



Touchstones of the Heart

To Our Peril?

In the book "The Lord of the Rings" by J.R.R. Tolkien many comparisons to our Christian walk and life can be found. One such comparison is found in Chapter 5 of the book "The Two Towers" in which the two hobbits, Frodo and Sam are under the care of Faramir the Captain of Gondor. Gondor is a city of men who are withstanding the dark lord Sauron. On this occasion Faramir, while giving an account of the history of his city and people said, "Yet even so it was Gondor that brought about its own decay, falling by degrees into dotage, and thinking that the Enemy was asleep, who was only banished not destroyed." In our modern 21st century

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Ministry Updates

David will be speaking this month to a combined Men's group in Goose Creek, South Carolina. All men who are reading this are invited to come (sorry ladies!). I will post information on the website along with a map to the location. We are believing God to open many other doors for speaking and sharing the message of Rescued Heart throughout South Carolina and beyond. Please pray for us that we will be obedient to His call and follow the Wild Goose wherever He may lead. For those not familiar with this expression, I will explain. The early Celtic Christians called the Holy Spirit the 'Wild Goose' the reason, they said, was because you never knew where He would lead you. Like I wrote in last month's issue in 'Tidbits for Living'. We never know sometimes where we are going until we get there and find God has taken us to a much

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"Morning On The Marsh"

Digital Image

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Newsletter Spotlight

Could it be that these stories and myths are rooted in truth and serve to teach us the greater truths of the bible? Both Tolkien and C.S. Lewis understood the power of stories to communicate truth at a much deeper level than mere proposition. Proposition speaks to the mind, but story speaks to the heart. Jesus too understood this. Are you familiar with His stories called parables?

Tidbits for Living: The Battle Field For Your Heart



Battle Field For The Heart
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Be careful not to lose your perspective. Perspective is very important when it comes to fighting battles. Every war has its stories of 'friendly fire' incidences. These happen when armies lose perspective, fire on their own instead of the enemy and end up wounding or killing them. Our perspective of God is challenged when He doesn't act in ways that we think he should. Joshua had this experience when he encountered the commander of the army of the Lord. Joshua sees him with his sword drawn and asks, "Are you for us or for our enemies?" He answered, "Neither, but as commander of the army of the Lord I have now come." We would expect him to say that he is for Israel since God was about to deliver Jericho into their hands. However God is not for us or our enemies, He is for Himself. Please don't misunderstand me, I know the bible says "If God be for us, who can be against us." And certainly God is not for our enemies, but we

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Touchstones of the Heart

To Our Peril? (Continued)

many find it very difficult to believe in an actual devil and hell. Perhaps even one of you who are reading this today fall into this category. I would ask you this question, is this kind of thinking to our peril? In our culture we have left behind the stories and myths of our youth and look to them now only for entertainment. Could it be that these stories and myths are rooted in truths which serve to teach us the greater truths of the bible? Both Tolkien and C.S. Lewis understood the power of stories to communicate truth at a much deeper level than mere proposition. Proposition speaks to the mind, but story speaks to the heart. Jesus too understood this. Are you familiar with His stories called parables? ‘A man was robbed on the road and left for dead’..., ‘a woman loses a coin and sweeps her house to find it’..., ‘a king has a wedding feast and invites his neighbors’... The stories are numerous and each one of them communicates a deeper truth to our hearts that goes beyond intellectual understanding. As 2007 dawns we would be well served to remember these lessons and take heed to the stories that are all around us. Haven’t you noticed that every good story has a villain? Have you ever asked why? Could it be that every story has a villain because our story has a villain? I believe we ignore this fact to our peril and like in the quote above we will find ourselves one day fighting for our lives against the “Nameless One” as Faramir calls him. Don’t get me wrong, we who name ourselves with Christ will be in the cross hairs of our enemy and there will be battles to fight. However, the battle I am talking about is the one that results from allowing the enemy to get what the bible calls a foothold in our lives. When he has a foothold in your life the battles will be fierce and the struggles long. I know—I’ve been there. Satan has one goal for the church, convince them that he is not here. We accept this lie to our peril, while the enemy wreaks havoc in our lives and families.

Ministry Updates (Continued)

different place than we expected or were going to. We would like to remind all you men that our first Men’s Retreat is scheduled for 3-6 May, 2007. The retreat will be at Camp Bob Cooper on Lake Marion, half way between Charleston and Columbia, South Carolina. The cost is \$250.00 per person and includes lodging, meals, two exciting adventure activities and powerful teaching. This event will change your life and open your eyes to many things that you may not have realized before. Sign-up is available on the website at www.rescuedheart.com. Remember to visit ‘*Gifts of the Heart*’ our on-line gift store, *where* we have T-shirts, Rescued Heart merchandise and gifts available for purchase. Proceeds from sales go directly to the ministry, so visit us today! Also we are a non-profit ministry and welcome gifts from our generous supporters. See the website for details on giving and on how to secure a place at the Men’s Retreat.

Tidbits for Living: The Battle Field For Your Heart (Continued)

must be careful to not lose perspective on this point. God is for Himself and that makes some people mad. Do you know why it rubs us the wrong way? Because we want it our way. Last Sunday our Pastor preached from Jeremiah and spoke about the vision of the potter. The potter represents God who forms and fashions the clay however he chooses. If there is a mar or it is ruined while he is working it he can (and will) crush it and reform it. Also, he forms the vessel into whatever shape he wants and for whatever purpose he wants. Living from the heart means yielding your life to God so that you will be what he wants you to be. A life filled with purpose is one that lives out the dreams and desires God has placed in the heart and puts away selfish ambition and worldly desires. This goes against our nature and therefore requires a heart change—a transformation. What did Joshua do when he found out that the Commander wasn’t for or against his enemies? He fell on his face and worshiped God. You see Joshua regained his perspective. He understood that to win the battle he must choose sides, not the other way around!

May I give one more small piece of advice? Don’t do these things because you “ought to”, but do them because you understand without them you will die on the battle field for your heart!