



The Course of This World

By Melvin E. Barnett

Email: melvin@melvinbarnett.com

Web: www.melvinbarnett.com

As a Bible student and avid news junky, I am reminded daily of the course of this world. Paul writes, (Ephesians 2:2) “Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience.” A simple trip to the local grocery store reveals the demise of our little “Mayberry” towns. Frankly, our circle has been broken; the destructive power of hell has been released inside our communities, homes, families and personal relationships.

Increased crime, substance abuse, moral decay, and family dysfunction all have one thing in common - the blatant, immeasurable footprints of sin. From the stock market to our own back pockets we see and feel the greed of this world. From the White House to the local courthouse there is no shame in the absolute disregard for values of the men and women we have entrusted to uphold our laws, keep peace and maintain order. Why? Because God says this world is on a course to destruction.

You and I cannot answer for our neighbors, our parents, nor our children; but we will answer for ourselves. Romans 14:12 says, “*So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.*” I have to keep in mind that there are plenty of good law abiding citizens around – some saved, but many lost. I grieve as I look at the state of the local church along with the resistance of so many to make peace and ultimate reconciliation with their Redeemer who paid their sin debt as He suffered for their sins. Righteous indignation burns as I see confessing Christians who fail to worship or even attempt to be faithful in their attendance to Church. For the most part the sinner makes no attempt to look sanctimonious, but they, too, will give an account.

Fortunately, as disgusted and outraged as every Christian should be, there is a silver lining in the dark clouds that cover a God-forsaking population that is thrusting themselves in through the Gates of Hell. Jesus is Coming! My friend, this world is on a course of destruction; but **TRUE** “Hope and Change” is on the way. Luke 21:28 says, “*And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.*” The forecast is grim for a Godless world of heathens that refuse to repent. As a child of God, the utter demise of all that is righteous and holy is only a sign of the truth of God’s inerrant, infallible Word. Yes, my redemption is at hand. Jesus the Christ is coming!

God has a plan for our lives. His plan will ALWAYS include, among other things, a direct command to be a witness for Jesus Christ to this world. Whether at work, in the market place, or at home, we are an ambassador for the Lord Jesus Christ; and the message we take to the world is the Gospel. Paul, writing to young Timothy (2 Timothy 4:7) says, “*I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:*”

I cannot articulate the emotions I go through when I see the pure disregard for the Gospel and the miraculous effect it has on sinner man. Each day people avoid the warnings and dive head first into the river of life only to be swept away by their own lust. They ultimately drown as their body and soul are mortally wounded by the relentless buffeting against the rocks of sin and battered by the debris of this world. My friend, our fight involves warning every person that the bridge is out and that there is a better route -- His name is Jesus. We cannot rest. We cannot retreat. We must persevere as we take the Gospel to the ends of the earth. As Christians, we have this promise (Romans 8:21 BBE) *"That all living things will be made free from the power of death and will have a part with the free children of God in glory."*

Glory for every Christian will come. We will someday be free from the powers of death. Sin will cease, and evil will forever be eradicated from our presence. Today, we must forge on. Our families, friends and neighbors are all on a course. What course are they on, and where does it lead? Every course has an end: *"And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment"* (Hebrews 9:27).

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