

I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes

When Raccoon John Smith, the pioneer preacher, learned that his two little girls had burnt to death, he killed a horse on his frantic ride home. He found his half-maddened wife prodding about in the still ashes for the charred bodies of her dead babies. He took her hand and led her to the brow of a little hill, and with his own heart choked with grief, tried to comfort her. They stood there in the glory of the rhododendrons, silhouetted against the morning sun.

The mountaineers who were watching doffed their caps in the beauty and pathos of perfect love; and his other arm was raised toward heaven, a symbol of everlasting hope. This is the message which we preach—a message which pleads with men to lift their eyes from the dirt and gaze upon the everlasting hills.

It is true that, at present, we can gaze only from afar, but the beauty and joy of heaven itself, when viewed through the eye of faith, was intended by the God of all love and hope to sustain men through the temporary trials and disappointments of a fast perishing earth.

found in my files - CAB

“GROWING GREEN GRASS AT HOME”

This title is the theme for Jason’s lessons this year, and it aptly and truly describes our need here, both individually and collectively.

The statement is derived from the metaphorical phrase “The grass is always greener on the other side of the fence”. The first time this declaration was made may be lost in antiquity. However in its initial import it likely referred to the practice of some cattle who grazed through the fence or broke out of the confines of their pen, because they perceived the environment better outside. It has even been suggested that “from their perspective” the grass in the distance may actually appear thicker and greener and more desirable. Hence, the phrase is used in a proverbial sense to suggest “Other people’s circumstances may seem more desirable than one’s own.” The words “Greener Grass Syndrome” are often used to describe marital infidelity.

Adultery is a work of the flesh and is sin. (read Gal. 5:19) In the same manner the church which is the bride of Christ is to be faithful to Christ. (read John 3:29), and also, Ephesians 5:25 - 33 (NKJV) “*Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,* ²⁶*that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,* ²⁷*that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.* ²⁸*So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself.* ²⁹*For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church.* ³⁰*For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones.* ³¹*For this reason*

a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.”³²This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.³³Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.”

The bottom line is we should make our marriage and home life as God intends it to be (happy , caring, and faithfully loving), and strive always to keep the church pure (feasting on the pure word, and exercising godliness) then the grass will be always green at home and more than sufficient to provide the nurture and sustenance needed to overcome the temptation of the other side.

ARE WE GROWING GREENER GRASS AT HOME? TEND THE SEED!

CAB

WELL, IT WORKED DIDN'T IT!

I refer to the emphasis that was put on individual members being encouraged to invite others to our meeting.

The proof is in the numbers. We had many present, several who had never attended before. We thank God!

However, one has to wonder when we see the result with a few members participating, what the number would have been with all of us inviting. We still have the need to spread the gospel, you know!

Many visitors promised to return.

Welcome them!

CAB

