

A man Beloved - JAN, 10, 19

Read X:16-21

(Lousville)

"no page in a biography is of more absorbing interest than that which records some spiritual crisis in that life"

It gets our interest because we, ourselves, meet crises - a life that never meets a crisis must be an abnormal or sub-normal life.

we have to learn how to deal with success and failure. Dealing with either of these may mean a crisis. we run into him who allows failure to get him down also we run into him who permits success to ruin his attitude & friends who helped him win.

likewise we have to learn how to handle victory and defeat - How to act in happiness and in pain - you should work for strength and balance to hold you at a level in either circumstance.

(S) - I understand that in watches there is an arrangement of metal as to quality etc that assures the same speed of the movements both in hot and cold weather - a 16 yr old boy told me that - It must be right - a watch has a balance wheel.

we must learn what to do in love or lack of it. a boy in love scales the mts. but by there is loss of love he runs quickly down the mt. and hurries himself in a puddle - why not have the control to stay on the mt.?

all these things are the raw material of religious experience and spiritual crisis - crisis? why mention that?

Because we are always subject to them -
 In these days the quest has new emphasis -
 now the fascination of biography is to see
 how people - who were greater than ourselves -
 met the trial - and handled it. Daniel was
 one - How did he do?

He turned the corner of the road of life
 and came upon a new vision of God -
 we hear a good deal about "Just a-
 round the corner" It has been but a little
 while since we were saying - "New year
 is just around the corner" Now we have
 passed the corner and looking up the
 street - or did you decide to go down the
 street?

Emerson said, that the greatest hour in
 a man's life is when he turns the corner
 of the street and meets a new thought, im-
 pulse, or idea. That is fine but I be-
 lieve he shut too low - He should have
 said - "when he turns the corner of the
 street and meets God" What have you
 found around the corner?

"In my soul one hope forever sings
 That at the next white corner of a road
 my eye may look on Him."

This is what had happened to Daniel - He
 turned the corner of life's pilgrimage and
 lo - there stood God -

1. Look at Daniel - It was not by chance
 that his great hour came - It came
 because of his quest for it. "From the
 first day that ^{there} ~~didst~~ set thy heart to un-
 derstand, thy words were heard."

3] See - Skeptic medical student asked to go aside and kneel and wait for God - God found him -

II. The immediate effect on Daniel was a feeling of unworthiness - "I was left alone, and I saw this great vision and there remained no strength in me my comeliness in me was turned to corruption"

For sits on the throne of the City of your life you are in for a great shock - when you meet God -

- a. Isaiah met God - and said - "was in me for I am a man of unclean lips"
- b. Saul of Tarsus met Jesus and fell to the earth and was ashamed -
- c. Peter met Jesus and said, "Depart from me for I am a sinful man Lord"
- d. Daniel met God - "There remained no strength in me"

III. But God led Daniel on beyond this feeling - of humiliation as He will lead us all when we pray to Him. "Oh man greatly beloved fear not" that changes things when some one who knows your every fault loves you - So Daniel was aware of a divine presence as he rounded a corner in his life -

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Some will ask - "Is this just a fancy when you talk of the presence of God? Is it just a murmur?"

The language of the children of God says it's real -

If in some hour you have been moved to pray -
When some hope lay ruined and a voice spoke to already U
If ever temptation came unheralded - and the prospect
was bleak - and for a moment your soul was
in the balance - and there came a protecting
hand and led you away -

If a hymn - a word - a hymn - a sermon have
been the opening of a window for you toward
heaven -

If memory of home & of mother ever stopped you
as you ventured a downward path -

If ever the strange thoughts of a green
hill for awhile and a CROSS -
against the sky line - held honor
securely on the throne of your heart
in an hour when honor was
threatened

If ever in the midst of doubt your heart
dared to stand and cry "I KNOW" &
beg of you give to these experiences
their true name - Not the name
"Fancy" but the right name -
Revelation of God

Experiences with God gives

- Courage - "Fear not"
- Peace - "Peace be unto you"
- Power - "Be strong - yea be strong"

His might thy heart shall strengthen
His love thy joy increase
His mercy thy days shall lengthen
The Lord will give thee peace -