

Trees Never Bury Their Dead

It has always been interesting to me that mankind is continually warned to read and understand God's Book. Yet, God says that it is His Creation, not mankind that continually groans to be rid of the curse of Sin. It is Creation that is anxiously waiting for the Second Coming of Christ.

Mankind seems to care less about the topic. Jesus questioned if there would be anyone left on the entire planet when He comes back that would be anxious for His appearing.

I am looking out my condo window. As always when I write it is early, often the beginning of dawn. The light of dawn is breaking and casting shards of light over the scene before me.

The water in the pond looks almost like a soft rainbow rippling along the surface of the water, driven by the wind. The trees of the forest area before me are rich and lush, full of growth and of the deepest color of green.

As the sun rises there is more illumination of details within the forest. Just like the reflection off something shiny in the distance, light seems to reflect sporadically within the grouping of trees before me.

It becomes clearer. Light is reflecting off of smooth white surfaces within the tree line. These trees stand out in bold relief from among the lush green trees that surround them.

They are dead trees without any garments. Their foliage and bark are completely gone. They stand among their kind naked in death. The dead trees remind me of Christ's comments to the misguided religious people of His day. They were clothed in unique religious garments.

Religious people to whom Jesus said, "You are white washed tombs (seemingly pure on the outside), filled with dead men's bones (not knowing they were already dead).

Man throughout the centuries has ignored the God that created him. God in turn has stated that there will only be a Remnant (the few) throughout ALL of history who will find Him and gain Salvation.

Man, to whom God gave a mind to reason with, Man who bears the Image of His Creator...is blind, naked, and deaf and unable to see, touch or hear the words of God because of his arrogance and pride in himself and his accomplishments.

But the Creation, having not been made in the image of God, having no ability to reason, or to think...KNOW their Creator. The Creation as God Himself has said, groans bearing the weight of the curse, and anxiously awaits its removal and the recreation of a new earth promised by God.

When one of us dies a memorial service is held. Pleasant words are spoken about us by loved ones and friends. Our life is portrayed by photographs that surround our coffin. It is an event for the living, not the dead.

Then solemnly we bury our dead. The dead are remembered but for a short time, then forgotten by generations to come. They are lost behind the veil of time.

Not so with Trees. For the Trees never bury their dead. In life the trees are wrapped in garments of leaves that God decreed would reach up to the heavens and worship Him.

From the very beginning, from a seedling, the trees focus is upward to its Creator. In life trees performed their job, their role, their calling before their Creator in loving obedience.

They provided cover and homes for animals. They provided the coolness of shade, and bore fruit for mankind. They provided oxygen for the earth, so we would have an atmosphere conducive to life. And they sacrificed their very essence for the benefit of their appointed caretakers.

Yes, mankind was given dominion over the trees and over all creation by God.

But the main calling of trees was to lift up HOLY hands and clap in worship to their Creator when the Holy Spirit moved them by the wind.

They know the story that is written in the Word of God. They know the story that man continues to ignore. They know its beginning because they were there. They live in hope because they know its ending as they groan and wait for their Redemption.

And they do for us what we are too ignorant to do for ourselves or for others.

They pray that our eyes would be opened and we would catch the vision of our Lord lifted HIGH up upon HIS Throne. You see God has not only planted the knowledge of Himself in each human being, but also within the trees, the birds, the animals. The knowledge of the Creator is within everything He has created.

So here before me this early morning stand the dead trees among the living. They remind me of mankind to whom the Lord has said you must be born again. One writer wrote a book called "Waking the Dead". Interesting but insightful title, for in Truth all who in this life do not know their Creator are ...the walking dead.

God says to each of us that we had a physical birth and we all will have a physical death. But that physical death is not the end, but the beginning for us all. We will stand before Him to be judged. The judgment is a pass or fail grade based on the merit of another.

If we pass, we enter the realm of His Kingdom. If we fail we will experience a second death. We will be given a new spiritual body to replace the old physical one. A body made specifically to endure being apart from God our creator in hell forever.

Unlike mankind the trees do not bury their dead for they still serve a purpose among the living. Their naked bows still provide a place of rest for birds on their journey through life.

Their trunks with crevices and holes provide safety and homes for small animals. They no longer have leaves to clap in joy and worship their Lord. But their arms still reach up to the heavens to their Creator and bend in the wind when the Holy Spirit moves among them...causing the dead to worship the Living God of Creation.

When will we realize that in life where we are going isn't as important as how we get there? That how we look, is not as important as who we are inside.

Remember, God said we are "white washed Tombs, filled with dead men's bones". He has put the knowledge of Himself into each of us. He also promised that His word, His Bible is alive and able to change our heart towards HIM.

He is Lord of the Living and Lord of the Dead.

He is Lord of the FOUND and Lord of the LOST.

Both the Living and the Dead, will bow down before their Creator by the power of the Holy Spirit and give HIM PRAISE for who HE IS.

There are **no** NON Believers in Heaven or in Hell.

Ernie