

# Running Away From Life

Matt - 16-22  
summary

Life is so great - its powers so vast its realities so tremendous that many of us try to run away from it. I am not talking here in the sense that we want to stop living. There are some who do fear life so much that they try to end it with a bullet. But that is not the side we are discussing here.

we are afraid that we will be lost in the infinity of things. If we could get off in a corner some where and let the great ebb and flow of life sweep by and not throw us into any dangers or trials. In such we fondly hope that security would be handed us. If such could be we would live by escaping life.

this was Peters attitude - He had just confessed that Jesus was the Christ - But when Jesus began to show him what life was going to require of the Savior and of those who would follow Him

Peter shrank from it and said -  
"Be it for you Lord; this shall not  
come unto thee - Or this shall not be  
unto thee."

Friends we are living at a time  
now when we can not afford to run  
from life - we must face it and we  
must face it from the religious standpoint -

For Jesus to carry out the program  
assigned him - an eternal and cosmic  
program was going to mean facing  
crowds - hate - jealousy - pain - the  
Cross - Such could not be done  
by running away - The same  
sort of thing was true for  
his followers -

If Peter could have had his  
way - it would have meant that  
Jesus and his little group would have  
lived out their lives in safety in  
some little corner in seclusion, then  
their lives would have been little and  
miserable. Instead of being the  
Christ, Jesus would have been a  
peasant.

Instead of being founders and  
leaders in a movement for a new  
world order the disciples would  
have been fugitives from life.

Nothing so demonstrates the divinity of Jesus - as does His willingness to face life - to meet it head on - to pay the price of being Christ - not only willing to face it but determined!

With clear vision of present and future realities He looked at the whole of life with all of its unfriendliness and accepted its challenge - For Him there was no running away [If you meet a problem - do not shun it - meet it - conquer it.]

As severe conditions of life press down upon us - will we take Peter's attitude of running away or Jesus' attitude of butting head on. think before you speak.  
(ECONOMIC)

In the face of hard problems some will run away and seek refuge in -

a. Themselves - Trust no one - Love no one share with no one - but their trust be betrayed, their love rejected, and their sharing abused.

b. Some take refuge in drink - or drugs. But alas the masks soon fall off of their things and skulls and cross bones appear -

the way to give life is not —  
a. to put on mourning — if we do  
that and seclude our selves much  
of our population will be in black  
and in seclusion —

But is

- a. to so adjust our selves to all trial  
that we may carry on.
- b. to do as our sons and daughters  
would have us do.

when we lose a loved one the best procedure  
is to go right back in the house and  
make adjustments with the vacant  
chair (another extreme — B. H. Franks are gone  
indulging in the world)

when we have done wrong we should  
reorder our lives when the wrong  
was done (the demagogue)

there could be realms where you wanted  
not want to go on as usual after  
the news of a casualty — such as the  
card table (parlor gambling), cocktail  
parties, breakdances, skin digs  
etc.

Benoit prayer meeting — Dr. Andrews  
at revival in Capital St Ch. — Dr.  
Franks —

