

Remembering

by Wayne Goff

Memories are amazing things, both good and bad. Though I knew it already, I read the other day that songs you heard in your teen years will wind up being your favorites throughout life. Why? Because you associate important events in your young life with those songs. That is certainly true for me.

Houses we once lived in are filled with memories which come flooding back when we return to the “old home place.” The houses and lands are not that important, but the memories of what happened there are precious.

Divine Remembering

God wants us to remember things that are important to Him and to us as well! Probably the foremost thought that comes to mind is our *remembering the Lord's death* until He comes again. We do this every Lord's Day as commanded by the Savior Himself (Lk. 22:19; 1 Cor. 11:24-25).

Jesus was a bit perturbed when His disciples did not understand His warning: “*Take heed, beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod*” (Mk. 8:15). They thought He said this because they had no bread! He rebuked them with the words “*Why do you reason because you have no bread? Do you not yet perceive nor understand? Is your heart still hardened? Having eyes, do you not see? And having ears, do you not hear? And do you not **remember**?*” (Mk. 8:17-18). So He explained to them **again** that the miracles which He worked to confirmed His doctrine — **so beware of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of Herod!** (Now I feel better when some brethren hear a sermon and never seem to comprehend it!)

The rich man who lived only for himself and his riches was told by Abraham in the Hadean realm to “**remember** that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented” (Lk. 16:25). What a haunting memory that must have been! Should we not **remember** that all we have is a blessing from God and that we are simply *stewards* of what He has given us?

Again Jesus taught a powerful lesson with the simple words: “*Remember Lot's wife*” (Lk. 17:32). Well, let's see now. As they were fleeing Sodom and Gomorrah, the angel told Lot and his wife not to look back. But she did look back and she became a pillar of salt (Gen. 19:26)! Do you **remember** why Jesus said this? If not, then please go back and read Luke 17:20-37. (Hint: Jesus was not speaking of a “rapture,” but of the destruction of Jerusalem. The lesson for us is do not seek to save your life in this world, v. 33).

Remember This:

- The apostle Paul taught the Ephesians elders to “**remember** the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, *It is more blessed to give than to receive*” (Acts 20:35).
- Paul also admonished the Corinthians to “**remember** me in all things and keep the traditions just as I delivered them to you” (1 Cor. 11:2). Inspired traditions are commandments to be kept!
- “**Remember** that Jesus Christ, of the seed of David, was raised from the dead according to my gospel,” 2 Tim. 2:8. Why remember this? Because Timothy, as an evangelist, was to **remember** to endure hardship as a good soldier (vv. 3-4). He was to **remember** that in a race one is not crowned victor unless he ran by the rules (v. 5). He was to **remember** that the farmer partakes of the crops he has sown (v. 6). Remembering these things, one will understand that this life and its sufferings are not worthy to be compared to the eternal life which awaits us in our resurrection day!

Dear brethren, please **remember** in your every day activities what is important in life!

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