LIGHT

ETIERNAL VS TEMPORARY

SALT



Having An Eternal Perspective in A Temporary World

Mark 4:1-12 October 2, 2024

Only we who are born of the Spirit are capable of having a proper <u>eternal</u> perspective, and because of that we count the things of this world of not only no value compared to that which will last forever, but even less than no value if they keep us from pursuing things above and pursuing in obedience to our calling by God those whom we pray will escape the snare of the enemy.

A Temporary Healing to Prove an Eternal One

Mark 4:1-12 And when he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. ² And many were gathered together, so that there was no more room, not even at the door. And he was preaching the word to them. ³ And they came, bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. ⁴ And when they could not get near him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him, and when they had made an opening, they let down the bed on which the paralytic lay. ⁵ And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." ⁶ Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, ⁷ "Why does this man speak like that? He is blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" ⁸ And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus questioned within themselves, said to them, "Why do you question these things in your hearts? ⁹ Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your bed and walk'? ¹⁰ But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the paralytic—¹¹ "I say to you, rise, pick up your bed, and go home." ¹² And he rose and immediately picked up his bed and went out before them all, so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

What do you think that the paralyzed man believes was more important now?

Mark 8: 34-36 And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ³⁵ For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. ³⁶ For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?

"One who provides for this life, but takes no care for eternity, is wise for a moment, but a fool forever." John Tillotson

There's Power…and then there's <u>POWER</u>!!!

The World's most powerful weapon: The Russian (USSR) Big Ivan Bomb, a hydrogen bomb. 50 Megatons. It would totally annihilate NYC with 5 miles to spare!

And then, there's the most powerful weapon in the universe: The gospel of Jesus Christ. It destroys all of the everlasting works of the devil.

Romans 1:16-18 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for <u>it is the power of God for salvation</u> to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith." For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

Matthew 10:28 ²⁸ And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

We are God's "Heart Seeking Missiles"

Ephesians 2:10 For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works that God prepared beforehand for us to walk in them.

We are God's workmanship (God's weapon system) We carry a payload able to destroy the works of the devil in the lives still imprisoned by Satan, because we carry in ourselves the most powerful weapon of all: The Creator of the universe. The One who has the power over hell and death.

2 Corinthians 5:14-15 For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; ¹⁵ and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

A multiplicity of weapons:

Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

Matthew 9:37-38 The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; ³⁸ therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

God's targets are everywhere! Don't pray for opportunities, pray that we seek after the opportunities that are all around us!

The fuel that causes the eternal power of the Gospel to go off in and through us is our love for the Savior! The more we love him, the less we keep who he is and what he's done For us to ourselves. We can't keep him to ourselves! He keeps going off inside of us affecting all around us!

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