teach the lost, do works of benevolence and support those who go out "for the sake of the name" (3 John 7). Let us all be determined to try to make a difference, and together . . . we shall!

Sermon Notes:
“Paul’s Defense Before Felix”

- Paul faced all kinds of _____ charges.
- In his answer, he recounts his conversion...
- This tells us what “_____ on the name of the Lord” really means!
- At his hearing, similar charges are repeated:
- He is a _____!
- He has caused _____!
- He is a _____ of a sect!
- He has _____ the temple!
- Paul answers all these, then asks: “Where are my _____?”
- His only “guilt”: he follows _____.
- In this he serves God, believes the law & prophets, and holds to one hope: _____ from the dead!
- We may have, or shall face similar things...
- Some may accuse without evidence; offering no proof.
- Some may not listen to our answers...
- And attempt to turn our answers against us!

Meeting Times:

Sunday:

Bible Study: 9:30 a.m.
Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Evening: 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday:

Bible Study: 7:30 p.m.

Preachers:

James Grayson
614-409-0941

Robin W. Haley
614-751-1082

RAGER ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST



5775 Rager Rd, Canal Winchester, Ohio 43110

Phone: 614-830-0110

Website: www.ragerroad.org

May 16, 2010

Wednesday’s Wisdom:

“We hunger and thirst for food and drink; we ought also to hunger (crave) and thirst for righteousness.” James Grayson

Remember in your prayers those who have on-going treatments and tests and recoveries!

Fellowship meal & business meeting is today. Please stay for those activities.

Picnic coming!

Ladies’ night out at Cheryl’s home on Thursday, May 27 at 6:30 pm. This is a salad supper. Bring a salad to share.

Question/Answer night is in two weeks. Please get questions into the box for Robin.

Sermon Preview:

- Some people just won’t listen to your side of things
- This was what Paul experienced
- His answers only seem to cause more trouble
- Ever have that happen to you??