

The Lord Will Have His Way By Dee Bowman

"The LORD is slow to anger and great in power, And will not at all acquit the wicked. The LORD has His way in the whirlwind and in the storm, And the clouds are the dust of His feet. He rebukes the sea and makes it dry, And dries up all the rivers. Bashan and Carmel wither, And the flower of Lebanon wilts. The mountains quake before Him, The hills melt, And the earth heaves at His presence, Yes, the world and all who dwell in it. Who can stand before His indignation? And who can endure the fierceness of His anger? His fury is poured out like fire, And the rocks are thrown down by Him. The LORD is good, A stronghold in the day of trouble; And He knows those who trust in Him. But with an overflowing flood He will make an utter end of its place, And darkness will pursue His enemies" (Nahum 1:3-8).

It's a terrible mistake to think the Lord God will not vindicate Himself. His character demands it. If God were to tolerate evil and not punish it, He would be only slightly different than His creatures. Paul said, "Behold the goodness and severity of God" (Rom. 11:22). For God to be good, He must also be severe. Nahum warns us about this side of God's nature.

He is "slow to anger," he says, but just as He has His way with nature, He will have His way when He metes out His indignation against ungodliness at the end of things.

He is a "good stronghold in the day of trouble," but He will "with an overrunning flood" devastate His enemies when all is said and done. Make no mistake about it, there will be a time of judgment, a time when He who was the Savior will come as the Judge. And there will be no excuses then, no "reasons" for evil, no "reasons" for excesses, no "reasons" for disobedience of any kind. "God is jealous" (vs. 2) says that He will not tolerate competition. You either serve with all your whole being or you don't serve at all; there is no middle ground.

Even though it's hard to do, take a little time today to consider the severity of God. Think for a few minutes about His judgment and how it will be with you when that time comes. Such thinking may make you a better, more dedicated person.

What Will We Sound Like On Judgment Day? By Carol Strum (3/29/11)

I remember a dear patient of mine sent to the nursing home. He was a nice man whose body had become weakened and dementia was setting in. No longer able to walk, he needed assistance to get into his wheelchair. He had come to the point of life in giving up his car for a wheelchair; the chair had become his ride now. He no longer had his farm, only a lonely room in a nursing home. He spoke with me frequently and with pride about his farm, and talked often about his chickens. He had no family; or if he did, they never visited him. His family was now the staff at the nursing home. A sweet aide bought him a beautiful, colored, feathered chicken to sit on his dresser. Aside from a few clothes, this man had nothing else to his name.

Now as the evening became very busy with aides answering call lights, showering residents, doing dressing changes to wounds, etc., my patient became very agitated because no one would get him into bed first. He then became belligerent and would start to scream: "I don't know why the judge sent me to this place. I never bothered anyone; I never did anything wrong. I minded my own business on my farm. The only thing I ever did was take my chickens to chicken fights." Well, we finally got him settled into bed. It took a while, but he eventually went to sleep.

Now, I have never been to a chicken fight, but I can only imagine the drinking, bad language, and gambling that would take place there. After evening meds were passed, patients would fall asleep and it quieted down. This one episode bothered me. It sounded if my patient was pleading his case for his life's innocence. As I pondered on this, I had to wonder: what will we sound like to God on Judgment Day? The Bible reads:

"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity" (Matt. 7:21-23).

I just pray that the Lord finds us as faithful as we **think** we are -- on Judgment Day!

Health Test

Hold this bulletin near your mouth and blow on it. If the paper turns:

Green -- call the doctor immediately.

Brown -- make an appointment with your dentist.

Purple -- arrange to see a psychiatrist.

Yellow -- call your banker.

Red -- contact your attorney and have him help you write a will.

Should the paper remain white, you can know that you are in good health and realize that there is no good reason why you should miss church services this week.

The Bible Works

"The fool has said in his heart, There is no God" (Psalm 14:1). A skeptic declared, "It is quite impossible to believe the Bible. I cannot believe any writing whose authorship is unknown." A Christian inquired of him, "Do you know the name of the compiler of the multiplication table?" The skeptic said that he did not. The Christian replied, "We then, of course you do not believe in the multiplication table." The skeptic impatiently responded, "Certainly I believe in it, because it works so well." "So does the Bible," was the Christian's reply, to which the skeptic could make no response.

A Moments Wisdom

--Faith doesn't say God can; it says God will.

--As a silly question and be embarrassed for a moment; don't ask it and risk being embarrassed for a lifetime.

--If a preacher delivers a sermon that pleases everyone in the congregation, he probably preached a sermon the Lord wouldn't approve.

--If you have Christ in your heart, then let Him show on your face.

--Have character; don't be one.

--When you are tempted to declare that the younger generation is bad, remember that it may be in part because they have more critics than examples.

--If your faith does not work at home, then it doesn't work at all. Don't export it.

--Circumstances are the rulers of the weak and the instruments of the wise.

--I set out to find a friend and could not find one. I went out to be a friend, and found friends everywhere.

--One who wants to move mountains often begins by carrying away small stones.

--Gossips have a keen sense of rumor.

--The Gospel is more than old fashioned; it is eternal.

--We judge ourselves by our ideals; we judge others by their actions.

--If you find a mistake in this bulletin, please consider that it serves a purpose here. We try to publish something for everyone, including those who are always looking for mistakes.

--Happiness is a perfume that you cannot pour on others without getting a few drops on yourself.

--Knowing about God is not the same thing as knowing God.

--Never mistake knowledge for wisdom. One helps you make a living; the other helps you make a life.

--People are often lonely because they build walls instead of bridges.

--A new idea is delicate. It can be killed by a sneer or a yawn. It can be stabbed to death by a quip or choked to death by a frown on someone's face.

--Your example is a lesson everyone can read.

--Only the mediocre are always at their best.

--A man who boasts often about his ancestors confesses that his family is better dead than alive.

--The real question is not "do computers think," but whether or not the users do.