

Maranatha Mirror Message



GOD-SENT?



Out of the blue, Aunt Betty gave me a check for \$50,000.00!

It was a God-send.

I'd been praying for a way out of my financial mess.

And there it was!

God-send!

But Bill?

Bill is God-send?

You got to be kidding!

This guy is driving me crazy. He calls me almost every day. And all he does is complain about his neighbors, his aches and pains, his finances, his loneliness.

And I'm supposed to believe that this guy is sent to me by God?

There was a rich man, who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Laz'arus, full of sores, who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table; moreover the dogs came and licked his sores.



When the Rich Man hurried past Lazarus on his way to the synagogue, he hardly noticed him. After all, the city was full of beggars and moochers. It was something one had to put up with.

But here's the problem. The Rich Man figured he was on his way to another prosperous day, when in fact he was on his way to Hades, the region of the dead.

Lazarus was the Rich Man's final chance to redeem himself. Lazarus was put there by the living God as his last "doorway to life."

All the Rich Man had to do was show a little mercy.

A kind word.

A little something to eat.

Lazarus too was in for a surprise.

Unaware that he was on his way to Paradise, Lazarus had no idea that the Rich Man's gate was his final "assignment."

The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried; and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes, and saw Abraham far off and Laz'arus in his bosom. And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy upon me, and send Laz'arus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in anguish in this flame.'



But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Laz'arus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.'

The person who intrudes on our life, who seems to be wasting our time, could actually be a reminder from the Lord that now is the time to show a little mercy --- before it's too late.

And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.' But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.' And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced if some one should rise from the dead.'

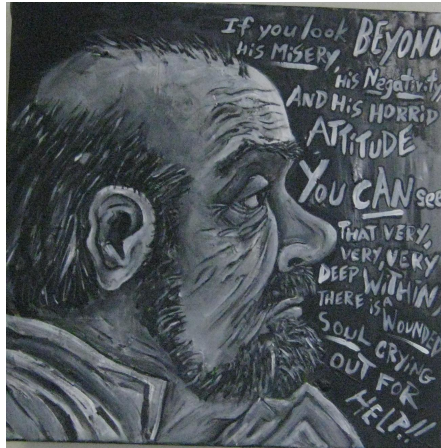
Luke 16

It's true, not every need is a call from God.

Not every intrusion is God-sent.

There are times we are to “salute no one on the road.”
There are times to press on and keep going.

But when we see that wounded soul lying by the roadside,
when we hear the voice of Lazarus weeping at our gate,
perhaps even when Bill calls with his tales of woe,



may God give us grace to show a little mercy...

.....before it's too late.

Prayer

Lord Jesus open our eyes and hearts to the God-sent in our lives. May we see the wounded lying on the road, the wounded you have sent to us. May we hear the voice of Lazarus and Bill and whoever else is crying for help. Give us the grace to meet their needs, bind up their wounds and to feed their souls before it's too late.

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