

## The End of The Road

by Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

Luke 20:17-18, "And he beheld them, and said, What is this then that is written, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner? Whosoever shall fall upon that stone shall be broken; but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder."

This scripture tells of a person reaching the end of his road here in this life. The end of the road may be thought of as that time when a person has reached the point in life when he gives up trying to do everything his way. He is tired of trying and failing, never satisfied, nor happy, and having no real peace. Thinking he knew all that he needed and could do well by himself, he comes to the place where he, at last, admits that he was wrong. This is the time when a person makes the decision to come to the Lord and to seek his salvation.

Jesus said that when he fell on the stone that had been rejected by the builders, himself, he would be broken. This is true - his will is broken and he realizes that he needs help, guidance, and forgiveness. The Lord will forgive, comfort, and bless the repentant sinner. The person who comes to trust in God places his faith in the Lord and not in himself. He becomes a new creature

in Christ Jesus and is better than he ever was before. This is in contrast to the one who refuses to confess Jesus as Lord and who dies unsaved. As something ground down to powder is totally destroyed so is the person who dies lost and in sin.

The Prodigal Son in Luke 15 is one who reached the end of his road in this life. As long as he had his youth, money, and lived in pleasure he thought he was his own man and doing fine. Had he not lost all and come to be in want he might have lived all in life as a sinner, unthankful, unholy, lost to his family and to God. It was good, really, that he came to be in such desperate condition. He came to realize that he was broken and needed help. It is a shame that so many of us have had to go through similar circumstances before we stopped to look at our lives and the way we were going.

The truth is that as long as life is going our way, we seldom think of changing anything about the life we live. It is only when we face trials and various troubles that we take stock of life. Then most people cry out, "Why did this happen to me, or Why did God let this happen to me?" Maybe it was out of his love for us that he brought some trial into our lives to get our attention. Man doesn't seem to consider his ways until troubles come to him. Read Amos chapter four to see where God tells of bringing events into the lives of his people for the purpose of causing them to return unto the Lord. It was only when the idols were torn from them and the enemy had overcome them that they be-

gan to call on the Lord to save them. They had to be at the end of their road, without any options before they thought to look up.

Man hasn't changed from that day to this day in his way of life. Most have to be brought low before they can bring themselves to look up. The drunk may have to lose his family, job, and friends before he admits that he has a problem. It is only when he realizes that he is at the end of his road in this life that he seeks to change his ways. Why can't people see where they're headed before they bring so much misery to themselves and their loved ones? We can see examples all around this world and yet, people have to learn for themselves. It may not be alcohol that is the problem, it may be drugs, sex, greed, or many other things that corrupt the life.

For many it is just filling up this life with the material things and leaving no place for God in the heart. It is hard for most folks to realize it, but a good person without the Lord is still a sinner who is lost. Hopefully people will answer God's call and come to Jesus while there is still time, without going through a lot of heart ache. The Lord offers us his love and forgiveness if we will just place our trust in him. Often the problem is that a person is too busy with the things of this life that they don't hear his call.

Now he calls us to salvation, but one day he will call us to judgment. We will either see him as our savior, or we will see him as our judge.

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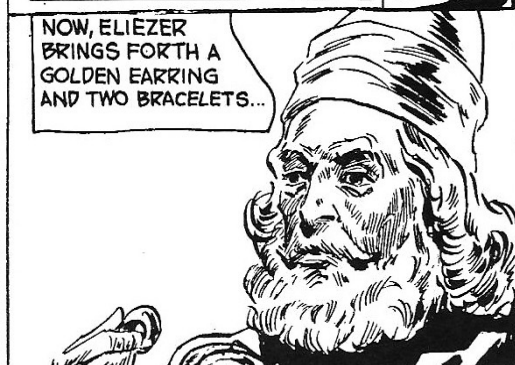
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