

The Short-sightedness of Man

Yesterday, I wrote an open letter to Vladimir Putin that, quite literally could have been written to any number of individuals. All one would have to do is take out the specific references to Putin's activities and substitute the activities specific to whoever you were writing to. The fact is, everyone is in need of salvation, and the only people who would not need to receive the letter are those who have already heeded the message to repent and believe the gospel.

The idea of an open letter is not a new thing, even in Scripture. Nebuchadnezzar wrote an open letter to all the earth after the LORD humbled him and he repented and believed (*Daniel 4*). Darius wrote an open letter to all the earth as well admonishing them to fear the God of Daniel – which is the LORD God (*Daniel 6:25-27*). Of course, that was also a time when people weren't so "rational" and could consider that an event was indeed of God.

There is also another open letter in Scripture, and it is the one that I was reminded of yesterday when I was composing the letter to Vladimir. It comes from Psalms , and is a reminder to every person in this world of how short-sighted each of us are. I would that you read it in its entirety and consider what it states about us, individually and collectively. After all, there is one end appointed unto man – the grave, and then judgement:

Hear this, all ye people; give ear, all ye inhabitants of the world: Both low and high, rich and poor, together. My mouth shall speak of wisdom; and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding. I will incline mine ear to a parable: I will open my dark saying upon the harp. Wherefore should I fear in the days of evil, when the iniquity of my heels shall compass me about?

They that trust in their wealth, and boast themselves in the multitude of their riches; None of them can by any means redeem his brother, nor give to God a ransom for him: (For the redemption of their soul is precious, and it ceaseth for ever:) That he should still live for ever, and not see corruption. For he seeth that wise men die, likewise the fool and the brutish person perish, and leave their wealth to others. Their inward thought is, that their houses shall continue for ever, and their dwelling places to all generations; they call their lands after their own names. Nevertheless man being in honour abideth not: he is like the beasts that perish. This their way is their folly: yet their posterity approve their sayings. Selah. Like sheep they are laid in the grave; death shall feed on them; and the upright shall have dominion over them in the morning; and their beauty shall consume in the grave from their dwelling.

But God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave: for he shall receive me. Selah. Be not thou afraid when one is made rich, when the glory of his house is increased; For when he dieth he shall carry nothing away: his glory shall not descend after him. Though while he lived he blessed his soul: and men will praise thee, when thou doest well to thyself. He shall go to the generation of his fathers; they shall never see light. Man that is in honour, and understandeth not, is like the beasts that perish. (*Psalm 49*)

Oh blind and foolish man. ***Repent and believe the Gospel.***