

Where Were You Ten Years Ago?

by Wayne Goff

Tragedies have befallen mankind from the beginning of time. Those which occur in our lifetime seem to be the most devastating, and indeed they affect **us personally** the most.

In recent times, one might think of the sinking of the Titanic, the crash of the Hindenburg, Pearl Harbor, and now the infamous 9/11 terrorist attack on the twin towers in New York City. But there are many others in human history besides.

Jesus and His disciples spoke of two tragedies which affected the lives of the disciples. In Luke 13 we read:

“There were present at that season some who told Him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. And Jesus answered and said to them, “Do you suppose that these Galileans were worse sinners than all other Galileans, because they suffered such things? I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish. Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them, do you think that they were worse sinners than all other men who dwelt in Jerusalem? I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.”

A tremendous tragedy would strike Jerusalem and the Temple in a few decades. Jesus knew of this (Matt. 24), and forewarned His disciples.

Anytime human life is lost and an eternal soul is at stake, it is a **tragedy** of epic proportions! Jesus reminded us of that fact in discussing the current events of His day. He was daily reminded of man's indifference to his eternal plight, while focusing on the visible, material tragedies. When we do that, then our priorities are out of order.

The thousands of lives lost on September 11, 2001 is one of the worst tragedies of our lives, both because of the lives lost, and the fact that it was perpetrated by misguided terrorists. We will never forget it. But as we sadly reflect over this matter of ten years ago, be sure you also take the time to take stock of your soul!

Are you **prepared** to die and meet God in judgment? The Bible assures us of just such an event. Man does not *cease to exist at death*, but he does return to His eternal Creator where he will be judged for everything done in this life, whether good or bad. See 2 Cor. 5:10; Rom. 2:3-11; Eccl. 12:14; Rev. 20:11-15.

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