

Howards Corner

Cry me a river or sing with the oil of gladness?

This is why I am writing from Howard's corner for I have seen in this world an abundance of reasons to cry me a *river of sorrow* for what I see! For those in the churches that have believed that the “Church” would continue to grow and that the church would prepare a place for the Lord to return to –a mansion we have prepared for Him to be with us. Is this not the way of mankind and the enemy?

We are always getting it backward He has said ***John 14:3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.*** So, it is apparent that He has gone to prepare a place for us, and He is going to return for us, and we will be with Him. So, the churches down through the ages have sought to build the “church” to glorify God but have failed to see that our works without Him are as filthy rags.

It is apparent that the world we see today is full of filthy rags that have been disguised as monuments to God—dead works without the spirit of Jesus Christ. How many huge buildings and memorial to men have been erected but are full of dead souls. How arrogant for us to think we can build a mansion for Him!

So last night as I was getting ready for bed, I was overcome with sorrow for what is happening in this world and churches today –the tears were flowing –a river of tears of sadness. Howard's corner was a sad place. All the writings I have been given to write for the last 4 years were reaching no one, but the words were not sad for me but for all those who have not found the “oil of gladness” in their heart.

This morning I woke up and the spirit of the “oil of gladness” filled me. So, I started my day with gladness in my heart. I, however, was hit in the face by the realities of today's world and the state of churches today. I looked at my computer and read the news! The “oil of gladness” was just for me and the few that are the remnants of the real church –not the pretend church—not the ritualistic church --not the spiritual dead church. But for the world and for the false church it is still overwhelming sadness for I know the outcome—there is a day of judgement—not judgement by me but by God’s hand that He has plainly said in His word. You will

not be able to pretend your way out of it. Only the real redeemed will see that mansion He has prepared for us –those with the real “oil of Gladness” will see His face.

One of the stories I read this morning was about the churches of Europe. I know that the world is in a helpless condition and very few will find their way out of that depravity. My eyes are looking at the churches of today for that is the only hope for mankind but with sadness again I found the state of churches in Europe were more sadness to my soul.

The confessionals where generations of Belgians admitted their sins stood stacked in a corner of what was once Sacred Heart Church, proof the stalls — as well as the Roman Catholic house of worship — had outlived their purpose.

The building is to close down for two years while a cafe and concert stage are added, with plans to turn the church into “a new cultural hot spot in the heart of Mechelen,” almost within earshot of where Belgium's archbishop lives. Around the corner, a former Franciscan church is now a luxury hotel where music star Stromae spent his wedding night amid the stained-glass windows.

Across Europe, the continent that nurtured Christianity for most of two millennia, churches, convents and chapels stand empty and increasingly derelict as faith and church attendance shriveled over the past half century. --“That is painful. I will not hide it. On the other hand, there is no return to the past possible,” Mgr. Johan Bonny, bishop of Antwerp, told the Associated Press. Something needs to be done and now, ever more of the once sacred structures are repurposed for anything from clothes shops and climbing walls to nightclubs.

It is a phenomenon seen over much of Europe's Christian heartland from Germany to Italy and many nations in between.

Bishop Bonny stated something had to be done now and he is correct in that but his emphasis is on the buildings and sacred structures and that is the problem that the churches focus was on glorifying God by their works of building mansions in this world for the return of Christ and failed to read that He is building a mansion for us and it is not in this world for this world will be judged and the gentile nations will be destroyed but Jesus will then set up His kingdom on earth.

The work of the church is to build a church filled with righteousness people that have been redeemed by the blood of Jesus on the cross and by being changed by the presence of the Holy Spirit. Those that are in Christ Jesus as witnessed by the filling of the Holy Spirit will then be changed by the Lord in the twinkling of an eye into a new glorified body for our eternal purpose.

I share this about Europe, but it is happening in America today and we will see the same results here. It has already happened in many areas of this country. So, I don't point out Europe, but I point the finger at the dead churches of this country that don't even see it coming. We have built large and beautiful churches but because they are empty of the truth of God's word and righteous true believers, they will become the new clothes shops-night clubs-and climbing walls. For us the churches are already half empty and because the gospel is not preached it is getting worse. The apostate church is here.

My focus is on the church of today because there is little hope that the world will wake up. I read some of the other stories and became sick with the perversions in the world. Because there is no righteous spirit in the churches –only ritual and ceremonies and worldly views there is no message to wake them up. We are preaching another gospel and it is false.

I was filled again with the “tears of sorrow for the state of the churches and hopelessness of the world. But my view is eternal, and I know that I am filled with the “oil of gladness” that only the Lord Jesus can provide and has been promised to all that will take up their cross and follow Him.

Is there a veil over your eyes that you cannot see what is obviously happening before your very eyes or has your denominationalism –your churchism blinded you from the truth of the word and led you to just interpret the word with a human view. Do you not understand that God is in control, and He will fulfill His word to the very last word. You cannot change these words to something you like for it to say and leave out the words you don't want it to say.

I may be forced to endure this world of never-ending sadness, but I know that I will have the Oil of gladness for eternity. Will you? Come and drink now the water of life while there is time.

Howard

