

Pastor Ron Case
12/26/10

“That Which Lasts”

“And if what was fading away came with glory, how much greater is the glory of that which lasts!” (2 Corinthians 3:11 NIV)

Destiny of the Diligent

Psalm 112:1-10 – (1) “Praise the LORD! *Blessed is the man who fears the LORD, who greatly delights in his commandments!* (2) His offspring will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. (3) Wealth and riches are in his house, and his righteousness endures forever. (4) Light dawns in the darkness for the upright; he is gracious, merciful, and righteous. (5) It is well with the man who deals generously and lends; who conducts his affairs with justice. (6) For the righteous will never be moved; he will be remembered forever. (7) He is not afraid of bad news; his heart is firm, trusting in the LORD. (8) His heart is steady; he will not be afraid, until he looks in triumph on his adversaries. (9) He has distributed freely; he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever; his horn is exalted in honor. (10) The wicked man sees it and is angry; he gnashes his teeth and melts away; the desire of the wicked will perish!”

Destiny of the Driven

Proverbs 7:6-12; 21-27 – (6) “For at the window of my house I have looked out through my lattice, (7) and I have seen among the simple, I have perceived among the youths, a young man lacking sense, (8) passing along the street near her corner, taking the road to her house (9) in the twilight, in the evening, at the time of night and darkness. (10) And behold, the woman meets him, dressed as a prostitute, wily of heart. (11) She is loud and wayward; her feet do not stay at home; (12) now in the street, now in the market, and at every corner she lies in wait. (21) With much seductive speech she persuades him; with her smooth talk she compels him. (22) All at once he follows her, as an ox goes to the slaughter, or as a stag is caught fast (23) till an arrow pierces its liver; as a bird rushes into a snare; he does not know that it will cost him his life. (24) And now, O sons, listen to me, and be attentive to the words of my mouth. (25) Let not your heart turn aside to her ways; do not stray into her paths, (26) for many a victim has she laid low, and all her slain are a mighty throng. (27) Her house is *the way to Sheol, going down to the chambers of death.*”

Key Point: Climbing to God or Sliding to Destruction?
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God's Way or Shortcuts

(14) “But the word is very near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it. (15) See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. (16) If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. (17) *But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them*, (18) I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. (19) I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live...” (Deuteronomy 30:14-19)

Choose Life

“but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her.” (Luke 10:42)

Questions:

What impacted me the most in this message?

Do I think “consequentially”? (Gal. 6:7; 1 Tim. 5:24)

Am I oriented towards the ‘slow, steady & sure’ ways of God, or do I tend towards the ‘fast and fantastic’ approach of the world? What

can I do to embrace God’s slow, steady and sure growth for my life?

(Amos 5:6(a); Heb. 3:7-8, 15; 1 Tim. 6:6)

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)