

Someone Who Cares About Your Soul

by Bill Crews

Do you have someone, anyone, who truly cares about your soul -- who is concerned about your standing with God, about whether or not you are a Christian, about whether or not you are a faithful Christian, about your eternal destiny? Someone like Timothy of whom Paul, in writing to the Philippian saints, said, "Who will care truly for your state" (Phil. 2:20). Or someone like Paul who said to the saints in Thessalonica, "So, affectionately longing for you, we were well pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God, but also our own lives, because you had become dear to us. For you remember, brethren, our labor and toil; for laboring night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, we preached to you the gospel of God." (1 Thess.2:8-9). Other examples can be seen in Matthew 23:37; 1 Peter 5:7; Romans 10:1; 9:1-3; Galatians 4: 19-20; 1 Thessalonians 2:11.

I believe that I have many relatives, brethren and friends who are concerned about my soul. Even now they remember me in their prayers. They speak words of encouragement, commendation, gratitude and exhortation to me. Should I begin to teach error, or deny the truth, or give up my faith, or go off into the world, by their words and actions they would show that they care about my soul. Seeing my soul in jeopardy, they would act.

Any time a Christian stops being a Christian: begins to miss Bible classes and worship assemblies, or loses interest in spiritual things, or stops reading his Bible and praying to God, or begins to company with worldly people and to engage in worldly activities, his soul is dying and stands in danger of eternal separation from God and eternal torment. These things call for immediate attention; as time passes, he will find it easier to continue in sin and more difficult to turn back to God. He should hope that there are those who care enough about his soul to try to redeem it.

How sad it would be if nobody cared enough to try to do anything at all. How equally sad if he would resent any efforts of concern and make those who try feel like unwelcome busybodies and intruders into his life. Quite frankly I have gotten the impression that some Christians who have forsaken the Lord and whom I have earnestly tried to help would really prefer that I just forget them and leave them alone.

Let me ask you: Do you have anybody who cares about your soul? Certainly God does (Jn. 3:16; Rom. 5:8); Christ does (1 Tim. 1:15; 2 Pet.3:9); the Holy Spirit does (Jn.16:8-13; Rev. 22:17). But God help us if we have no one among men who knows us and who does! We need around us and in touch with us those who care about our souls.

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