EXPECTATIONS

“And as many as touched were made perfectly whole.” Matthew 14:36

I feel that sometimes it is very easy for us to be defeated in our ministries before we get started. In our Wednesday Night Study we spoke about blind ambitions and how they will lead to endless disaster because they do not include The Lord. Well, what I am speaking of now are ambitions that do include The Lord. We are sometimes defeated before we start because we are not ambitious enough in our work for Jesus. I am speaking of myself first. Too often our efforts are half-hearted and dry.

Recently I have begun re-reading a book by Charles H. Spurgeon called “All of Grace.” The very first chapter is entitled “To You.” In this first chapter he told this story. “A certain man placed a fountain by the wayside, and he hung up a cup near to it by a little chain. He was told some time after that a great art critic had found much fault with its design. “But,” said he, “Do many thirsty persons drink at it?” Then they told him that thousands of poor people, men, women, and children, slaked their thirst at this fountain; and he smiled and said , that he was little troubled by the critic’s observation, only he hoped that on some sultry summer’s day the critic himself might fill the cup and be refreshed, and praise the name of the Lord.” Then Spurgeon said, speaking of this book “All of Grace,” “Here is my fountain, and here is my cup: find fault if you please; but do drink of the water of life. I only care for this. I had rather bless the soul of the poorest crossing-sweeper, or rag-gatherer, than please a prince of the blood, and fail to convert him to God.”

I know that there may be only a few to read these devotions, that we write weekly, but how I would plead with God to touch many lives, save souls and lead those who have gone astray to turn back unto his blessed Son. How I would desire, through the Holy Spirit, that some would read a devotion from our web site and be encouraged to reach for The Lord.

To the Lord I bow and seek his blessed Holy Spirit to saturate these few words that tell the wondrous story of Jesus and his love. Christ Jesus has come to this earth to demonstrate his love for all of us fallen men and women that we might be forgiven of our sins that has separated us from God. “Lord your love was demonstrated on the cross of Calvary as you physically suffered for me. There is no way I can imagine how you suffered as you experienced my guilt and shame for all the sins I had committed. You also suffered for the sinner that I am. Lord Jesus, you who knew no sin suffered and paid the ultimate sin-debt for me and anyone else who will come humbly believing and repenting. May your Spirit convict and save the sinner, great or small, that will call upon your name seeking relief of their sins? I expect you, Lord, to use this devotion for your greatest honor and glory!”

Yours in Christ,

Brother Randy Burtram